

Prescription Drug Plan Changes But Benefits Remain the Same

The CSA Welfare Fund and the DCC/CSA Welfare Fund provide prescription drug benefits through MerckMedco and Paid Prescription on the basis of a cooperative arrangement with GHI.

Effective Jan. 1, both GHI and CSA will use Express Scripts Inc. (ESI). Express Scripts is a major nationwide prescription drug plan administrator with an excellent reputation for service. ESI recently purchased NPA which had many major city unions as clients including the UFT and DC37. With the acquisition of NPA, ESI has made a major effort to enlist other city union health funds.

Active CSA supervisors as well as active and retired day care supervisors should experience a seamless transfer of their current drug plan with (Merck) Medco Health Systems and Paid Prescriptions to the ESI program. Their drug plans will remain exactly the same. The only change is the issuance of new drug cards which will happen sometime in December. Members who have refills due through the MerckMedco Mail program will not need to get new prescriptions. The prescriptions will be transferred to ESI.

CSA retirees covered by GHI will also be moving to ESI as their drug plan administrator. They, too, will be issued new cards by GHI. Their drug plan will also be exactly the same.

The change from Medco and Paid Prescriptions should be a smooth transition with no changes in coverage.

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NYC, NY 10037. For more information, please call (212) 690-5960 during the day or (212) 662-3964 in the evening. The date of this party was originally scheduled for Nov. 1.

■ Save the date! **Aida Rosa**, the former principal of PS 30, D-7, Bronx, will celebrate her retirement at a party at 6 p.m. on Nov. 6 at the Marina Del Rey, 1 Marine Dr., Bronx. The cost per person is \$75. For more information, call Maria Martinez or Eileen Costello at (212) 879-6265.

■ Annette Taback, Supervisor of Special Education, D-9, will be honored at a retirement gala at 5 p.m. on Nov. 14 at the Marina Del Rey, 1 Marine Dr., Bronx. The cost is \$65 per person. Checks should be made out to "cash" and sent to Pauline Smith, 1270 5th Ave., Apt. 3L, NYC, NY, 10029 or Bernadette Manley, 87 Carpenter Ave., Crestwood, NY 10707. For more information, call Harriet Bozeman at (718) 681-7309.

CSA Members



Dr. Leonard Golubchick, Principal of PS 20, Manhattan, and Assistant Principal Stewart Weiner, standing, watch a live internet broadcast during the launch of a program to help students deal with tragedy.

Seasoned Veterans of Terrorism Develop Program for Children

A cooperative effort between Israeli and New York City educators intends to develop a program through which children in strife-torn regions can share their common experiences of tragedy and grief, and help each other cope with their feelings.

The program, founded and funded after Sept. 11, 2001 by The New York Times Foundation, is managed by Columbia University. It will connect students at PS 20, Manhattan, JHS 56, Manhattan, and Israeli children via the Internet, said Dr. Leonard Golubchick, Principal of PS 20.

The first phase of this computer-age program was set in motion on Sept. 26 when the chief psychiatrist from Tel Aviv University and Jack Rosenthal, President of the New York Times Foundation, were at PS 20 and spoke on-line through video broadcast with New York educators at JHS 56, Manhattan.

The Internet will bring children together to share their sorrows

The plan is for educators to design a protocol and develop guidelines to help the school children handle difficult questions or emotions when they finally meet online, Golubchick explained. "Right now we're just dealing with methodology of how we share our responses," he said. Within six months, the first seminars for children should get underway. There has even been some talk of trying to arrange discussions between Arab children and Israeli children, he added.

Dr. Allan Zelenta of Teachers College, Columbia University, is coordinating the \$100,000 grant. Others involved are Dr. Leo Wolmer and Dr. Nathaniel Laor, two noted scholars in the field of stress disorders, from the Donald J. Cohen and Irving B. Harris Tel-Aviv Center for Trauma and Disaster Intervention.

PS 20 was hit especially hard by the World Trade Center attack, Golubchick said. Fourteen children lost relatives when the towers collapsed; many of the victims worked at Windows on the World, the restaurant at the top of Tower 1.