

Telephone 774.261.4060

## Office of the Town Accountant

Town of West Boylston 140 Worcester Street West Boylston, MA 01583

September 30, 2016

Dear Employee,

The enclosed notice is being sent to all Employees as required by Federal Law, specifically the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

One of the requirements of the ACA is that Employers must notify all Employees of the availability of health insurance coverage through State operated "Health Exchanges". In Massachusetts, the largest Exchange is the "MAhealthconnector".

The enclosed provides the required information that subsidized coverage may be available to some employees through the MAhealthconnector or the Mosaic Exchange. As you review the information below, we expect that only a few employees who are eligible for participation in the Town of West Boylston health benefit program will be eligible for subsidized coverage through the MAhealthconnector.

If an Employee's household income, including spousal and dependent (if required to file a tax return) income is under a certain dollar threshold, coverage purchased through the Exchange may include a Federal Subsidy. The Exchange will make the final determination.

The "benchmark" for affordability is based on your <u>total</u> household income when compared to the Employee/Individual lowest cost plan we offer. Please note Federal Law uses the Individual premium for this calculation <u>even if</u> the Employee has Family coverage. Coverage is deemed "affordable" if your share does not exceed 9.5% of your total household income.

At the present time, you are not eligible for benefits through the Town of West Boylston health benefit program.

Also noted on the attached Notice, should you decide to purchase coverage through the MAhealthconnector Exchange vs. through the Town of West Boylston you will <u>not</u> receive any Employer monies to help pay for your premiums. You will also not be able to pay your premiums on a pre-tax basis. You may contact the HealthConnector at <u>MAhealthconnector.org</u>.

Affordable Care Act Notice September 30, 2016 Page 2

If you decide to purchase coverage through the Mosaic Exchange you will not receive any Employer monies to help pay for your premiums, though you will be able to pay your premiums on a pre-tax basis. You may contact the Mosaic Exchange at <a href="mailto:info@mosaicix.com">info@mosaicix.com</a>.

Should you have any questions, please contact either Anita Loomis or me at the above telephone number or Sarah Gruhin our Benefits Administrator at (<a href="mailto:benefits@westboylston-ma.gov">benefits@westboylston-ma.gov</a> or 508-919-8428).

Sincerely,

Leslie Guertin Town Accountant