



## **VEHI Updates for March 2024**

## **Health Care Agreement Extended for two years:**

The Commission for Public School Employee Health Benefits unanimously agreed to a two-year extension of their current agreement. This extension will cover employees through December 31, 2027. The Commission also agreed to use the next two years to work together toward systemic changes to lower costs and to make healthcare more affordable. The current cost-sharing arrangements for premiums and HRA/HSAs will continue, including the one percent premium share increases each calendar year for those support staff who are not already contributing 20 percent.

Please note that this agreement by the Commission has no consequence on the rate increase scheduled to take effect on July 1. VEHI will be working on updating all our current materials to reflect the extension.

## **Change Healthcare Cybersecurity Incident**

Blue Cross of Vermont has informed us of a <u>cybersecurity incident</u> that occurred on February 21, which targeted Change Healthcare, one of the largest clearinghouses for processing electronic claims and other healthcare business transactions. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont is monitoring the situation closely and the incident and impact investigation is ongoing.

Due to this security incident, Blue Cross is experiencing a service issue with the print vendor they use to print our monthly invoices. Your monthly invoice will look different. Additionally, members are currently unable to access Vermont Blue Rx or the health care cost tool via the Member Resource Center. If pharmacy assistance is needed, please refer members to call the pharmacy phone number on the backside of their ID card.

Blue Cross has worked hard to provide alternative options for claims processing to Providers who use this clearinghouse. Claim submission may be delayed while Providers find alternative ways to bill. If employees have questions, please refer them to the phone numbers on the backside of their ID cards.

Change is investigating this incident and the impact to member data has not been determined. Blue Cross is monitoring the situation closely as the incident and impact investigation is ongoing. We will notify you if the investigation indicates that VEHI member data was compromised.

Please contact VEHI Trust Administrators Mark Hage of VT-NEA, or Bobby-Jo Salls at VSBIT, if you have questions or concerns at <a href="MHage@VTNEA.org">MHage@VTNEA.org</a> or <a href="Bobby-Jo@VSBIT.org">Bobby-Jo@VSBIT.org</a>.

This notification has been sent to School Business Officials, Human Resources, and Health Plan Contacts.

Please send updates to the email list to Michelle@vsbit.org.

To avoid confusion and to ensure consistency in the delivery of information, when distributing VEHI information do not modify any VEHI communications or attachments.

Please note: For your convenience, all VEHI Communications (sent via Campaign Monitor) can now be found in our archive at <a href="https://www.vehi.org/home/campaign-monitors/">wehi.org/home/campaign-monitors/</a>

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