WELCOME TO THE PHP NEWSLETTER!

WE’RE HERE TO BRIGHTEN UP YOUR DAY WITH SOME INSPIRING STORIES, HIGHLIGHTS ON OUR AMAZING MEMBERS & STAFF, SOME EDUCATIONAL HEALTH TIPS, UPDATES ON TECHNOLOGY, AND MUCH MORE.
Dear Members, Families, Staff, Sponsors, Supporters, and Advocates,

I began as Chief Executive Officer at the beginning of January and have spent the last few weeks getting to know the team, meeting with sponsors and partner organizations talking with families about how PHP can continue to best serve them. These are very exciting and rapidly changing times both for Partners Health Partners (PHP) and for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). PHP is at the forefront of these changes and I am happy to have joined the organization at this pivotal time.

PHP is currently the model health plan for delivering services to individuals I/DD. We are coming up on our third anniversary and are now nearing 1,200 members. The PHP team is made up of dedicated professionals who share a deep commitment to ensuring the best services for our members and their and families. I am excited to be part of this innovative, mission-focused organization that will always remain true to the principles of person-centeredness and ensuring the highest quality services to help people live as independently as possible.

I look forward to learning more about our members; their successes, their challenges and the needs of the communities that we serve. I hope you enjoy this edition of our newsletter. Please follow us on social media so you can learn more about PHP and the ways we are helping members meet their goals and enrich their lives.

Thank you for your continued support!

Best Regards,

Kerry A. Delaney

Kerry A. Delaney
PHP is dedicated to supporting the lives of individuals with IDD and it shines through the work of our Durable Medical Equipment (DME) department!

They understand how vital DME and medical supplies can be for you and they often fight many obstacles so our members can live happy, safe and comfortable lives. To showcase the wonderful efforts of our DME team, PHP would like to share a fun story from our member Lori Ann who wanted not only a custom-made “Tilt-In-Space Wheelchair,” but also to have it in her favorite color, purple! Who says a wheelchair can’t be stylish?

In just one month, our DME team, vendors and Assistive Technology Providers (ATPs) helped Lori Ann receive her new custom purple wheelchair. Her reaction was that of pure joy and this is what motivates us to do the best we can and advocate for our members!

Our members not only deserve to be comfortable with their mobility devices, but they should also be able to showcase their personality and style. Lori Ann’s care team in Nassau and our DME department worked tirelessly to ensure her dreams were brought to life. Great work to all involved!

*Custom DME requests are approved on a case-by-case basis*

Did you receive DME equipment you are happy with from PHP and want it featured? Email us at newsletter@phpcares.org to be in our next spotlight!

Your pharmacy benefits just got better!

Did you know that PHP has partnered with Alliance Rx Walgreens Prime to provide home-delivered maintenance medications to PHP members with chronic illnesses?

Take advantage of having up to a three-month supply of your medications conveniently delivered right to your front door by registering with Alliance Rx Walgreens Prime. Registration is easy! Simply complete the registration form on our website or call 1-800-489-2197!

For more information, visit: https://www.phpcares.org/find-providers-formulary/formulary/
Choose Health

PHP would like to congratulate all of our members who reached their 2018 healthcare goals!

Choose Health by the numbers!
- 906 members completed one goal
- 534 members eligible for a reward
- 173 rewards distributed

About the Program:

In 2018 PHP launched a wellness and rewards program, Choose Health! To inspire our members to stay healthy, we offered rewards for completing two healthcare goals:

Health Care Goals: Flu Shot, Dental Checkup, and Preventive Screenings (Mammogram, Colorectal Cancer Screening, PAP)
Rewards: T-Shirt, Tote Bag, Backpack, or $10 CVS Gift Card

Don’t forget to send in your reward selection post card for our 2018 program by March 31, 2019 to get your reward!

*PHP is proud to announce the offering of the Choose Health program in 2019! Members can complete two of the healthcare goals and be rewarded for staying healthy!*

Questions? Visit our website at phpcares.org/choosehealth for more information.

Self Direction

New to Self-Direction? We’ll fill you in!

Self-Direction is an OPWDD service that gives you flexibility to choose the mix of supports and services that are right for you so you can live the life you want.

We are happy to announce that we have 32 members currently enrolled in Self-Direction, who are able uniquely design the empowering life they deserve.

“My experience is wonderful and I can do a lot more than I could do when I lived in the group home.”
-Michelle, PHP Member of Nassau County enrolled in Self-Direction

Interested in Self-Direction? Get in contact with your Care Team to find out more.
PHP has been working closely with AHRC NYC and Best Buddies to organize events together. This provides an inclusive community for the three groups who all have the same mission – to create happier and healthier lives for individuals with I/DD. We can do better, together.

AHRC Nassau & PHP

PHP was so happy to once again be a part of the AHRC Nassau Walk. Moving Ahead, Leaving No One Behind. Do you have any walks/marches you would like to see us be a part of in the year of 2019? Let us know at newsletter@phpcares.org.
Rebecca (left) and Helen (right) were paired up through The PAL Program and really hit it off! They go to get iced coffee together (even in these cold winter months!), and do different arts and crafts together. Helen even invited Rebecca to her birthday party!

Leticia (left) and Shelley (right) became fast friends when introduced, and accidentally matched outfits! They have enjoyed different activities together, including seeing Mary Poppins Returns at the local movie theater, and plan on doing more as time goes on!

The Care Coordination department has grown immensely since the beginning of Partners Health Plan! Specifically for the NYC Region, in May of 2017 there were two teams, a total of only 6 employees. Since that time the department has grown to 7 teams, bringing on a Care Coordination Assistant and Supervisor for the NYC Region. The team has grown from 6 employees to a total of 24 including NYC’s director, Giselle. We look forward to continuous growth of teams who truly care about improving the lives of those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
Tech & Tips

Access-A-Ride can now be booked online and through the myMTA app! The app is available to both Android and Apple users, and is free!

Simply download it from the App Store or Google Play store, click on Access-A-Ride, log in with your ID number and password, and book your ride!

Did you know that a membership to NYC Parks for a person with a disability is only a $25 annual fee? An NYC Parks Membership includes:

- Access to all NYC Parks & Rec locations
- Adaptive Programs (Wheelchair Basketball, etc.)
- Arts & Tech Courses
- Exercise Equipment, Fitness & Dance Classes
- Game Rooms, Gyms, Pools, Sports Programs, etc.

Visit [www.nycparks.org/programs/recreation-centers/membership](http://www.nycparks.org/programs/recreation-centers/membership) to obtain the form and bring it to a local center with your Access-A-Ride ID card to become a member! If you have any questions or need assistance, reach out to your Care Team or email newsletter@phpcares.org.

Art Corner!

At PHP, there are many talented individuals who are a part of the plan. Out of this talented bunch, some are pretty amazing artists, and we are excited to display their artwork below! If you’re a part of the plan and would like your work to be featured, send us an email at newsletter@phpcares.org.

Artwork by William Britt, Rockland Member

Marie T, NYC Member
PHP, a not-for-profit organization offering Medicaid- and Medicare-covered benefits to eligible residents of New York City and its surrounding counties (i.e., Nassau, Suffolk, Rockland, and Westchester), was founded by long-time providers of supports and services to people with IDD and their families. Instead of the long-standing practice of providing “one size fits all” services to people with IDD, PHP is a mission-driven, person-centered organization dedicated to assisting individuals in pursuing the lives they choose. PHP’s five founding partners, New York’s Downstate AHRCs and ARCs, have over six decades of successful experience in delivering services and making resources available to support individuals with IDD.

A visual and audio version of the newsletter is available on our YouTube page at http://bit.ly/PartnersHealthPlan!