



MCREA

Montgomery County Retired Employees' Association, Inc.

MAY 2012

MCREA ANNUAL MEETING

Please Join Us on Tuesday, June 5, 2012

Council Office Building Auditorium, 7:00–9:00 p.m.

Free parking in COB covered garage

- Board Elections
- Hear from the Board and Let the Board Hear from You
- Guest Speaker: Belinda Fulco, OHR Benefits Manager
Topics: Health care reform, retiree health insurance seminars, OptiVision Discount Plan, and recent changes in the OHR Benefits Team staff
- Representatives of CareFirst Blue Cross Blue Shield will be on hand to answer questions

BOARD MEMBER NOMINATIONS

Please consider getting involved in your retirement organization by becoming a Board member. We continue to need volunteers. The Board has 14 Directors who are elected to serve two-year staggered terms. At every annual meeting, half of the Board is elected or re-elected. In addition to the elected members, three Presidential appointments can be made to serve one-year terms. The time commitment is not large. We meet at a central Rockville location three or four times a year in the evening, but, if necessary, we conduct business electronically as well.

For more information or to express your interest, contact Carl Edelin, Nominating Chair at 1 302 376 8270 or email at ppmsfa@verizon.net.

BOARD MEMBERS MEET WITH COUNTY COUNCIL

On March 6, the MCREA Board held its annual meeting with the County Council to speak on behalf of MCG retirees. MCREA President Suzanne Hudson told the Council that many retirees would like to continue to reside in Montgomery County, but that it becomes difficult with ever-increasing taxes. She reminded the Council that the average retiree pension is less than \$30,000 a year and that salaries for most retirees during their work years were not what they are today, so that most have very limited incomes.

The County Executive’s budget had not yet been transmitted to the Council (March 15) so there was no discussion of specific funding issues. Council members expressed concern about budget decisions pending in Annapolis that could negatively impact Montgomery County and talked about the coordinated response from all the Maryland counties to the Governor’s proposal to shift a portion of teachers’ pension payments from the State to the counties.

Several Board members have reviewed the Executive's budget. MCREA will continue to follow discussions in Committee and full Council meetings and provide input if needed and appropriate. The FY13 budget will be approved by the Council by the end of May, and will be discussed at the MCREA annual meeting on June 5, if applicable.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE A CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Whenever you have a change of address, you should submit your new information to *both* MCREA and OHR as soon as possible. Follow these steps:

- To change your address with MCREA, send a letter with your new address, phone number and email address to the MCREA P.O. Box noted on Page 4 of this issue.
- To change your address with OHR, complete and mail a “Personal Data Form for Retired Employees”, which can be found at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ohr. Click HR Resource Library, then the Benefits Retiree tab, then Retiree Forms. (You can also call the OHR Benefits Team at 240-777-5120 to ask for a copy.) Note that submitting the Retiree Personal Data Form to OHR will automatically change your address for all your group insurance and retirement benefits.

| MCG Insurance Enrollment Statistics as of 1/25/2012 | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|---|----------------|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Retirees | Medical Plans | | | | | | |
| | CareFirst Indemnity | CareFirst Point-of-Service (POS) | | | | Kaiser w/Rx | UHC |
| | | High | Std. | High OOA* | Std. OOA* | | |
| Non-Medicare | 349 | 1108 | 62 | 379 | 29 | 144 | 457 |
| Medicare | 573 | 833 | 67 | 316 | 27 | 89 | 204 |
| Total Retirees | 922 | 1941 | 129 | 695 | 56 | 233 | 661 |
| Retirees | Dental Plan | *Out of Area | | CAREMARK Rx Plan | | | |
| | | Discount Vision | High Rx | Std. Rx | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Non-Medicare | 2631 | | 1718 | 1284 | 731 | | |
| Medicare | 2336 | | 1231 | 967 | 481 | | |
| Total Retirees | 4967 | | 2949 | 2251 | 1212 | | |

RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE SEMINAR UPDATE

As mentioned previously, the OHR Benefits Team is developing a new health insurance seminar designed for retirees and their survivors. The seminar will deal with frequently asked questions concerning Medicare and the County's group insurance coverage (medical, prescription drug, dental and life insurance). This first year, the seminar will be offered five different days (same seminar) to meet the needs of various retiree schedules. The seminar will start with a two-hour presentation by OHR Benefits, and then health insurance providers will be available to answer your questions. (For the seminar beginning at 6:00 PM, the agenda will be the reverse). To reserve a seat, complete and mail the form below by June 15, 2012. (COB Auditorium has a 90-seat limit). By mid-July, you will receive a mailing confirming the date you selected. Please note that you are welcome to bring one guest.

YOU'RE INVITED! RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE SEMINAR RSVP FORM

Seminars will be held in the 1st Floor Auditorium of the Council Office Building

100 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850

~ Please print clearly ~

Name:

First

Last

Address:

Street

City

State

Zip

Phone:

(H) _____ - _____ - _____ (C) _____ - _____ - _____

Email:

I will be attending the retiree health insurance seminar on (check one):

- Thursday, August 9 from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
- Wednesday, August 15 from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM
- Friday, August 24 from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
- Thursday, August 30 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- Friday, September 7 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

I plan to bring one guest (check one): Yes No

Please mail this completed form to: OHR Benefits Communications
 Montgomery County Government
 101 Monroe St – 7th Floor
 Rockville, MD 20850

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS or visit MCREAonline.com

MCREA Toll Free Phone number: **1-866-929-9339 or 301-929-9339**
Montgomery County's Office of Human Resources at **240-777-5000** or Toll Free
1-877-613-5212; Benefits Team Direct Line 240-777-5120 or (Fax) **240-777-5131** or
email benefits@montgomerycountymd.gov
Montgomery County Employees Retirement System **1-877-613-5212**
CareFirst Blue Cross-Blue Shield: Indemnity Plan; HMO; and, Point-of-Service Plan.
Member Services: Toll Free number: **1-888-417-8385** www.Carefirst.com
Kaiser Permanente: Washington Area: **301-468-6000**; Baltimore Area: **1-800-777-7902**
United Healthcare Member Services: **1-800-638-0014** www.myuhc.com
Caremark: **1-866-240-4926** www.caremark.com
United Concordia (Dental): **1-866-851-7564** www.ucci.com
National Vision Administrators (NVA): **1-866-468-2393** www.e-nva.com
Prudential Long Term Care Insurance: **1-800-732-0416** www.Prudential.com
ING (MC Deferred Compensation): **240-777-5054 or Toll Free 1-888-240-8080**
Hartford: **240-304-7720 or Toll Free 1-800-255-2464**

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9339 <http://www.MCREAonline.com> We welcome your suggestions for our newsletter.

MCREA

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