#### BENEFITS MESSENGER | APRIL 2025



# BENEFITS MESSENGER

The NMRHCA Newsletter

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

As we welcome the fresh energy of spring, I appreciate the opportunity to connect with you and provide NM Retiree Health Care Authority updates. In this edition, we inform you about several important updates and resources. We provide an update on the trust fund balance to ensure you are well informed about our ability to provide you with benefits now and in the future. Additionally, we are excited to share information about upcoming Medicare seminars. These sessions will cover essential topics to help you navigate your healthcare options effectively.

Senate Joint Resolution 2 was introduced during the last 60-day legislative session. The newsletter provides further details about how it progressed. I want to thank all our members who engaged in this legislation; seeing our stakeholders come together to support the issues that matter to us is truly remarkable. We encourage you to stay involved and ensure your voices are heard. Special thanks go to our sponsors, Senator Bobby Gonzales and Representatives Cynthia Borrego and Anita Gonzales, for their support in carrying this legislation this year.

Don't miss our upcoming wellness fairs! These events are an excellent opportunity to access health resources and connect with other community members. Please see the details in this newsletter for options to attend in person or virtually.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

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There has been discussion about benefits at the federal level, and the Retiree Health Care Authority (RHCA) staff recognizes that changes can be unsettling. The RHCA is committed to closely monitoring these developments and collaborating with other organizations in the state and nationally to protect or improve benefits. We will communicate any updates—both positive and concerning—so you can stay ahead of changes to come.

As informed healthcare consumers, we support you in staying aware of your healthcare options and those available in the market. However, we advise caution regarding outreach from strangers who may attempt to enroll you in Medicare plans, particularly Part D plans, which could disrupt your existing coverage with RHCA. Always research and consult trusted sources before making decisions to know the impact.

Remember, the RHCA team is here to help you Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM. Don't hesitate to contact us if you have questions about your benefits or need assistance with any health-related inquiries.

Thank you for being a valued member of the RHCA program. Let's embrace the warmth and opportunities that spring and summer bring together.

Warm regards,

Neil Kueffer, Executive Director

### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

During the recent New Mexico Legislative Session, SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 2 (SJR 2) was filed by the NMRHCA to protect the Retiree Health Care Trust Fund constitutionally. The Trust Fund has grown to \$1.61 billion. Approximately 66,000 retirees rely on NMRHCA for healthcare benefits, and over 93,000 active employees continue to contribute, with the expectation of receiving these benefits upon retirement. Protecting these funds ensures that funds cannot be used for other purposes and affirms the rights of New Mexicans who have invested in this system.

The legislation, sponsored by Senator Roberto "Bobby" Gonzales, and Representatives Anita Gonzales, and Cynthia Borrego, was initially assigned and heard in the Senate Rules Committee. There, it received a "Do Pass" with a vote of 5 for and 3 against, advancing to the Senate Finance Committee. However, SJR 2 was never scheduled in the Senate Finance Committee before the Legislative Session ended, and therefore, it did not progress further.

NMRHCA remains committed to this legislation and will continue to work to protect the NMRHCA Trust Fund for New Mexico's current and future retirees. We express our deep appreciation to the sponsors of SJR 2 and all the efforts of those who supported it.

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

For the month end of February 2025, NMRHCA's Trust Fund Balance per our New Mexico State Investment Council report was \$1.61 billion, an increase of about \$280 million from the \$1.33 billion reported in our February 16, 2024, report. In looking at the long-term goal of improving the program's solvency by growing the trust fund, we have seen a growth of just under \$1.2 billion from \$415 million reported ten years ago. The growth in the trust fund continues to lower our unfunded liabilities from 75% in 2022, 66% in 2023, to 56% in 2024, and currently 53% in 2025. For information about legislation to protect the Trust Fund, refer to the article in this newsletter LEGISLATIVE UPDATE.

#### MEDICARE SEMINARS

NMRHCA holds monthly Medicare seminars to help those approaching Medicare eligibility better understand the enrollment process and the options available to them for Medicare plans. You can choose to attend an in-person or virtual session. Sessions last about 90 minutes and include Q&A opportunities. The ongoing schedule can be accessed by visiting

https://www.nmrhca.org/medicare-seminarschedule/ or using the QR code to the right.





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Connecting with the Outdoors for BETTER Metabolic Health

IN PERSON May 23rd in Las Cruces

May 29th in Santa Fe

June 6th in Albuquerque

<u>VIRTUAL</u> June 12th Activities Door Prizes Give Aways Food



CLICK OR SCAN HERE FOR DETAILED INFO & REGISTRATION

www.nmrhca.org/2025wellnessfair/

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## **Insurer Contact Information**

Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) www.bcbsnm.com/nmrhca	800-788-1792	Presbyterian Health Plan www.phs.org	888-275-7737
BCBS Medicare Advantage www.bcbsnm.com/nmrhca	800-618-6156	Presbyterian Medicare Advantage www.phs.org	800-797-5343
Express Scripts Medicare www.express-scripts.com	800-551-1866	Express Scripts Non-Medicare www.express-scripts.com	800-501-0987
Humana Medicare Advantage https://ourhumana.com/nmrhca	866-396-8810	UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage www.uhcretiree.com/nmrhca	866-622-8014
Delta Dental www.deltadentalnm.com	877-395-9420	Davis Vision www.davisvision.com	800-999-5431
Standard Insurance www.standard.com/mybenefits/newmexico_	888-609-9763 .rhca	Blue Cross Blue Shield Dental www.bcbsnm.com/nmrhca	877-723-5697

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