



NPMHU National President Paul Hogrogian



MHBP Outstanding Performance Central Region, Local 307



MHBP Outstanding Performance Northeastern Region, Local 300



MHBP Outstanding Performance Southern Region, Local 310



MHBP Seminar attendees attend a breakout session

# MHBP OPEN SEASON SEMINAR

October 11–12, 2024, Union Mail Handlers met in San Antonio, Texas to learn about NPMHU’s exceptional health insurance plan, MHBP, and how to educate potential members about the health plan during Open Season, November 11–December 9, 2024. The two-day educational seminar was co-hosted by NPMHU and Aetna, in anticipation of Open Season Health Fairs in November and December 2024. A key component to this year’s Seminar was learning about the Postal Service Health Benefits (PSHB) Program that will commence 1/1/2025, affecting all postal active employees, annuitants, dependents, survivor annuitants, and OWCP compensationers. MHBP will proudly participate in the new PSHB and continue to participate in Federal Employee Health Benefits (FEHB) program!

The Seminar began with opening remarks from National President Paul Hogrogian about MHBP, its value to those enrolled in it, and its value to each Local Union through Regular and Associate Membership in NPMHU.

Mail Handlers learned important information about the changes to MHBP for 2025 for each of its three program options, Standard Option, Value Plan, and Consumer Option. Changes for 2025 are minimal, reflecting MHBP’s focus on offering its same great plan options in both FEHB and PSHB. Likewise, premium increases are low and MHBP continues to offer great benefits at an outstanding price!

Attendees also learned about ongoing and future digital marketing campaigns for the plan, utilizing email, social media and search engines to advertise to postal and federal employees.

Informative breakout sessions covered many detailed topics regarding plan features and

benefits. Sessions focused on each of the three plan options, understanding that each plan offers in- and out- of network benefits, utilizes Aetna's nationwide provider network of almost 2 million providers, offers a 24 hour nurse line, and has amazing customer service available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. A session detailed the Consumer Option, MHBP's high deductible health plan that utilizes a Health Savings Account (when applicable), so that members can keep their unused HSA amounts when they leave the plan. Another session covered MHBP's Dental and Vision supplemental benefits.

A dedicated breakout session detailed the PSHB and it focused on its requirements and offerings for active Postal employees, future retirees and current retirees.

General sessions concluded with a review of the Partial Reimbursement Program. The Partial Reimbursement Program allows participating Local Unions to offset some of the costs of sending Local Union representatives to Open Season Health Fairs to educate potential members about MHBP. An important aspect of the program for this year only is the ability to for Local Unions to send and receive reimbursement for up to 2 representatives for in-person USPS health fairs.

National Secretary-Treasurer Kevin Tabarus reinforced President Hogrogian's opening message of the value of MHBP and every Local Union's opportunity to add to their membership by educating potential enrollees of the benefits of the plan. NST Tabarus reminded attendees that Postal Service associate employees may utilize SF1187 to easily collect their Associate Members dues from their paycheck.

The Open Season Seminar concluded by recognizing Local Unions who made significant contributions to their MHBP enrollment numbers through participating in Open Season Health Fairs, participating in Non-open Season New Hire Orientations, enrollment of Full Time Regular Mail Handler conversions, and additional support of the plan. Nominations reflect the great work Local Unions are doing across the country, with particular appreciation for those winning Local Unions by region. Huge congratulations to the regional Local Union award winners and overall Local Union award winner! MHBP appreciates all your hard work and support.



MHBP Outstanding Performance Western Region, Local 302



MHBP Outstanding Performance, Local 316



MHBP, NPMHU and Aetna leaders and training personnel close out the 2024 MHBP Open Season Seminar.



MHBP Director Nina Gallaresi



Friendly competition at a breakout session



AETNA Executive Director, Federal Accounts Pamela Barrett



Director of National Accounts, AETNA — Schann Holliday



NPMHU National Secretary-Treasurer Kevin Tabarus