

## **IPBC**



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## **2023-2024 FISCAL YEAR**

#### **Message from the IPBC Executive Director**

The 2023-24 fiscal year was a transformative year for IPBC, marked by significant accomplishments despite the challenges faced. In this Annual Report, you will find a summary of everything accomplished during this year. However, I would like to single out two (2) very significant items.

#### 1. Implementation of PlanSource Benefits Administration Platform:

- IPBC successfully transitioned to the new PlanSource platform, which was a complex and demanding process. This initiative required substantial dedication and collaboration from IPBC Staff, the Service Team, and the membership.
- While the transition posed challenges such as time constraints and frustrations, the end result justifies the effort. PlanSource is now positioned to better serve the membership over the long term, offering improved benefits administration capabilities.

#### 2. Revamping of Governance Structure:

- Another pivotal achievement was the revamp of IPBC's governance structure. This restructuring aims to better align with the needs and expectations of the membership, ensuring that IPBC is well-prepared for future challenges and opportunities.
- The updated governance framework reflects a strategic approach to enhance operational efficiency and responsiveness to members' needs.

These accomplishments underscore the commitment and resilience of IPBC in navigating a year of trials towards a more robust future. As Executive Director, I express deep gratitude to the IPBC Executive Board, the IPBC Staff and the IPBC Service Team for their unwavering dedication and contributions to these achievements.

I invite you to review the detailed Annual Report for a comprehensive understanding of our journey and outcomes during this transformative year. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or require further information.

Thank you for your continued support and interest in IPBC's mission.

Dave Cook
IPBC Executive Director

#### **Strategic Highlights**

During the 2023-24 Plan Year, IPBC began the implementation of the 2023-27 Strategic Plan. The goal of the Strategic Plan is to provide a plan for IPBC's continued success for the next five (5) years.

An ad-hoc committee was formed to develop the new strategic priorities. The priorities include:

- Representative Governance Model
- Centralized Communications Function
- Streamlined Plan Designs
- Retention & Strategic Growth
- Succession Planning
- Increased Benefit Consulting Value

**Representative Governance Model:** The most significant implementation accomplishment of the Strategic Plan thus far is the adoption of the revised by-laws in June 2024. A by-law revision was required for the implementation of the new representative governance model. The new by-laws call for the elimination of sub-pools, greater authority for the Executive Board, an expanded representative Executive Board, and a Board of Directors that now comprises all member groups of the IPBC.

**Centralized Communications Function:** An RFP was conducted during the year to hire a Communications Consultant to assist with the Communications strategic priority. Vicarious Multimedia was selected and the project kicked off July 1, 2024.

**Streamlined Plan Designs:** Staff worked with the carriers to develop a comparison of all current plan designs offered by IPBC members and create a draft of model plan designs for future adoption. A streamlined backend plan design will make administration of benefits to the IPBC membership easier while still allowing for flexibility on the visible pieces of plan design. This project is still in the early stages and we anticipate its completion in 2025.

**Retention & Strategic Growth:** Staff worked on the development of a marketing plan that focused on a more proactive approach with new members. Service Team staffing is a priority consideration to limit any negative impact on the current membership.

**Succession Planning:** The succession planning priority includes two (2) components: succession plan for the IPBC Executive Director and CFO function and a succession plan for IPBC board members, staff, and vendors. This project will kick off in 2024-25 with an anticipated completion date in 2025.

**Increased Benefit Consulting Value**: This project includes an analysis of an enhanced service model that meets the differing benefit consulting needs of the IPBC membership. This project will kick off in 2024-25 with an estimated completion date in 2026.

Additional information about the Strategic Plan is available on the IPBC website <a href="https://www.ipbchealth.org/Governance/Strategic-Plan.aspx">https://www.ipbchealth.org/Governance/Strategic-Plan.aspx</a>.

#### **Financial Highlights**

The fiscal year end results were very favorable with the following results:

- The PPO plan incurred a loss ratio of 98.8% and an overall surplus of \$3,369,768 as compared to last year with a loss ratio of 98.8% and an operating surplus of \$3,259,910.
- The HMO plan incurred a loss ratio of 93.2% and an overall surplus of \$6,378,104 as compared to last year with a loss ratio of 98.5% and incurred an operating surplus of \$1,288,214.
- The Dental plan incurred a loss ratio of 100.5% and an overall deficit of \$71,593 as compared to last year with a loss ratio of 88.8% and an operating surplus of \$1,535,686.
- The Wellness plan returned \$1,794,250 as compared to last year with \$1,502,250 in incentives paid to members that participated in the program.

Total investment return for the fiscal year amounted to \$14,784,250 with interest earnings of \$7,519,605 and a gain on the market value of investments of \$7,264,644. This compares with last year's total investment return of \$6,456,309 with interest earnings of \$5,426,284 and a gain on the market value of investments of \$1,030,025.

Based on the above, the net return to the IPBC members for the fiscal year is \$26,254,779 as compared to last year's net return of \$14,042,369.

All financial information is tentative and is subject to review by the auditors.

#### **Operating Highlights**

#### **Benefits Administration Platform Implementation**

The new Benefits Administration Platform, PlanSource, was implemented during the 2023-24 Plan Year, marking a significant transition for over 150 members of IPBC. With the contract with Businessolver ending in November 2023, it was crucial for all members to be fully transitioned by that deadline. Although the transition faced challenges and did not go as smoothly as planned, the ongoing implementation tasks have shown that PlanSource is ultimately a better fit for the IPBC membership moving forward.

#### **Employee Assistance Program (EAP) RFP and Implementation**

Due to performance issues with the IPBC EAP vendor, the decision was made to terminate the contract early and conduct an RFP for a new EAP provider. An ad-hoc taskforce was formed and the decision was made to move EAP services to ComPsych on April 1, 2024. A total of 103 members transitioned to ComPsych on April 1, 2024.

#### **Prescription Drug RFP**

An RFP for the Prescription Drug contract was conducted. With the help of Aon, RFP process was very successful and the contract was awarded to ESI, our current vendor. The new

agreement is expected to save the IPBC over \$89 million over the 3 years of the contract and represents a 34.2% reduction in estimated costs.

#### **Stop Loss RFP**

An RFP for stop loss was conducted. The self-insured retention (SIR) was increased to \$1.5 million for the PPO and awarded to Sun Life. This change is estimated to save the IPBC over \$1 million per year. The SIR for the HMO remains at \$500,000 and with Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

#### **Independent Consultant RFP**

In the 2023-24 year, IPBC terminated its contract with AON and decided to issue an RFP for a limited consulting agreement for strategic planning, regulatory compliance and assistance with renewal for service provider agreements. The RFP was awarded to Alera Group effective July 1, 2024.

#### **Data Warehouse**

Throughout the 2023-24-year IPBC made great progress with BT Partners to build data warehouse reporting functionality in Domo that meets the needs of both staff and the IPBC membership. With the capabilities of Domo, IPBC Staff and Accounting created monthly financial reporting that is available as soon as all claims data is received from the carriers, getting the information into the hands of members significantly faster than in the past.

#### **Wellness Program**

Eighty-two (82) members completed a biometric screening. Of that eighty-two (82), sixty-three (63) qualified for an incentive. This is up from last year, when seventy-three (73) groups completed a biometric screening and fifty-three (53) qualified for an incentive.

Plan Year	Intro	Tier A	Tier B	Tier C	Screening	Total
2023-24	5	25	17	17	18	82

#### Life Insurance Enhancements and Special Enrollment Opportunity

The supplemental life offering through Securian was enhanced during the 2023-24 year. Enhancements included increasing the maximum for employee and spouse supplemental life, increasing the guaranteed issue amount for employees and spouses and the addition of different child life plans. A special enrollment opportunity with no evidence of insurability was offered to IPBC members.

#### **Identity Force Implementation**

Through Securian, IPBC is now able to offer its membership access to an identity protection service, Identity Force, which includes a complementary base plan as well as a more robust buy-up option and coverage for employers. Twenty-three (23) IPBC member groups elected to roll out Identity Force on 7/1/24.

#### **Membership Updates**

IPBC has experienced significant growth over the years:



Interest in the IPBC remained high during the 2023-24 Fiscal Year. IPBC added six (6) entities to the membership:

- Village of Lake in the Hills
- St. Charles Park District
- City of Edwardsville
- City of Granite City
- Village of Round Lake Beach
- Village of Pingree Grove

As well as implementing new members, there were on-going marketing efforts during the fiscal year that has resulted in 9 new members. On July 1, 2024, the Quad Cities Airport Authority joined the IPBC and in September, the IPBC Executive Board approved the memberships of 8 additional members effective January 1, 2025, which will bring the IPBC membership up to 172 members and covering over 22,700 employees and retirees.

IPBC is the premier health benefit option for Illinois local governments

## **CARRIER SUMMARY**

#### Medical

IPBC Members utilize Blue Cross/Blue Shield (BCBS) or United Healthcare (UHC). The PPO plans ran a 98.8% loss ratio for the year, and the HMO plans ran a 93.2% loss ratio for the year.

#### Blue Cross/Blue Shield Summary

Through membership in IPBC, the IPBC member groups have access to a medical management platform entitled Health Advocacy Solutions (HAS) for the PPO plans. The platform provides concierge experience and access to clinical advocates. During the 2023-24 plan year, HAS had a 64.4% household engagement (compared to benchmark of 52.7%) with a customer satisfaction score of 95%. IPBCs reachable population is only 34.9% of eligible employees, which is higher than the BCBS book of business but obtaining employees valid email addresses in PlanSource will significantly increase access to the reachable population.

The Member Rewards program saw a 58% activation and procedure shop rate. With an estimated claims savings of over \$750 per incentive paid.

In addition, IPBC member groups have access to several supplemental programs that are available to their employees: Teledoc health (diabetes management), Omada Health (diabetes prevention), Wondr Health (online weight loss program) and Hinge Health (digital MSK program). 94% of member group employees that activated Teledoc Health are actively participating in the program and decreased their normal blood glucose from 21.1% to 9.8%. The Wondr program also had 239 participants enrolled in the program.

These programs collectively show a proactive approach to healthcare management, focusing on both prevention and management of chronic conditions (like diabetes), as well as enhancing member engagement through rewards and satisfaction-driven services. The high engagement rates and satisfaction scores indicate that these initiatives are well-received and effective in meeting their goals of improving health outcomes and reducing healthcare costs for member groups.

#### **United Healthcare (UHC) Summary**

Through membership in IPBC, IPBC member groups that utilize UHC have access to Kaia for musculoskeletal (MSK) support. 32.8% of UHC members had an MSK diagnosis which accounts for 12.7% of plan spend. UHC also offers Real Appeal, an online weight loss program. 63 members are enrolled and 40% have achieved a 5%+ weight loss.



#### **Pharmacy Benefit Manager**

IPBC utilizes Express Scripts (ESI) as its pharmacy benefit manager.

#### **Dental**

Delta Dental has ASO and fully insured options for IPBC members. The YTD loss ratio for the ASO groups was 100.5%. During the year, 53.5% of claims were in the preventative and/or diagnostic claim categories. The breakdown of providers for claim payments is: 24% Delta Dental PPO providers, 50% Delta Dental Premier Providers and 26% Out of Network (OON) providers.

#### Life

Securian is the life provider for IPBC member groups. Through the IPBC relationship with Securian, IPBC member groups have access to an ID Theft product, LifeStyle benefits and travel assistance.

#### **Vision**

IPBC Members have access to 10 voluntary fully insured vision plans through VSP. The majority of IPBC members offer Plan A which is a 12/12/24 plan with \$130 towards contacts and/or glasses. According to VSP, IPBC member group employees average \$75 out of pocket (OOP) towards frames with Plan A which is high compared to the VSP book of business. The VSP network has 72% of independent providers and VSP also owns VisionWorks.

### **Employee Assistance Program (EAP)**

IPBC offered a voluntary EAP program with Telus/LifeWorks for the membership through March 31, 2024. Effective April 1, 2024, ComPsych became the EAP vendor for IPBC. ComPsych offers three traditional EAP programs along with a specialty first responder program. 103 IPBC Member Groups elected the IPBC EAP program during the 2023-24 plan year.

## **VENDOR SUMMARY**

#### **Independent Consultant**

In the 2023-24 Plan Year, IPBC ended its relationship with Aon as the Consultant to IPBC. AON did assist IPBC with managing the RFPs for the Employee Assistance Program, Pharmacy Benefits Manager and stop loss insurance. The decision to end the relationship was made due to the scope of services under Aon's contract exceeding IPBC's needs for the future.

#### Benefit Consulting – aka the IPBC Service Team

The Benefit Consulting function is provided by Risk Program Administrators (RPA) – a division of Gallagher. IPBC Members are assigned a Benefit Consultant to serve as a liaison between the member and the IPBC coverages they have selected. In the 2023-24 Plan Year, a concerted effort was made to promote the team as the "IPBC Service Team" to make it a seamless process for the membership. Two (2) new Client Representatives were hired to assist the Service Team in the 2023-24 Plan Year. The team assigned to IPBC during the 2023-24 year was:

Name	Title
John Ashton	Managing Director
Tanya Edwards	Assistant Vice President
Adam Katz	Executive Program Director
Joyce Janu	Service Team Lead
Dan Parker	Senior Benefit Consultant
Niti Patel	Senior Benefit Consultant
Karen Williams	Senior Benefit Consultant
Jen Lamz	Benefit Consultant
Jenny Warp	Benefit Consultant
Karen Williams	Benefit Consultant
Shannon McHugh	Benefit Consultant
Angie Moscato	Benefit Consultant
Jake Gordon	Client Representative
Bailey O'Keefe	Client Representative
Marina Sabol	Client Representative (has since termed)

#### **Underwriting/Actuarial**

Underwriting was performed by Milliman. Milliman has provided new member quotes and performed underwriting analysis for the IPBC membership as well as developing the renewal.

#### **Financial Management & Reporting**

Accounting services are provided by Risk Program Administrators (RPA). The lead accountant has worked for several years on IPBC.

# **IPBC STAFF**

In the 2023-24 Fiscal Year, IPBC created a new position, Health Program Analyst. This position provides support and analysis with all of the IPBC offerings.

# Executive Director Dave Cook

Member Services Manager Sandy Mikel

> Health Program Analyst Ali Alsharifi

Operations Manager Kaitie Tiede

Administrative Assistant Tania Bowler

## **2023-24 EXECUTIVE BOARD**

The Executive Board is responsible for oversight of IPBC staff and operations. Each Executive Board member serves a two (2) year term. The 2023-24 Executive Board was:

#### **Executive Board Officers**

Chair	Scott Anderson	Village Manager	Village of Barrington
Vice Chair	Tim Sexton	Finance Director	Village of Lombard
Past Chair	Brad Wilson	Finance Director	City of Wood Dale
Operations Chair	Rudy Espiritu	Village Administrator	Village of Berkeley
Treasurer	Josh Peacock	Finance Director	Village of Streamwood

#### **Executive Board Directors**

1-50 Employees	Tom Durkin	Village Administrator	Village of Channahon
51-100 Employees	Andy Dylak	Finance Director	MCCD
101-200 Employees	Traci Pleckham	Management Services Director	Village of Plainfield
201-300 Employees	Julie Meyer	Human Resources Director	City of Crystal Lake
301-500 Employees	Pam Jackson	Human Resources Director	Village of Palatine
501+ Employees	Cheryl Chukwu	Human Resources Director	McHenry County

# **IPBC MEMBERSHIP**

Member	Entry Date
Barrington	07/01/79
Glenview	07/01/79
Rolling Meadows	07/01/79
Streamwood	07/01/79
Westmont Park District	07/01/79
Wheeling	07/01/79
Wood Dale	07/01/81
Countryside	08/01/83
Indian Head Park	08/01/83
LaGrange Park	08/01/83
LaGrange Park - Park District	08/01/83
Lagrange Park Public Library	08/01/83
Carol Stream	10/01/83
Bloomingdale	07/01/84
Clarendon Hills	09/01/84
Darien	09/01/84
Woodridge	09/01/84
Burr Ridge	03/01/85
Mokena	07/01/92
Plainfield	07/01/92
Hinsdale	06/01/97
West Chicago	10/01/97
Mount Prospect	04/01/98
JAWA	01/01/00
Wheaton	04/01/03
Northbrook	05/01/03
Northbrook Library	05/01/03
Des Plaines	06/01/03
Franklin Park	11/01/03
Forest Preserve District of DuPage County	01/01/04
Collinsville	06/01/04
Hoffman Estates	01/01/05
Homewood	01/01/05
Libertyville	05/01/06
Carpentersville	01/01/07
Morton Grove	01/01/07
DeKalb	01/01/08
Hanover Park	01/01/08
Highland Park	01/01/08

Lockport	07/01/08
Glen Ellyn	01/01/09
Homer Glen	07/01/09
North Riverside	10/01/09
Evanston	12/01/09
SWANCC (Buffalo Grove)	12/01/09
Beecher	01/01/10
Monee	01/01/10
Rock Falls	01/01/10
Oswego	07/01/10
Oswegoland Park District	07/01/10
Crest Hill	08/01/10
Crete	11/01/10
Crete Township	11/01/10
Peotone	11/01/10
Steger	11/01/10
SEECOM	01/01/11
Gilberts	04/01/11
Crystal Lake	05/01/11
Deerfield	05/01/11
River Forest	05/01/11
Swansea	05/01/11
Deerfield Park District	05/01/11
Deerfield Public Library	05/01/11
Bensenville	06/01/11
Buffalo Grove	01/01/12
Coal City	01/01/12
Schaumburg	01/01/12
Metropolitan Pier & Exposition Authority	07/01/12
Glen Carbon	07/01/13
New Baden	07/01/13
Algonquin-Lake in the Hills Fire Protection District	01/01/14
Algonquin	01/01/14
Lombard	01/01/14
Oak Park Township	01/01/14
WSCDC	01/01/14
South Chicago Heights	05/01/14
Winfield	07/01/14
Trenton	09/01/14
Cary	01/01/15
Channahon	01/01/15
Glencoe	01/01/15
Oak Park Public Library	01/01/15

Homewood Public Library	07/01/15
Roscoe	07/01/15
Lisle	10/01/15
Forest Preserve District of Kane County	01/01/16
Naperville Park District	01/01/16
Warrenville	01/01/16
Elk Grove Village	05/01/16
Highwood	05/01/16
Park Ridge	05/01/16
Beach Park	07/01/16
Effingham	07/01/16
Huntley	07/01/16
Itasca	07/01/16
Westchester	07/01/16
Washington Township (Beecher)	09/01/16
Batavia	12/01/16
Colona	01/01/17
DU-COMM	01/01/17
East Moline	01/01/17
Lake Zurich	01/01/17
Lisle Park District	01/01/17
Northwest Central Dispatch System	01/01/17
Summit	01/01/17
Wood River	01/01/17
Princeton	03/01/17
Lisle Woodridge Fire District	07/01/17
McHenry County	07/01/17
Monroe County	07/01/17
Spring Grove	07/01/17
Washington	07/01/17
Wauconda	07/01/17
IMET (Plainfield)	07/01/17
Boone County	08/01/17
Municipal Consolidated Dispatch	09/01/17
Palatine Park District	10/01/17
Lee County	11/01/17
Berkeley	01/01/18
FPD Winnebago	01/01/18
Freeport	01/01/18
Justice	01/01/18
McHenry	01/01/18
Montgomery	01/01/18
North Aurora	01/01/18

River Grove	01/01/18
Rochelle	01/01/18
Winnetka	01/01/18
LaGrange	05/01/18
West Dundee	05/01/18
Campton Hills	07/01/18
DeKalb County	01/01/19
Roselle	01/01/19
South Holland	01/01/19
Glenview Park District	01/01/20
Woodridge Public Library	01/01/20
Palatine	01/10/20
Byron Forest Preserve	07/01/20
Byron Park District	07/01/20
Byron Township	07/01/20
Lindenhurst	07/01/20
Batavia Public Library	01/01/21
Cary Fire Protection District	01/01/21
Centralia	01/01/21
McHenry County Conservation District	01/01/21
Northbrook Park District	01/01/21
Caseyville	05/01/21
Grayslake	07/01/21
Bartlett FPD	1/1/2022
Lake County Forest Preserve District	1/1/2022
Mundelein	1/1/2022
Peru	1/1/2022
St. Charles	05/01/22
Lake County	07/01/22
Oswego Township	09/01/22
Pekin	01/01/23
Skokie Park District	05/01/23
Lake in the Hills	7/1/2023
St. Charles Park District	08/01/23
Edwardsville	01/01/24
Granite City	01/01/24
Round Lake Beach	01/01/24
Pingree Grove	3/1/2024