December 2024

Life Patterns Lowdown

In this issue:

- Excess Funds
- Managed Care Organization
 - Healthy Blue
 - Changing MCO's
- Address Changes
- Holiday Hours
- From the Desk of Jon

Address Changes

If there are any address changes for employees or families, please fill out an "Address Change Form" and return₁it to our offices.

The form can be found on our website at www.lifepatternsks.org W2s will be sent in January.

Please get any updates changes to us before then.

Excess Funds

Our policy on Excess Funds is that all employees must be paid at the maximum hourly rate to receive these funds. We will not calculate the amount if individuals do not meet this requirement, and it will be returned to the State of Kansas.

Where do Excess Funds come from?

With HCBS Services, the State of Kansas sets a reimbursement rate for all the waivers. This rate is to pay for the employee's hourly rate of pay, the FICA taxes, unemployment insurance, and Worker's Compensation Insurance. Some of these costs are projected and can vary from year to year. Once all wages have been paid for a fiscal year, Life Patterns Inc. can then calculate the direct cost from the projections and if any funds remain, we can pay that to the employees at the end of the year.

This will be calculated after December 13th payday, since the 15th falls on a weekend, and will be paid out on December 31st along with normal wages.

Families with more than one employee will be contacted to determine how to distribute the excess funds. Families with only one employee will not be contacted; the funds will be paid automatically.

Time will be limited in the final days of 2024 to get this completed. Please respond as timely as possible. Any funds that are not distributed will be returned to the State of Kansas.

Managed Care Organization

Changes to the MCO-Healthy Blue

Aetna Better Health's last day of providing services to members on KanCare will be December 31st, 2024. Healthy Blue will be starting January 1st, 2025. All Aetna members who did not choose a different Managed Care Organization (i.e. Sunflower or United Health Care) will automatically be enrolled with Healthy Blue.

Healthy Blue

All members should be receiving all the same benefits for the first three months of the year, or until a new assessment can be completed by Healthy Blue.

Open Enrollment

There is open enrollment until March 2025 to change the Managed Care Organization that you work with through your KanCare. If you want to change, you will need to work with the care coordinator and Medicaid to get that changed.

Holiday Hours &Closures

Life Patterns Inc. will be closed on December 24th & 25th for Christmas and January 1st for New Year's Day.

We hope that all families will have blessed and safe holidays.

As we look forward to the new year, this time of the year is for reflection, joy, and celebration. It's a time to appreciate the love of family and friends, the comforts of good health, and the kindness that surrounds us. As we take a moment to reflect on everything that has been accomplished, we also want to send our heartfelt gratitude to you.

We wouldn't be where we are today without you! Whether you've been with us for years or are just starting this journey with us, we want you to know how much we appreciate you.

As the holiday season fills the air with warmth and cheer, we want to wish you and your loved ones a very **Merry Holiday** and a **Happy New Year**. May this festive season bring peace, joy, and happiness to your home, and may the year ahead be filled with exciting new opportunities.

Thank you again for being a part of our journey. We look forward to another wonderful year together!

FROM THE DESK OF JON GERDEL