

# THE LOCAL CHOICE E-NEWS

## Department of Human Resource Management State and Local Health Benefits Programs

*May 2010*

### ***National Health Reform on Everyone's Mind***

A number of you have asked about provisions in national health reform legislation pertaining to coverage for dependents up to the age of 26. The provision takes effect the beginning of the plan year following the provision's effective date of September 23, 2010. **For 10/1 renewal school groups**, the provision will go into effect 10/1/2010 at your renewal. **For 7/1 renewal groups**, the provision will go into effect July 1, 2011. Upon initial evaluation, it appears that TLC already complies with most of the initial requirements of this law. We are awaiting more detailed regulatory guidance on the legislation and will keep you informed as information becomes available.

### ***Information Update on Non-Sedating Antihistamines and ED Drugs***

On April 21, the General Assembly approved the Governor's budget amendment which eliminates coverage for two prescription drug classes: Non-sedating antihistamines (NSAs) and drugs to treat erectile dysfunction (ED). **This change does not impact any of The Local Choice plans.** However, effective July 1, these drugs will be excluded from the Commonwealth of Virginia employee plans – COVA Care, COVA Connect and COVA HDHP.

### ***New EAP Tools for Help with Life Events***

Your Employee Assistance Program now has more multimedia educational tools to help you and employees deal with health and life issues. New 5-to-12 minute videos are posted on the Key Advantage EAP site under "What's New" and include companion guides with a list of suggested articles on the topic covered. Other helpful tools and articles are available for TLC HDHP and Kaiser Permanente HMO members. Links to each plan's EAP are listed below.

Key Advantage EAP: <http://www.achievesolutions.net/tlc>

TLC HDHP EAP: <http://www.AnthemEAP.com>

Kaiser EAP: <https://www.achievesolutions.net/achievesolutions/en/kaiser/Home.do>

### ***Payment Reminder – No Individual Payments Permitted for Retirees and COBRA Participants***

Please note that we cannot accept individual checks from retirees or COBRA participants for payment of premium. We accept group checks only. If you have questions, please contact Aretha Young at 804-354-3380 and she will assist you.

### ***Meet Your TLC Staff***

We recently said a very fond farewell to Cheryl Freeman. Now we'd like to introduce you to your new TLC contacts. Please don't hesitate to contact them for assistance.

### **Your Primary Contact for Payment and Enrollment Questions**

Aretha Young

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**Your Secondary Contact for Payment and Enrollment Questions**

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**Your Contact for Group Structure Questions**

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