

Liberty Township Announces a Reduction in Health Insurance Premium Costs for Employees by Nearly 7%

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP, DELAWARE COUNTY – Liberty Township is pleased to announce that health insurance premium costs for Township employees have decreased by 6.9 percent from the previous year, which represents a savings to the taxpayers of Liberty Township 2.9% in reduced costs.

Upon taking office in April of 2020, Rick Karr, Liberty Township's Fiscal Officer, found that health insurance premiums had increased by 32 percent from the previous year.

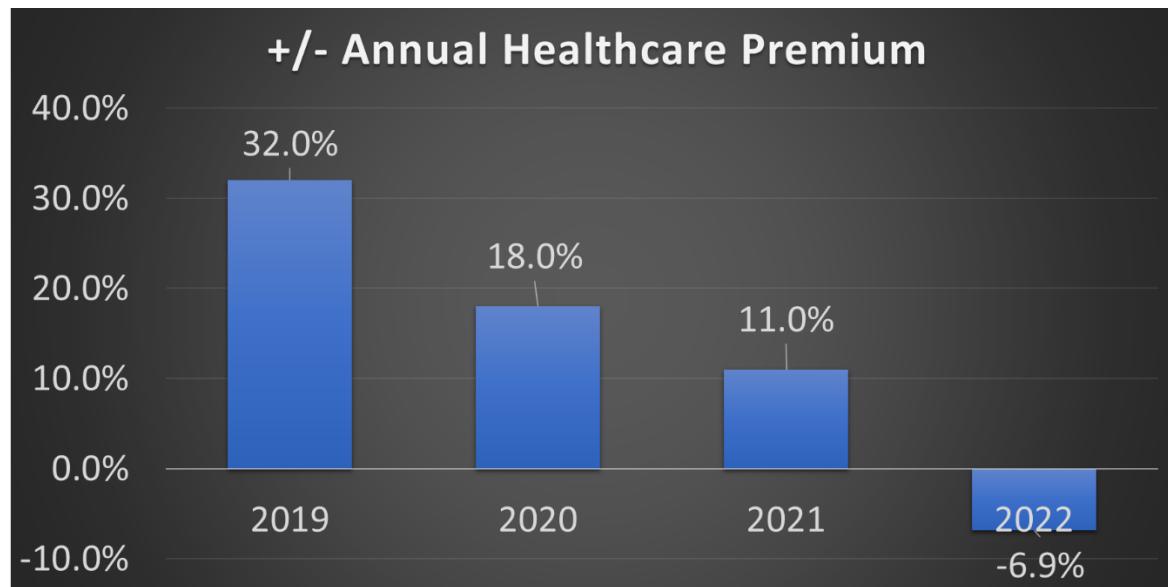
"Our current path was not sustainable for Liberty Township taxpayers," **said Karr**. "After consulting with the Township Benefits Committee, we knew we had to build a strategy that, if executed on target as a collective team, we would see positive results within two years with goal of curving or flattening premium increases."

The Township saw annual healthcare premiums increase 32 percent year-over-year in 2019. After working to implement a plan to decrease these growing costs, the premiums reduced to 18 percent in 2020, 11 percent in 2021 and now at 6.9 percent.

"The Board of Trustees is grateful for the work done by Fiscal Officer Karr along with the Benefits Committee," **said Bryan Newell, Liberty Township Board of Trustees Chairman**, "This team worked hard to redesign the plan to save the Township and taxpayers money while maintaining consistent benefits program needed by our Township employees."

Liberty Township has a total of 106 staff, 80 full-time employees plus 26 part time employee of firefighters/paramedics and seasonal park staff.

The reduction in premium costs by 6.9 percent is contributed to a redesigned plan by members to focus on value-based decisions by members utilizing the Health Savings Account (HSA) program, an opt-out program to incent those with other benefit options to join those respective plans. By also using a Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) program it covers gaps in coverage created by increased deductibles and a competitive insurance provider bidding process for health and dental coverage.



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