

Educators Health Alliance Announces Premium 'Holiday'

The Educators Health Alliance (EHA) Board is pleased to announce that in its May 26, 2011 meeting the Board approved a premium 'holiday' for the month of December 2011 for our Direct Bill/Early Retiree membership.

The EHA has been able to keep recent rate increases to a reasonable amount despite the ongoing pressures of medical inflation.

We believe proper management of the EHA plan along with the prudent use of medical services by plan participants has contributed to low premium increases and recent favorable claims costs in the plan.

In February, the EHA Board announced there will be no rate increase for the plan year beginning September 1, 2011 and furthermore the increase for the 2012-13 plan year will be limited to 4% or less. This strong position in the EHA plan is occurring while national increase in premium rates will be on an average of 9%, according to a recent 2011 Kaiser Permente Survey.

The action of the EHA Board, in agreement with BCBSNE, is to provide this future rate relief through the waiving of one month's premium payments. For members utilizing Automatic Bank Debt for the payment of premiums, the amount transferred from your account will be \$0.00 for the month of December. For members who mail a premium payment to BCBSNE, your December billing statement will reflect a zero sum balance.

Please contact Kent Trelford-Thompson at 402-458-4810, email Kent.trelford-thompson@bcbsne.com or EHA Plan Advocate, Kurt Genrich at 402-217-2042, email Kurt@ehaplan.org with any questions regarding this announcement.

Neal Clayburn,

Educators Health Alliance Board Chair