

## WESTERN DISTRICT AT A GLANCE · 2026

<h1>24</h1> <p>Congregations &amp; conference office participating</p>	<h1>18</h1> <p>Congregations with staff enrolled in health plan, covering 50 people</p>	<h1>3</h1> <p>Congregations supported by Fair Balance Fund</p>	<h1>18</h1> <p>People received wellness incentives in 2025 (and 5 have for 5 years or more!)</p>
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### The Corinthian Plan is

Mennonite Church USA's self-funded, church-plan health program, rooted in the Anabaptist value of mutual aid. Launched in 2010, before the Affordable Care Act, it was designed to pool risk, share costs, and ensure no pastor or church worker faces health costs alone.

*It is a question of fair balance between your present abundance and their need... in order that there may be a fair balance.*

2 Corinthians 8: 13-14

### MUTUAL AID IN ACTION

Congregations contribute **\$10 × average weekly attendance** annually to the Fair Balance Fund. These funds are redistributed as subsidies to congregations that cannot afford full premium costs.

**Over \$3 million in subsidies** distributed since 2010 to congregations urban and rural, new and long-standing. In **Western District, 3 congregations** currently receive these subsidies — a meaningful illustration of the denomination caring for one another.

## UPDATES SINCE 2025:

<h3>Healthcare Landscape</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↑ Rising costs, complexity, uncertainty</li> <li>↑ New, effective treatments</li> </ul> <p>For ACA enrollees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↓ Loss of enhanced tax credits</li> <li>↑ + 58% premium payments</li> <li>↑ + \$1,000 avg increase in deductible</li> </ul>	<h3>TCP Adapting to Context</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⊕ Increased base premium 20%</li> <li>⊕ Added co-insurance</li> <li>▬ Maintained comprehensive coverage options</li> <li>▬ Maintained Wellness Incentives</li> </ul>	<h3>Planning for Future</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Improve communications: website refresh, quarterly newsletter, conference meetings</li> <li>❖ Increase wellness resources, like webinar about grief in January</li> <li>❖ Seek grant funding to expand wellness program</li> <li>❖ New Director, Susan Burkholder</li> <li>❖ Listen, Learn and Support</li> </ul>
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## We invite you to participate in The Corinthian Plan!

### WHAT MAKES THE CORINTHIAN PLAN DISTINCTIVE:

Mutual Aid	Wellness	Comprehensive Health Coverage	Denominationally Grounded
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sharing is a part of our understanding of following Jesus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A focus on our whole selves — physical, mental, spiritual</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Highmark BCBS nationwide PPO network</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Designed by and for Mennonite Church USA</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Fair Balance Fund provides subsidies to congregations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Wellness Incentives that value healthy and relational self-care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Choice of two high-deductible health plans, comparable to Gold or Silver level plans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Everence is Third-Party Administrator</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Community rating so no one bears catastrophic costs alone</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Key for Cultivating Pastor Wellbeing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dental and Vision options</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Church-plan status reduces administrative burden for congregations</li> </ul>

Even if your congregation doesn't have staff eligible or in need of health coverage right now, you can [join the 3 churches from Western District](#) that still participate in The Corinthian Plan with an annual contribution that supports this important ministry of MCUSA.

### Help us Listen, Learn and Support:

Susan Burkholder began in February 2026 as the new Director of The Corinthian Plan. She is eager to listen, learn and support. Please reach out!

- ❖ When considering how to support your staff with health coverage, what are the various options you consider? What factors are most important in your decision?
- ❖ What ideas do you have to improve The Corinthian Plan? How can we serve you better?
- ❖ What health or wellness topics are top of mind for your church? How can The Corinthian Plan or MCUSA support or resource you on those themes? Do you have a health or wellness champion that could share about that topic with the broader church?

### Your Corinthian Plan Contacts:

- ❖ Susan Burkholder | [susanb@mennoniteusa.org](mailto:susanb@mennoniteusa.org) | 303-305-9193 – plan questions, subsidies, general information
- ❖ Denise Henke at Everence | [denise.henke@everence.com](mailto:denise.henke@everence.com) | 574-307-5771 – quotes, enrollment, eligibility
- ❖ [www.mennoniteusa.org/ministry/the-corinthian-plan](http://www.mennoniteusa.org/ministry/the-corinthian-plan) – plan information and forms