



Queens Chamber Benefits Group

Healthy

A Better Queens is Our Business



With health care costs soaring for businesses, the Queens Chamber of Commerce is unveiling a new Chamber Benefits Group that will allow members – and their employees – greater access and choice of affordable health care plans.

The new Chamber Benefits Group, which will be unveiled during the first week of February on the Chamber’s web site, will offer a number of plans from major insurance carriers that will be available for those Chamber businesses and their employees who decide to enroll in the Benefits Group.

“The number one concern that we get from our members is affordable health programs,” said Chamber Executive Vice President Jack Friedman. “This revolutionary concept will contain employers’ costs while offering health insurance opportunities to employees who thought they could never afford them.”

The Chamber Benefits Group is available for businesses that range in size from 1 employee to 250 employees. If a Chamber business decides to enroll in the Benefits Group, each of their employees will have the option to choose a plan – from any insurance provider – that fits their individual needs.

“For a long time the Chamber has been looking for a way to offer its members an added value to membership and they have been looking in the employee health benefit area,” said Sher Sparano, Principal of Benefits Advisory Services Inc. and a Queens Chamber of Commerce Board Member. “We have succeeded in bringing multiple plans under one umbrel-

la that employers get to choose from. This plan appropriately meets the Chamber’s requirements to have plans for sole proprietorships and small groups.”

In addition to giving employees a number of options in terms of what health care plans they can enroll in, the Chamber Benefits Group will also benefit brokers who are members of the Queens Chamber. Brokers who are members of the Chamber will have the option to sell their plans to Chamber members increasing their potential for business.

Norm Michaels, of Michaels and Associates, who is going to be a third-party administrator for the Chamber Benefits Group, said that he implemented a similar program for the Business Council of Westchester nearly seven years ago.

“I think it’s been very much of a success,” said Norm Michaels, of Michaels and Associates, who is going to be a third-party administrator for the group. “It’s been a tremendous resource for the people who belong to the Business Council of Westchester.”

In the upcoming weeks and months, the Chamber will host a workshop for businesses interested in enrolling in the Chamber Benefits Group. In addition, representatives will be available at all of the Chamber signature events to explain the different options available to businesses.

For more information about the Queens Chamber Benefits Group, log onto the Chamber’s web site at www.queenschamber.org.

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