

# BENEFITS TOOLBOX



A Publication of the New York City  
District Council of Carpenters  
Benefit Funds

## Board of Trustees Approves Benefit Improvement for NYCDCC Pension Fund Participants

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, the NYCDCC Pension Fund is pleased to announce that **on or about July 1, 2022**, the current applicable benefit rate (“ABR”) for each benefit credit earned prior to **January 1, 1999 will increase by 25% for active Participants and Participants in pay status. For example, the flat \$80 benefit rate will increase to \$100; a \$70 benefit rate will increase to \$87.50.** For this benefit improvement, an “active” Participant is defined as any member who meets the requirements for participation in the Plan on or after July 1, 2022. A “Participant in pay status” is defined as any pensioner or beneficiary in pay status as of July 1, 2022. The value of Surviving Spouse benefits for your Qualified Spouse after your passing will also increase in accordance with the option chosen at the time of your retirement, if applicable.

The Trustees’ ability to approve this type of benefit improvement comes as a result of their diligent efforts to ensure the integrity and longevity of the NYCDCC Pension Fund. As multiemployer pension funds throughout the country have struggled, the NYCDCC Pension Fund has remained strong, as evidenced by its **funding percentage of 99.1%** per the latest Annual Funding Notice released in October of 2021 (for plan year ending June 30, 2021). The Trustees are happy to report that the NYCDCC Pension Fund is financially well-positioned now and into the immediate future.

NYCDCC Pension Fund participants should note that this type of change requires programming changes and involves many moving parts (e.g., various options, divorce/QDROs, surviving spouse, etc.). As such, we ask that participants be patient as we roll out this change. **The Fund Office is striving to have this in effect for July 1, 2022.** In the event that this proves not to be possible, newly adjusted benefit amounts will be retroactive to July 1, 2022. Participants will be receiving a letter from the Fund Office informing them of their new benefit amount.

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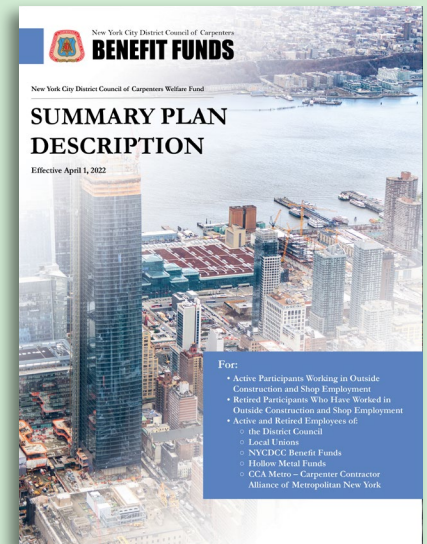
Tool Time

# NOW AVAILABLE: UPDATED NYCDCC WELFARE FUND SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION (“SPD”) FOR ACTIVE/RETIRED PARTICIPANTS WORKING IN OUTSIDE CONSTRUCTION AND SHOP EMPLOYMENT, AND ACTIVE/RETIRED PERMANENT STAFF

The Fund Office is pleased to announce that it recently completed a revised NYCDCC Welfare Fund Summary Plan Description (“SPD”) for Active and Retired Participants Working in Outside Construction and Shop Employment, and Active/Retired Permanent Staff (employees of the District Council, Local Unions, Benefit Funds, Hollow Metal Funds, and CCA Metro). Effective April 1, 2022, this updated SPD replaced your previous SPD and all Summaries of Material Modifications (“SMMs”) that were distributed prior to April 1, 2022.

The Fund Office mailed eligible participants a hard copy of the SPD in May. However, you can also access the SPD in digital form on our website at [www.nycCBF.org](http://www.nycCBF.org).

If you have any questions about the new SPD, or you haven’t yet received a copy of the SPD in the mail, please contact our Member Services Department at **(800) 529-FUND (3863)**.



## REMINDER: NYCDCC MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE FUND OFFICE

To maximize your benefits under the various Funds, it is important to remember that you must keep the Fund Office updated on certain life changes. Here are some tips to keep your information up-to-date with the Fund Office. You can make these changes by either visiting the Member Portal (i-Site) via [www.nycCBF.org](http://www.nycCBF.org) or by contacting Member Services at **(800) 529-FUND (3863)**.

- **Keep your physical address, email address, and contact numbers current.**
- **Keep the Fund Office informed of any changes to your bank account** if you are having premiums automatically withdrawn (retirees) or you are receiving automatic deposits for Pension, Vacation, or Short-Term Disability benefits.
- **Keep the Fund Office informed of when you or an eligible dependent become Medicare eligible.**
- **Keep the Fund Office informed of a new dependent, the death of a dependent, or a divorce.**
- **Keep your beneficiary(ies) current with the Fund Office and Prudential.**
- **Keep track of your work history/benefit hours and review the information on a regular basis.**



**We're Hiring!**

To see our open positions and apply, go to [nycCBF.org/jobs](http://nycCBF.org/jobs)



## PRUDENTIAL RETIREMENT ACQUIRED BY EMPOWER

New York City District Council of Carpenters (“NYCDCC”) Annuity Fund participants should have recently received communications from Prudential Retirement advising that it has completed a business transaction resulting in the company being acquired by Empower Retirement. The transaction did not cause any changes to your Annuity account and no further action concerning the acquisition was required on your behalf at the time of the acquisition.

Here are some more facts concerning the acquisition and your account:

Prudential Retirement was acquired by Empower Retirement, a company that administers over \$1 trillion in assets on behalf of 12 million American workers and retirees through approximately 67,000 workplace savings plans (as of September 30, 2021). No changes were made to your individual account and you were not required to take any actions concerning your retirement savings.

You can continue to use the Prudential website ([www.prudential.com/nycdccbf](http://www.prudential.com/nycdccbf)) and app as you normally would. All login information and contact numbers are currently the same. You may now see the Empower Retirement logo when you access your account. You will receive advanced communications if any of this information is scheduled to change in the future.

The acquisition did not have any negative affect on customer service or monetary distributions. If you have questions, please contact Prudential Retirement at (877) PRU-2100 or [www.prudential.com/nycdccbf](http://www.prudential.com/nycdccbf).



## CYBERSECURITY: REUSING YOUR LOGIN CREDENTIALS MAY BE PUTTING YOU AT RISK

The NYCDCC Benefit Funds wants to help you keep your information safe, and we are regularly updating our account safety protocols and sharing information to keep you secure. Recently, the New York State Attorney General’s Office issued a consumer alert, warning New Yorkers of cyberattacks targeting customers who use the same username and password (login credentials) on several websites or apps. It may be easy for us to re-use our login credentials on several platforms. However, cybercriminals can attempt to get into internet accounts using login credentials obtained from other online services in these “credential stuffing” attacks. Attackers can use specialized software to produce and submit tens of thousands of login attempts in rapid succession.

“With billions of stolen credentials floating around on the internet, credential stuffing attacks have the ability to hurt both businesses and consumers,” says Attorney General James. Safeguarding your information by using multiple login credentials, enabling 2-factor authorization, or more may protect you and others from these cyberattacks. Read more and learn how to better ensure your safety at [www.ny.gov](http://www.ny.gov).



### Cancer care can't wait. And you're already covered.

If you have symptoms or have been diagnosed with cancer, please don't wait to connect with our experts. Memorial Sloan Kettering's world-class cancer care is in-network for NYCDCC Welfare Fund participants and their families.

Reach a cancer expert today through your dedicated MSK Direct number: 833-786-3368.

Always here.  
Always will be.



Memorial Sloan Kettering  
Cancer Center

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# SUMMARY ANNUAL REPORT

## For New York City District Council of Carpenters Welfare Fund

This is a summary of the annual report of the New York City District Council of Carpenters Welfare Fund, EIN 13-5615576, Plan No. 501, health plan, for period July 01, 2020 through June 30, 2021. The annual report has been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

The Board of Trustees of the New York City District Council of Carpenters Welfare Fund has committed itself to pay certain claims incurred under the terms of the plan.

### Insurance Information

The plan has contracts with Amalgamated Life Insurance Company, Sierra Health and Life Insurance Company, Inc. and Technology Insurance Company to pay life insurance, Accidental Death and Dismemberment, Supplemental Medicare and Paid Family Leave claims incurred under the terms of the plan. The total premiums paid for the plan year ending June 30, 2021 were \$3,430,347.

### Basic Financial Statement

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was \$807,596,004 as of June 30, 2021, compared to \$759,373,511 as of July 01, 2020. During the plan year the plan experienced an increase in its net assets of \$48,222,493. This increase includes unrealized appreciation and depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. During the plan year, the plan had total income of \$488,819,991, including employer contributions of \$384,621,104, employee contributions of \$3,485,147, realized losses of (\$1,463,131) from the sale of assets, earnings from investments of \$88,664,302, and other income of \$13,512,569.

Plan expenses were \$440,597,498. These expenses included \$13,013,308 in administrative expenses, and \$427,584,190 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries.

### Your Rights To Additional Information

You have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, on request. The items listed below are included in that report:

- an accountant's report;
- financial information;
- information on payments to service providers;
- assets held for investment;
- transactions in excess of 5% of the plan assets;
- insurance information, including sales commissions paid by insurance carriers;
- information regarding any common or collective trusts, pooled separate accounts, master trusts or 103-12 investment entities in which the plan participates;

To obtain a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, write or call the office of Board of Trustees of New York City District Council of Carpenters Welfare Fund at 395 Hudson Street, New York, NY 10014, or by telephone at **(212) 366-7300**. The charge to cover copying costs will be \$37.50 for the full annual report, or \$0.25 per page for any part thereof. You may also obtain a full copy of the annual report by visiting the New York City District Council of Benefits Funds' website at [nycCBF.com/compliance/about-form-5500/](http://nycCBF.com/compliance/about-form-5500/).

You also have the right to receive from the plan administrator, on request and at no charge, a statement of the assets and liabilities of the plan and accompanying notes, or a statement of income and expenses of the plan and accompanying notes, or both. If you request a copy of the full annual report from the plan administrator, these two statements and accompanying notes will be included as part of that report. The charge to cover copying costs given above does not include a charge for the copying of these portions of the report because these portions are furnished without charge.

You also have the legally protected right to examine the annual report at the main office of the plan (Board of Trustees of New York City District Council of Carpenters Welfare Fund, 395 Hudson Street, New York, NY 10014) and at the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C., or to obtain a copy from the U.S. Department of Labor upon payment of copying costs. Requests to the Department should be addressed to: Public Disclosure Room, Room N-1513, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210.

# SUMMARY ANNUAL REPORT

## For New York City District Council of Carpenters Annuity Fund

This is a summary of the annual report for New York District Council of Carpenters Annuity Fund, EIN 51-0174279, Plan No. 001, for period July 01, 2020 through June 30, 2021. The annual report has been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

### Basic Financial Statement

Benefits under the plan are provided by insurance and a trust fund. Plan expenses were \$272,954,626. These expenses included \$3,576,299 in administrative expenses, \$260,458,635 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries, and \$8,919,692 in other expenses. A total of 38,890 persons were participants in or beneficiaries of the plan at the end of the plan year, although not all of these persons had yet earned the right to receive benefits.

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was \$3,272,124,886 as of June 30, 2021, compared to \$2,819,838,840 as of July 01, 2020. During the plan year the plan experienced an increase in its net assets of \$452,286,046. This increase includes unrealized appreciation and depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. The plan had total income of \$725,240,672, including employer contributions of \$149,228,333, employee contributions of \$568,100, earnings from investments of \$566,828,033, and other income of \$8,616,206.

### Your Rights To Additional Information

You have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, on request. The items listed below are included in that report:

- an accountant's report;
- financial information;
- information on payments to service providers;
- assets held for investment;
- insurance information, including sales commissions paid by insurance carriers;
- information regarding any common or collective trusts, pooled separate accounts, master trusts or 103-12 investment entities in which the plan participates;

To obtain a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, write or call the office of Board of Trustees of The New York District Council of Carpenters Annuity Fund at 395 Hudson Street, New York, NY 10014, or by telephone at **(212) 366-7300**. The charge to cover copying costs will be \$14.00 for the full annual report, or \$0.25 per page for any part thereof. You may also obtain a full copy of the annual report by visiting the New York City District Council of Benefits Funds' website at [nyccbf.com/compliance/about-form-5500/](https://nyccbf.com/compliance/about-form-5500/).

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# TIPS FOR FINANCIAL WELL-BEING

The Benefit Funds often focuses on your health and well-being through our Preventive Care and Wellness articles. However, we all must not forget that financial wellness is important as well. So what is financial wellness and well-being? Financial well-being means having financial security and financial freedom of choice, both in the present and in the future. More specifically, having financial well-being is when you:

- Have control over day-to-day, month-to-month finances
- Have the capacity to absorb a financial shock
- Are on track to meet your financial goals
- Have the financial freedom to make the choices that allow you to enjoy life

This is why people with the same income, financial experiences, or education can have very different levels of financial well-being. Here are some tips for how you can keep yourself in good financial shape.

## Set Financial Goals:

The most essential thing you can do to start maintaining your financial well-being is to set specific and time-bound financial objectives for yourself. Remember to be realistic! It is not always necessary to overachieve; instead, it is necessary to be practical with your expenditures and to create a consistent flow of money. With the market's upheavals, it's also vital to re-evaluate your financial goals from time to time.

## Budget:

First, outline your fixed expenses, like rent, mortgage payments, or other stable household expenditures and bills. Then, factor in your average extraneous expenses throughout the year for entertainment, clothing, dining and other activities. View those expenses in context with your current debts to determine whether you should create any short- or long-term goals that modify your spending behaviors.

## Use Your Benefits:

The Benefit Funds offers a great benefits package for our members and their dependents. These benefits can release the burden of many healthcare costs. The U.S. Department of Labor reports that benefits are worth 30% of an average employee's total compensation. When employees are confused, uninformed, or intimidated, they are leaving money on the table and putting their well-being at risk. Please don't hesitate to contact the Fund Office if you have any questions or want to learn more about using your benefits.

## Find the Right Investments:

It is also never too early to get started on investments to help your family in times of need. It creates economic security and reduces fiscal risk. Your investments should ideally have high returns and low risks. Find the right balance and focus on diversifying your investment portfolio.

## Save, Save, Save:

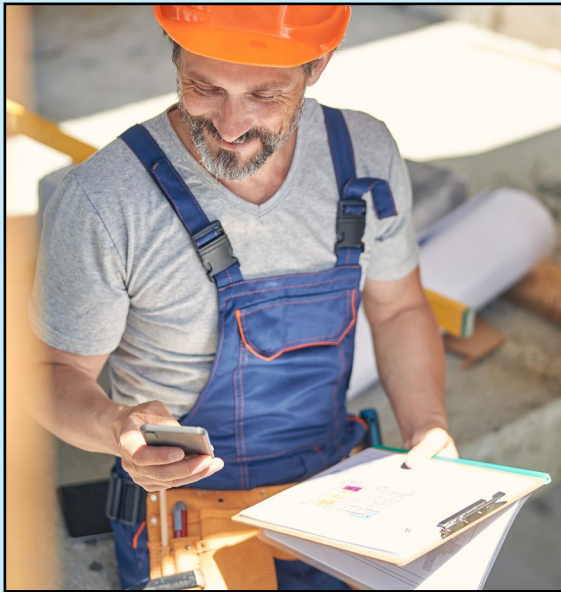
One of the most important steps to gaining financial independence is establishing a habit of setting money aside for savings on a recurring basis. Automating this process will make things easier in the long run, but try not to "set it and forget it." We all would like to stop working and retire comfortably one day. So, what is the best approach to accomplish this? Set aside money for retirement! When expressed in this way, it sounds simple, but figuring out how to save for retirement isn't always easy.

It can be daunting trying to figure out how much money should be saved on a recurring basis, and how much savings you may need for retirement 20 to 30 years from now. However, luckily for you, the Benefit Funds assists you in saving for retirement through your Pension and Annuity Funds. Make sure to get in contact with the Fund Office to learn what contributions are made toward your Pension and Annuity accounts, and how you can use these when setting personal retirement goals.

Check out the  
Website!  
[nyccbf.org](http://nyccbf.org)



## NYCDCC Benefit Funds Launches New and Improved Member Login for Viewing Personal Benefits



In an effort to improve the online experience of the NYCDCC membership, the Benefit Funds is pleased to announce that we've launched a newly redesigned Member Login Portal. The launch of the new portal marks the end of an arduous process undertaken to provide you a streamlined, easy-to-navigate way to view your benefits.

The revamped Member Login Portal now features a sleekly-designed, user-friendly dashboard and a sidebar menu that allows you to seamlessly toggle between all of your benefit viewing options. There are also options available for you to view and/or download your benefit information into a CSV file (spreadsheet). Other enhancements coming soon will include an expanded downloadable forms library, greater print and reporting capabilities, and security measures such as multi-factor authentication and verification of email addresses and phone numbers that will help better protect your privacy.

It is important to note that you can enter the Member Login Portal in the same way you always have (by clicking the "Member Login" button located on the top right corner of the website), and that your Username/Password remains the same. If you have questions about how to navigate the new Member Login Portal, or you need assistance with your Username and/or Password, you can contact our Member Services Department at **(800) 529-FUND (3863)**.

## NYCDCC BENEFIT FUNDS **EXPANDS** SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE TO INCLUDE LINKEDIN, YOUTUBE, AND INSTAGRAM

In an effort to continue growing our ability to communicate with you using as many viable venues as possible, the NYCDCC Benefit Funds is pleased to announce that we have launched LinkedIn, YouTube, and Instagram pages. We believe that this social media expansion will allow us to communicate with you in a more personal and interactive manner.

Our LinkedIn page was launched in October of 2021. We currently utilize our LinkedIn page to connect with job recruiters, fellow professionals, and members like you, sharing thoughts, searching for talent, and providing valuable benefits information. You can visit us and follow our page at: [www.linkedin.com/company/the-new-york-city-district-council-of-carpenters-benefit-funds](http://www.linkedin.com/company/the-new-york-city-district-council-of-carpenters-benefit-funds) ("**New York City District Council of Carpenters Benefit Funds**").

Our Instagram page was launched in February of 2022! We presently use our Instagram page to share printable flyers and videos we have created to help you understand your benefits, and provide health and financial wellness tips. You can visit us and follow our page at: [www.instagram.com/nycdccb](http://www.instagram.com/nycdccb) ("**nycdccb**").

Our YouTube page was launched in February of 2022 as well! We utilize our YouTube page to share videos we have made to describe and explain your benefits, and also provide health and financial wellness tips. Additionally, we are hoping that our vendors and providers will create content and provide recorded webinar videos that we can share with you. You can visit us and subscribe to our page at: [www.youtube.com/NYCDCCBenefitFunds](http://www.youtube.com/NYCDCCBenefitFunds) ("**NYCDCC Benefit Funds**").

Lastly, don't forget that we also continue to have a presence on Facebook and Twitter! Like us on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/NYCDCCBF](http://www.facebook.com/NYCDCCBF) ("**NYCDCCBF**"), and follow us on Twitter at: [www.twitter.com/NYCDCCBF](http://www.twitter.com/NYCDCCBF) ("**NYCDCCBF**").





# BENEFIT FUNDS LAUNCHES NEW EDUCATIONAL VIDEO LIBRARY FOR MEMBERS

As a major part of our continued efforts to communicate your benefits to you in more easily understood mediums, the Benefit Funds has created an educational video library meant to assist you in better comprehending your welfare, pension, and annuity benefits, as well as provide you important information and tips concerning various preventative care and wellness topics. The Benefit Funds truly believes that all of our members should have a working knowledge of how your benefits work and are administered. Additionally, we are also strong proponents of preventative care practices. As such, we are confident that this video library will help us provide you this information in easily relatable terms.

The Benefit Funds video library, which you can find in the "*Member*" section of our website under the "*Video Library*" tab ([www.nycCBF.org/member/videos](http://www.nycCBF.org/member/videos)), features easy-to-understand explanations of your benefits and the processes by which you can use these benefits. Our preventative care and wellness videos give an overview of various health issues and how you can either prevent them or treat them early on through awareness and behavioral habits.



We know how important it is for you to understand your benefits and take care of your health, and because of this, we are doing everything we can to provide you the education that you need to accomplish this. Once again, the Benefit Funds encourages you to check out our new video library by visiting [www.nycCBF.org](http://www.nycCBF.org) and clicking on the "*Video Library*" tab, which you can find in the "*Member*" section of our website. We will also be sure to monitor the usage of our videos and rotate on new topics to give you as wide a range of valuable information as possible.

## EXPRESS SCRIPTS, UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT OFFER WAYS TO GET FREE AT-HOME COVID-19 TESTS

Good news! Both Express Scripts and the United States Government offer a number of ways for you to get free at home COVID-19 tests. To learn more, please review the info below.

### Express Scripts:

Navigating COVID-19 can be hard, but Express Scripts is making it easy for you to afford an at-home COVID-19 test when you need one. If you have Express Scripts pharmacy coverage through the Benefit Funds, you can visit your local retail pharmacy for at-home COVID-19 tests at no cost to you.

### Here's How it Works:

- **Call** your local retail pharmacy to see if they have at-home COVID-19 tests available.
- Take your **Express Scripts ID card** to a retail pharmacy in your network.
- Bring the COVID-19 test to the pharmacy counter, **not** the regular checkout lane.
- **Check out** at the pharmacy counter and **show your ID card**. Your at-home COVID-19 test should automatically ring up at no cost to you.

### Here are a Few Helpful Places to Find Information:

To find a retail pharmacy in your network, Visit [www.express-scripts.com](http://www.express-scripts.com) and click "*Find a Pharmacy*." You can also use the

Express Scripts' mobile app. If you weren't able to purchase your at-home COVID-19 test(s) at the pharmacy counter, or happened to be charged, You can submit your receipt for reimbursement of up to \$12 per test online at Express Scripts' COVID-19 resource center.

### United States Government:

The United States Federal government recently launched a new website that allows the general public to order free at-home rapid COVID-19 test kits. You can request test kits to be shipped to your home by visiting [www.covidtests.gov](http://www.covidtests.gov) and filling out the appropriate online forms. Your request will then be processed and the test kits will be shipped to your homes in 7-12 days through the United States Postal Service. Please visit the government's website to read any restrictions or limitations that may apply.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2022-2023 CHARLES JOHNSON JR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, the New York City District Council of Carpenters Welfare Fund is pleased to announce the twenty-five (25) students that have been awarded the Charles Johnson Jr. Memorial Scholarship for the 2022-2023 academic year. Each student will now receive a \$3,500 per year scholarship, which is renewable for up to four years at an accredited college or university.

**We would like to extend our sincerest congratulations to the following students/members:**

Student	Member	Local
Kimberley Angelletta	Matthew Angelletta	1556
Dave Becker	Dave Becker	926
Britney Bennett	Bryan Bennett	212
Kathleen Bennett	James Bennett	157
Connor Breheny	Gary Breheny	157
Cecilia Campisi	Michael Campisi	157
Keegan Farrell	Raymond Farrell	1556
Blake Goehring	Scott Goehring	2287
Emma Keleman	Kenneth Keleman	926
Sofia Knoetgen	Joseph Knoetgen	2287
Amy Kugelman	Alan Kugelman	157
Julia Mackiewicz	Mariusz Mackiewicz	157
Adriano Medeiros	Adrian Medeiros	1556
Lily Moloney	Michael Moloney	157
Sydney O'Malley	Thomas O'Malley	157
Julian Ong	Aloysius Ong	608
Jaelyn Oramas	Rene Oramas	1556
Lily O'Sullivan	James O'Sullivan	157
Jacklyn Retaleato	Anthony Retaleato	157
Caitlin Scacchetti	Douglas Scacchetti	157
Conlan Shea	James Shea	45
Sean Tadiello	David Tadiello	1556
Rebecca Walsh	Brian Walsh	157
Patricia Walsh	Brian Walsh	157
Jake Younghese	Steven Younghese	2790



## KEEPING YOUR BENEFICIARIES UP TO DATE

Life changes, such as a marriage, a birth or adoption of a child, a divorce, or the death of a loved one, may affect who you wish to designate as the beneficiary for your Welfare (life insurance), Pension, Vacation, and Annuity benefits. We recommend that you periodically confirm that your beneficiary designations on file at the Fund Office and Prudential reflect your current wishes.

A divorce judgment or separation agreement does not automatically revoke a prior designation of your former spouse as the beneficiary for your benefits. Subject to certain exceptions, the Funds are generally obligated to pay benefits to the last beneficiaries you designated, even if you are divorced from your last beneficiary or if your former spouse agreed to waive his/her rights to your benefits in a separation agreement or waiver form. If you have not changed your beneficiary designation in writing with the Fund Office and Prudential, your former spouse may still be entitled to your benefits. ***\*For your Annuity and Pension benefits, if you re-marry, your new spouse generally will be entitled to those benefits unless a Qualified Domestic Relations Order***

***("QDRO") awards benefits to your former spouse.***

The good news is that it's very easy to change your beneficiary. To check or change your beneficiary for your Welfare (life insurance), Pension, and Vacation benefits, please contact the Fund Office at **(800) 529-FUND (3863)**. You can also find the form on our website at [nyccbf.org/member/members-documents/](http://nyccbf.org/member/members-documents/). To check or change your beneficiary for your Annuity benefits, please go to [www.prudential.com/online/retirement](http://www.prudential.com/online/retirement), call **(877) 778-2100**, or you can visit our website at [nyccbf.org/member/members-documents/](http://nyccbf.org/member/members-documents/).

***\*Please note that there are two separate beneficiary forms that must be changed. You must submit a Fund Office form for your Pension, Welfare (life insurance), and Vacation benefits, and a Prudential/Empower form for your Annuity benefits. You must submit both completed beneficiary forms in order to update your beneficiary designation across all Funds.***



### THE NYCCBF MEND PROGRAM

The New York City District Council of Carpenters Welfare Fund has launched the Members Education and Network for Dependency ("MEND") Program, which gives participants and their dependents access to confidential treatment for substance abuse and mental health issues.

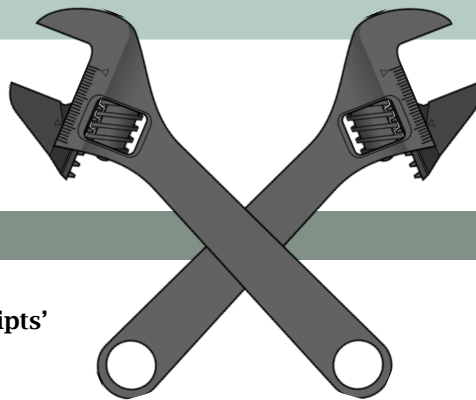
**Services include:**

- Referrals to appropriate level of treatment including inpatient and outpatient treatment for all substances and mental health issues,
- Case management and Coordination of Services with outside providers,
- Supportive services and Education.

If you or one of your dependents is struggling with substance abuse or mental health issues, please contact the MEND Program for assistance from our accredited staff. The MEND program can be reached at:

**Phone: (212) 366-7590**  
**Email: [MEND@nyccbf.org](mailto:MEND@nyccbf.org)**

# TOOL



# TIME

## Notes & Reminders:

### Reminder Concerning Express Scripts' Fraud, Waste, & Abuse Program ("FWA")

To protect the assets of the NYCDCC Welfare Fund and ensure that participants are not misusing or abusing prescription drugs, the Board of Trustees approved the implementation of Express Scripts' Fraud, Waste, & Abuse ("FWA") program in 2014. This program remains in effect this year. Below is a description of the FWA program.

Express Scripts' Fraud, Waste, & Abuse ("FWA") Services group provides an industry leading level of monitoring. FWA Services includes Network Pharmacy Audit, Network Pharmacy Fraud monitoring, and the Enhanced Member-Prescriber FWA monitoring program. This program provides an ongoing proactive review of all plan claims using advanced analytics, full investigative services, and detailed reporting, to help control costs and curtail inappropriate drug use.

Express Scripts continuously monitors member and prescriber patterns to identify outliers and situations of abnormal utilization or prescribing. Express Scripts' Special Investigations Unit ("SIU") uses FWA directed analytics to identify abusive or fraudulent patterns and examine high-risk scenarios. This department is made up of certified fraud examiners, registered pharmacists, certified internal auditors, statisticians, data-modeling experts, certified pharmacy technicians, registered nurses, and former law enforcement professionals. The NYCDCC Welfare Fund will receive regular detailed reports on the findings.

Express Scripts also makes available a Fraud Tip Hotline, and investigates fraud and abuse allegations received from our members, network pharmacies, prescribers, or law enforcement. To report suspected fraud, waste, or abuse of prescription drugs or of the prescription drug benefit, please contact:

- **Phone:** (866) 216-7096
- **Email:** [fraudtip@express-scripts.com](mailto:fraudtip@express-scripts.com)
- **Website:** [lab.express-scripts.com/contact/fraud-tip-hotline](http://lab.express-scripts.com/contact/fraud-tip-hotline)

### Compliance and Ethics Program

The New York City District Council of Carpenters Benefit Funds strive to maintain the highest standards of ethics and conduct in all aspects of Funds operations.

As a tangible commitment to this ideal, the Board of Trustees has adopted and implemented a Compliance and Ethics Program ("CEP"). The CEP sets forth standards for the guidance of all Benefit Funds staff in the day-to-day business of administering benefits for all members.

### Reporting

You can contact the Chief Compliance Officer of the Benefit Funds if you have a question or concern regarding the appropriateness or legality of a Benefit Funds' policy, procedure or transaction. All of us — Benefit Funds staff, the Trustees and Funds members — are responsible for ensuring that Funds assets are reserved to pay only for covered benefits and the reasonable costs of administering those benefits. We all share a duty to protect against violations of law and Benefit Funds rules.

So, if you see or suspect something, say something. Please report any matter that may constitute a breach of applicable laws rules, regulations or Benefit Funds' policies to Allan Bahn, the Benefit Funds Chief Compliance Officer. You can provide your name or remain anonymous. All information will be considered confidential. The Chief Compliance Officer can be contacted via:

### Mail:

**Allan Bahn,**

*Chief Compliance Officer*

New York City District Council of Carpenters Benefit Funds

395 Hudson Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor

New York, New York 10014

### Work Phone:

(212) 366-7533

### Confidential Hotline:

(646) 484-1665

### Email:

[ABahn@nycCBF.org](mailto:ABahn@nycCBF.org)

[complianceandethics@nycCBF.org](mailto:complianceandethics@nycCBF.org)

### Website:

Visit [www.nycCBF.org](http://www.nycCBF.org) and click the "Report a Compliance Issue" link below.



New York City District Council of Carpenters

## **BENEFIT FUNDS**

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### **Statement of Non-Discrimination**

The New York City District Council of Carpenters Welfare Fund (the "Fund") complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

The New York City District Council of Carpenters Welfare Fund cumple con las leyes federales de derechos civiles aplicables y no discrimina por motivos de raza, color, nacionalidad, edad, discapacidad o sexo.

纽约市木匠区议会福利基金（“基金”）遵守适用的联邦民权法，不因种族、肤色、国籍、年龄、残疾或性别而歧视

## **The New York City District Council of Carpenters Benefit Funds**

### **Contact Information**

**New York City District Council of Carpenters Benefit Funds  
395 Hudson St., 9<sup>th</sup> floor.  
New York, NY 10014**

**Member Services Call Center: (800) 529-FUND (3863) or (212) 366-7373**

[www.nyccbf.org](http://www.nyccbf.org)

[www.facebook.com/nycdccb](https://www.facebook.com/nycdccb)

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[www.linkedin.com/company/the-new-york-city-district-council-of-carpenters-benefit-funds](https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-new-york-city-district-council-of-carpenters-benefit-funds)

The information in this newsletter is intended to highlight certain information about your benefits and the Benefit Funds. *Benefits Toolbox* is not a substitute for the official Plan documents which set forth the requirements and conditions for the benefits. In the event of an inconsistency or a conflict between *Benefits Toolbox* and the Plan documents, the Plan documents shall control.