

THE LOCAL CHOICE E-NEWS

Department of Human Resource Management State and Local Health Benefits Programs

March 2009

TLC Renewal Materials Now Available

Information on the TLC renewal for 2009-10 is now available to order for your TLC group. Attached is a materials order form which will also be posted on the TLC Web site. To view or print benefits brochures, prescription drug, vision and other TLC plan information, visit www.thelocalchoice.virginia.gov/planinfo/planstoc2009_10.htm. Note that all TLC Key Advantage plans will now have the Anthem *Blue View* vision benefit. See the Vision Benefit link under 2009-10 Plan Information, Statewide Plans for Active and non-Medicare Eligible Employees. Materials will be shipped no earlier than the week of March 30, even if your order is submitted this week. Thank you for your patience during this renewal period.

Guidance Soon on COBRA Premium Assistance in Economic Stimulus Package

The Local Choice is currently studying the impact of the COBRA premium assistance provisions contained in the recently-enacted federal economic stimulus package. The Department of Labor has recently provided model notices regarding the extended/second election period and the availability of premium reduction. TLC will distribute guidance for TLC groups as soon as possible since second election period offers must be made by April 18, 2009.

Southside Regional Medical Center Update

Good news! The Virginia Emergency Group of ER physicians at Southside Regional Medical Center will become in-network providers with Anthem effective April 1, 2009. Although the ER physicians have been out of the Anthem network, the hospital and its services have continued to remain in the network.