

Hope you've been having a great summer!

In this bulletin, we'll share that Community Health Options is working to expand its emergency medical services network, along with information about upcoming regional meetings, alternatives to Humira and a recent blog post on behavioral health,

Community Health Options to Expand its EMS Network

Community Health Options has begun expanding its emergency medical services network after Gov. Janet Mills signed a new law that creates opportunities for greater reimbursement for EMS providers—and better coverage for Community Health Options' Members.

Mills signed LD 1602 on July 7, 2023, paving the way for health insurers and EMS providers to come together through a new standard contract, and includes information on reimbursement for services, along with certain changes to Prior Authorization requirements for covered transportation services. Community Health Options has developed a new contract that includes the provisions of the standard contract referenced in the legislation.

The Community Health Options team stands ready to welcome all EMS providers and respond to your questions. To learn more, please send an email to: contracting@healthoptions.org.

Help Set the Agenda and Register for the Regional Provider Meetings

The Provider Network Operations team is looking forward to meeting with you in November for our annual Fall Provider Regional Meetings, as we work to partner with you to ensure our Members have access to affordable care that leads to the best possible outcomes. Because this meeting is for you, our valued providers, we want to hear from you about which topics are most important. Please take a few moments to share your suggestions [in this brief survey](#) by Friday, Sept. 1.

Our meetings are scheduled as follows:

- Thursday, Nov. 2, virtually via Zoom
- Wednesday, Nov. 8, at the Bangor Holiday Inn
- Thursday, Nov. 9, at MPX in South Portland

We'll continue to share details as we firm up our agenda. [Please register here](#).

Choosing a Humira Alternative

The era of exclusivity for Humira—the first fully lab-made immune protein—has come to an end, and the healthcare industry has witnessed an explosion of biosimilars hit the market.

Amjevita, Cyltezo, Hyrimoz, and Adalimumab-adaz are currently the preferred biosimilars under the Community Health Options pharmacy benefit. So far, Cyltezo is the only biosimilar to obtain interchangeability with Humira, while Hyrimoz and Adalimumab-adaz, provide a high concentration alternative. All products are citrate free.

[Behavioral Health Options to Help Your Patients](#)

More than 37% of adults in Maine reported they had symptoms of anxiety or depression, saying the pandemic affected their mental health, according to a 2021 report from NAMI Maine, a part of the National Alliance on Mental Illness. In addition, the Maine Integrated Youth Health Study published in September 2022 reported nearly 43% of Maine students said their mental health was not good “most of the time” or “always” during the pandemic.

Community Health Options recently shared a blog offering behavioral health resources and information for Members to help them use their health plans to access key benefits. [Read more here.](#)

[Community Health Options and National Fitness Campaign Offering \\$500,000 in Grants](#)

Community Health Options and National Fitness Campaign (NFC) continue to look for partners interested in bringing free outdoor workouts through state-of-the-art Fitness Courts® across the state. Municipalities, schools or other organizations with publicly accessible land can apply to join the program. Together, Community Health Options and NFC are offering \$500,000 in grants to support Maine communities.

So far, the partnership with NFC has drawn six public-private investment partners, resulting in more than \$400,000 in funding that helped build two Fitness Courts—in the City of Lewiston and Town of Hampden.

For more information on how to qualify for funding for your town, [please visit our NFC website.](#)

[We're Hiring!](#)

Community Health Options is looking for the following:

- **Risk Adjustment Coder**, responsible for auditing and evaluating medical records to ensure proper coding and thorough documentation of procedures and diagnoses.
- **Content Strategist, Marketing, Communications and Product**, responsible for developing, executing and maintaining an impactful content strategy for Community Health Options' website and stakeholder portals.

If you know someone who'd be great for these roles, or others listed on our website, please share the job descriptions on [our career page.](#)

[Resources](#)

[Urgent Care Provider Sheet](#)

[Company Profile](#)

[Health Options' Provider Network](#)

[2022 Annual Report](#)