

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Department of Health
and Human Services

Maine People Living
Safe, Healthy and Productive Lives

John E. Baldacci, Governor

Brenda M. Harvey, Commissioner

Department of Health and Human Services
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February 3, 2010

Senator Joseph C. Brannigan, Chair
Representative Anne C. Perry, Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services
100 State House Station
Augusta ME 04333-0011

Dear Senator Joseph C. Brannigan, Representative Anne C. Perry and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services:

Foreword

The Department of Health and Human Services, Office of MaineCare Services is required by Title 22: HEALTH AND WELFARE; Subtitle 2: HEALTH; Part 5: FOODS AND DRUGS Chapter 603: PRESCRIPTION DRUG ACCESS HEADING: PL 1999, C. 786, PT. A, §3 (NEW) Subchapter 1: MAINE RX PLUS PROGRAM HEADING: PL 1999, C. 786, PT. A, §3 (NEW); 2003, C. 494, §1 (RPR) § 258 to report on the Maine Rx enrollment and financial status by the second week of January each year.

Background

The MaineRx program allows qualified Maine residents to buy drugs at a discounted rate. These residents are not eligible for MaineCare and have an income level up to 350% of the federal poverty limit. The eligible citizens receive a discount card that is honored by most community pharmacies. Retail chains that have their own discount program do not except the discount card. The Department does not pay for any portion of the drug, but does pay its Pharmacy Benefit Manager a fee for processing the claims. The Pharmacy Incentive Payments support the pharmacies in offering this and other MaineCare programs.

Data

Maine Rx – Data Summary For State Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2009			
# of members	8,552		
# of pharmacy claims	57,034	\$0.18 per claim fee	\$10,266 total claim fees paid
Pharmacy Incentive Payments			\$77,228 total PIP fees paid
Total Maine Rx Cost			\$87,494

February 3, 2010

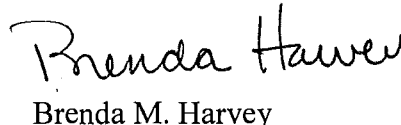
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Conclusions

The Maine Rx Plus program continues to serve its members and help them get much-needed medicines at a lower cost.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have regarding the report or requirements.

Sincerely,



Brenda M. Harvey
Commissioner

BMH/klv

cc: Tony Marple, Director, DHHS, Office of MaineCare Services
Brenda McCormick, DHHS, Office of MaineCare Services
Jennifer Palow, DHHS, Office of MaineCare Services