PPSTA BULLETING Volume 5 ~ October 2022

PPSTA General Membership Meeting Tuesday, November 8

CHOOL TEA

Location TBD



PPSTA was honored to be invited by NYSUT to attend President Biden's visit to the IBM facility in Poughkeepsie. Kim Popken, PPSTA President was joined (from left to right) by Melissa Servant, Ashley Bohuniek, & Matt Haynes for this pro labor event.



KEEPCALM AND (2) BEUNIONSTRONG!

>>> Future Forward Task Force Recommendation

PPSTA UNITE!

MORSE ELEMENTARY!

New York should repeal the receivership law to allow schools to better meet the individual needs of students and preserve a rich learning experience for all kids. Educators should be free to dedicate themselves to students and communities without the threat of involuntary, automatic transfers which disrupt year-to-year staff consistency and hamper strong relationships between school staff, students and families. Additionally, high stakes testing should no longer be required to be tied to individual teacher evaluation.





Grants POUGHKEEPSIE PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION OUR CHILDREN * OUR SCHOOLS * OUR COMMUNITY

Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley



CLICK HERE

The Poughkeepsie Public Schools Foundation exists in partnership with the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley. CFHV exists to enhance the quality of life for all citizens in our area, now and for generations to come, by building community endowments, addressing needs through grantmaking, and providing leadership on key community issues. CFHV provides fiscal management for PPSF funds under the direction of the PPSF Board of Trustees.

OUR GOALS

Past grants include:

2020 Grants:

Saturday Morning Lights Program Summer Reading Program

2015 Grants:

Clinton - Science Expansion Project Krieger – Farm to Table Krieger – Water Life Morse – Anchors Away PHS - Shequila Brown Memorial Garden Warring - Exercise & Health Warring - Mad Science

Donations will be used to close opportunity gaps in

- Literacy and Early Childhood Education
- STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics)
- Career Pathways
- Post-secondary Readiness
- Cultural Awareness



COMMUNITY UNDATIONS HE HUDSON VALLEY

Fund for Excellence in Education Teacher Grants

Fall Online Application available: 7/1/2022 Fall Application Deadlines: 11/15/2022 Award Notification: December 2022



This grant program is open to: Classroom Teachers of Pre-K-12 in Dutchess, Putnam and Ulster Counties (Parochial, Private/Independent, and Public Schools). Grants are available to Dutchess, Putnam and Ulster County classroom teachers to be used for special projects to be done with their classes or for professional development which has direct benefit to the classroom.

Grant funding is not to be used for field trips or after-school activities.





PPSTA Scholarship Winners (2021-22)**College Student Scholarship (\$1000): Brandon** Cao **Smallwood-Alamo Award for First-Generation College Students** (\$1000): **Elijah Johnson Michael White Memorial Award for Visual Arts (\$1000):** Chanel Reed **UMR Award for Careers in Health and Human Services (\$750): Ziona Adelaide Osei-Gyimah** UMR Award for Careers in Health and Human Services (\$750): **Riona** Creavy John Falcone Award (\$1000): Judah Laster **Tina Wandy Memorial Award (\$300): Phoenix** Withrow **PPSTA Outstanding Scholar Award (\$500): Margaret** Chau **PPSTA Outstanding Scholar Award (\$500):** Natasha Bonner-Rupeikos **PPSTA Outstanding Scholar Award (\$500):** Alexia Miller Thank you again to all who help make the PPSTA Scholarship fund possible!



provided by NYSUT Member Benefits

Through the Peer Support Line, members can connect with:

- Mental health services, including therapy and support groups
- Services for individuals with disabilities
- Answers to Medicare and Medicaid questions

CLICK

Elder care and caregiving

Peer support specialists are there to lend a caring ear and connect you with community resources that can make a difference for you and your family.

The helpline is always confidential and can provide answers, referrals, and empathetic support when you need it.

The Peer Support Line can help:

MEMBER

wisu

MEMBER BENEFITS

MISU

Reduce feelings of isolation and loneliness

Take control of anxiety

Overcome workrelated stress

Manage planned and unexpected hospitalizations

Learn More: nysut.cc/mbpeersupportline

Oľ

MEMBER

wisu

Call toll-free: 844-444-0152

PRIVATE





GIVE TO Vote-cope

SUPPORT EDUCATORS

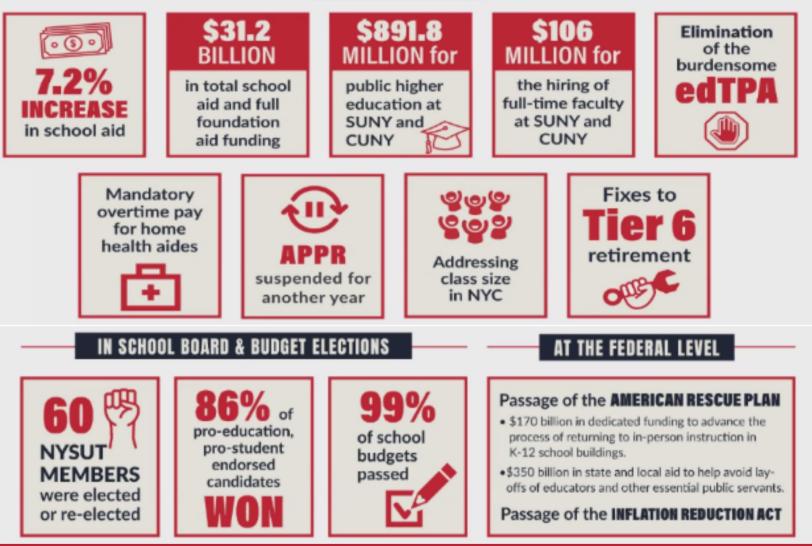
HELP OUR STUDENTS

PROTECT OUR RIGHTS

ADVANCE DEMOCRACY

UNITE OUR NATION

IN NEW YORK STATE



Your statewide union has a political fund-raising arm called VOTE-COPE.VOTE-COPE is NYSUT's non-partisan action fund that coordinates the voluntary contributions of members and supports NYSUT-endorsed candidates and campaign committees that are pro-public-education and pro-labor.

No NYSUT dues dollars are used to support candidates or campaign committees.

NYSUT sends rebates to local unions based on a percentage (up to 40 percent) of the contributions VOTE-COPE receives from that local union's members. Those rebates can be used in local activities such as school board races and for passage of school budgets.

<u>PPSTA BENEFIT TRUST</u>



Calender year information:

Medical: January 1 - December 31 Dental: July 1 - June 30 Vision: September 1 - August 31 Legal: April 1 - March 31 Opt-out: September 1 - August 31

Notice to all PPSTA/UMR Plan members:

Members can locate providers by logging onto <u>UMR</u> or through the <u>PPSTA website</u> under Benefits page, just scroll down to:

Health Benefit Summary Plan Description

GETTING MARRIED:

Call Olga at the PPSTA office for a change of status form. After you receive the marriage license, please send a copy to Olga. <u>New family members must be enrolled within 30 days!</u> GYM REIMBURSEMENT:

Find this form on the <u>PPSTA website</u> under Benefits page.

MOVING?



Call Olga: 845-471-3376 at the PPSTA office, with your change of address and phone information. You will also need to notify the PCSD Business Office.

Are you expecting a new family member?

Newborns are automatically covered during the first 30 days following birth. <u>Enrollment is</u> required during the first 30 days to continue coverage! From date of adoption, provided family or dependent coverage is applied for within 30 days of adoption or legal custody. You MUST contact the PPSTA office in the first 30 days. Please send a copy of the birth certificate and Social Security Card to the PPSTA office.

Status Changes:

Members are responsible for updating the plan within 30 days of any changes in health or dental coverage. (for any covered member) or any changes in family status (divorce, separation, retirement, birth, death, adoption, change in full time student status, no longer an eligible dependent due to age, etc.) If you need to make changes to your enrollment status, or the enrollment of any of your eligible dependents, please contact the PPSTA Benefit Trust office.

Did your child graduate from college recently?

All children are covered under their parent's plan until the age of 26 as long as they are enrolled in the plan.



Do you have a child in College? Dependents in colleges are enrolled in the plan regardless of how far they live from home. There is no Out of Area coverage needed.

Traveling to a foreign country

PPSTA Medical coverage is limited to Emergency Care and is subject to the Emergency Care Copay plus an additional \$250 Copay for foreign Travel. The bills need to be detailed in English or which which are translated to English with the medical procedures clearly listed.

For a non-emergency situation, if you are out of the country less than 6 weeks, the \$250 Copay would apply to any service and the balance of the charges would be paid as an out of network benefit subject to the NPPO deductable (\$1,000) and coinsurance (30%).

When you travel in a foreign country, we recommend that you get some temporary travel insurance that is appropriate for the country you will be visiting.

*If you are returning from a leave of absence, it is your responsibility to contact the PPSTA office to re-enroll for benefits.

Medicare Eligibilty:

Once you and/or your spouse are no longer activley employed and Medicare Eligible, you need to update your enrollment status. Please provide the plan with an updated enrollment form along with a copy of your Medicare ID Card. You must enroll in both Medicare Part A & B once you are no longer covered under a plan of a member who is actively at work. You must contact the District for information on reimbursing your Medicare Part B premiums.

If you need to make changes to your enrollment staus, or to enrollment of any of your eligible dependents, please contact the PPSTA Benefit Trust Office!

If you have other questions regarding your available benefits, including the preventive and routine services available to you and your dependents, contact:

UMR 800-826-9781 Monday-Friday from 8am - 5 pm

Questions about prescription drug, contact OptumRx 1-877-559-2955 If there is ever any problem with the adjudication of claims or with a provider, PLEASE call the PPSTA office!

Benefit Trust Coordinator: Debbie Kardas

benefittrust@ppsta.org Office hours: 10:30-1:30 Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 845-471-3376

www.ppsta.org

Please visit <u>www.ppsta.org</u> to access your health care information & updates.



NEWS

To comply with the federal Transparency in Coverage Rule, UnitedHealthcare, UMR and HealthSCOPE Benefits creates and publishes the Machine-Readable Files on behalf of the PPSTA Benefit Trust. This link will be active July 1, 2022. To link to the Machine-Readable Files, please click on the URL provided: https://transparency-in-coverage.uhc.com/

AVAILABLE Dec 2, 2022 for download on Google Play & Apple Store

UMR App: Delivering an enhanced digital experience



Summary of change

UMR is launching a new mobile app with a forward-looking user interface designed to deliver an enhanced member experience. The new dashboard offers a quick glance of information such as member ID card info, general and personal announcements, live chat, and more. The app will include a secure login process with HealthSafe ID to stay current with latest security protocols and provide a better user experience. The new app will be available for download through Google Play and Apple Store starting Dec. 2, 2022.

Why are we creating this app?

Our new app will create a better user experience that supports our value proposition as a TPA and helps UMR members engage with their health benefits seamlessly.

Q: When will the app be available?

A: The app will deploy on Dec. 1 and be available for download Dec. 2 on both Google Play and Apple Store.

Q: What mobile devices will support the UMR app?

A: The app will be available for any mobile device that can access Google Play or Apple Store.

Q: What features are available to members through the UMR app?

A: The UMR app provides members with a personalized dashboard where they can access benefits information, announcements, and alerts, along with live chat and phone support.

Other features include:

- Important plan information will be available on the dashboard for quicker access
- Receive both general and personal member-related announcements
- ID card info Members can view, print and fax their current ID or order a new card
- Contact us Members can receive assistance through chat, phone and email
- Secure login Members can log in using their HSID. Biometric login available, based on device capability
- Features for eligible members Wellness tools link and CARE app link
- Claim inquiry (medical, dental)
- · Eligibility inquiry
- · Benefits inquiry
- Online provider directory
- Account balances

- Q: Will this app be available for employers, producers, and providers?
- A: The UMR app is only available to members.

Q: Will there be new features added to the app in the future?

A: The UMR Digital Solutions team maintains the app's roadmap and development plan that includes future enhancements scheduled for 2023 and later.

Q: Can members use FaceID or thumbprint technology on their mobile device to login to app?

A: Biometric login availability will be based on device capability.

Q: How will the new UMR app release be communicated?

A: The member communications plan to support the new app launch includes emails, site banners and videos. New UMR members and members who are receiving a new ID card will be prompted to download the app via a sticker on their ID cards.

Q: How does a member obtain the app?

A: The new app will be available for download through both Google Play and Apple Store. Once downloaded, members will complete registration process to access their personal plan information. The member's registration on the app via HealthSafe ID (HSID) will also register them to use the web portal on their desktop or via their mobile browser.

Q: Is there a cost to UMR customers or their members to use the app?

A: No. The UMR app is free to download and available to plans at no additional fee.



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Exciting New Benefit for Actives and Retirees
(as well as their extended families)

Welcome Health Navigator! What is Health Navigator?

Healthcare can be complicated ..

Behind every claim is a person facing a health challenge Common concerns:

- Is my diagnosis correct?
- Is this the best treatment for me?
- · Am I working with the right specialists?
- Should I get a second opinion?

Navigating the healthoare system can be difficult, time-consuming and stressful – but it doesn't have to be. Sun Life Hoalth Navigator Powered by PinnadeCare can help.

Health NAVIGATOR

How We Help

Member Support

Treatment Decision Support and Navigation

- Health Advisory and Advocacy
- Member Physician Matching
- Medical Record Collection
- Expert Medical Opinions

If a member receives a serious diagnosis, needs a routine doctor, has a recommendation for surgery, or needs a specialist, PinnadeCare can help.

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MB Discounts & Deals offers more than 21,000 deals throughout New York State along with hundreds of thousands nationwide. You can even refer your favorite local business (restaurant, coffee shop, workout facility, etc.) to join the network and provide NYSUT members with a special discount. Don't miss out... register your account today!

Member Benefits is proud to endorse MB Discounts & Deals along with dozens of other programs and services that may be able to benefit you and your family members. Take some time to explore our website to find out how we can help you make every dollar count!



Learn more by scanning the QR code to the left, visiting *memberbenefits.nysut.org* or calling 800-626-8101.

For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits. Sept/Oct 2022