



# The Benefits Group, Inc.

Member of Connecticut Health Partnership  
Member of the CT Better Business Bureau



JULY/AUG 2007

Your Healthcare Benefit Source  
Celebrating our 15th Anniversary in 2007!

## What Does *Service* Mean in Today's Insurance Market?

There are many ways to buy insurance these days: through a broker, direct from carriers and, for some products, online. There are many reasons to use a broker, with the main reason being *SERVICE!*

Service is what sets us apart from the others.



We are here to represent, educate and advise our clients. Since we represent many insurance companies, we can find the best plan and price for your company.

Some think that buying online or direct may save money. However, the rates that are published for small groups (under 50) and for individuals are the same whether or not you use a broker. It makes sense to have a professional insurance specialist on your side to guide you through renewals and answer questions you may have. A full service broker can save you time and stress trying to understand all of the available options.

When you are looking to reevaluate your insurance needs or when you would like to add ancillary coverages (group life, STD, LTD, dental, LTC, Business Overhead Expense), please call us.



## Important Information for FSA Participants



Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA's) regulations are required that the funds be used, or forfeited, on a *calendar year basis*. Please remind employees to plan accordingly by scheduling doctor appointments, refilling Rx's and taking care of any other qualifying medical care by 12/31/07, so that they do not forfeit any funds.

## Children's Well Visit Schedule

Please check your plan benefits for maximum number of children's well visits to be sure that you are not exceeding the allowed number of visits, especially in the first years. Please contact your carrier if you are not certain. You don't want to be surprised with a \$200 bill!



## We're baaaaack!

The Benefits Group will resume it's regular work schedule (M-F, 8:30-4:30) beginning September 3rd.



We hope you enjoyed your summer!

## Anthem Rewards

Just a reminder to take advantage of the Anthem Rewards online health and fitness program. Many of our clients and their employees are taking advantage of this program to improve their health and earn some great prizes. Please don't forget to mention this wonderful program to your new employees as well. Please visit [www.Anthemrewards.com](http://www.Anthemrewards.com) for more information.



## Happy 2nd Anniversary Newsletter!

Our newsletter has now been in publication for two years! We hope that you find it helpful to keep you updated and informed. We appreciate all your kind words and suggestions.



We strive to provide the best products and service in Connecticut. Please refer us to your colleagues and friends. We would be happy to show them what we can do for their business and employees as well.

## Student Verification Forms

Employees with college age children should be on the lookout for the student verification forms from their insurance carrier. Please make sure the employee returns the requested information back to the carrier promptly to make sure there are no gaps in coverage. If the child is no longer a full time student, please call your agent for other coverage options.



## More HSA information...

**“Well care” is covered at 100%.** Be sure to watch your carriers well care guidelines and be sure that your physician does not bill the carrier with a diagnosis code for a 'sick' visit should he/she find something wrong.

**HSA deductibles:** One person in a family can fulfill the family deductible. There is no “stop-point” for one person in the family.

### New HSA Maximums for 2008:

#### Minimum deductible amount:

Individual—\$1,100 (same as 2007)

Family—\$2,200 (same as 2007)

#### Maximum out of pocket amount:

Individual—\$5,600 (increase of \$100)

Family-\$11,200 (increase of \$200)

#### HSA Statutory Contribution amount:

Individual—\$2,900 (increase of \$50)

Family- \$5,800 (increase of \$150)

**Catch up contributions** (for individuals 55+ until enrolled in Medicare): \$900



Please contact your agent with any questions.

## \*\*\*NEW\*\*\* REFERRAL PROGRAM

The Benefits Group would like to introduce you to our new referral program. It is our way of thanking you for referring us to your business associates, friends and relatives.

Here's how it works; it's easy! When you make a referral to The Benefits Group that results in a line of coverage being sold, we will give you an

American Express gift card.

*Many of our clients have already taken advantage of this offer!*



Please remember that they can use our toll free number to contact us, 1-877-250-7880.

PHONE: 203-250-7880 \* TOLL FREE 1-877-250-7880 \* FAX: 203-271-9868 \*

WEBSITE: [www.thebenefitsgroupofct.com](http://www.thebenefitsgroupofct.com)