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**EQUITY AND HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION**

**Important Notice from Polk County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC)  
About Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare**

**Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it.** This notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with Polk County BOCC and prescription drug coverage that became available January 1, 2006 for people with Medicare. It also tells you where to find more information to help you make decisions about your prescription drug coverage.

- **Polk County BoCC has determined that the prescription drug coverage administered by Citizens Rx that is linked to your medical plan is, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as the standard Medicare prescription drug coverage will pay. Therefore, you can keep this coverage and not pay extra if you later decide to enroll in standard Medicare coverage.**
- **Read this notice carefully - it explains the options you have under Medicare prescription drug coverage, and can help you decide whether or not you want to enroll.**

People with Medicare can enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan during the Medicare open enrollment period beginning in November each year. However, because you have existing prescription drug coverage that, on average, is as good as Medicare coverage, you can choose to join a Medicare prescription drug plan later.

**If you do decide to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan and drop your Polk County BoCC prescription drug coverage, be aware that you will not be able to get this coverage back. You should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are covered, with the coverage and cost of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area.**

In addition, your current coverage pays for other health expenses, in addition to prescription drugs, and you **will not be eligible to receive your current health benefits** through the county should you choose to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan.

You should also know that if you drop or lose your coverage with Polk County BOCC and don't enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage after your current coverage ends, you may pay more to enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage later if you go 63 days or longer without prescription drug coverage that's at least as good as Medicare's prescription drug coverage. You'll have to pay this higher premium as long as you have Medicare coverage. In addition, you may have to wait until the following open enrollment period to enroll.

**For more information about this notice or  
your current prescription drug program...**

Contact our Benefits Hotline at (863) 534-6556

**For more information about your options under the  
Medicare prescription drug program...**

Please be advised that more detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage will be available in the ***“Medicare & You”*** handbook. You’ll get a copy of the handbook in the mail from Medicare. **You may also be contacted directly by Medicare prescription drug plans. You can also get more information about Medicare prescription drug plans from these places:**

- Visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) for personalized help,
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see your copy of the Medicare & You handbook for their telephone number)
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

For people with limited income and resources, extra help paying for a Medicare prescription drug plan is available. Information about this extra help is available from the Social Security Administration (SSA). For more information about this extra help, visit SSA online at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov), or call them toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

**Remember: Keep this notice. If you enroll, in one of the plans approved by Medicare which offer prescription drug coverage you may need to give a copy of this notice when you join to show that you are not required to pay a higher premium amount. Another copy of this notice will be issued periodically and/or upon your request.**

Sincerely,

Polk County Board of County Commissioners, Equity and Human Resources Division  
Employee & Retiree Benefits Office