

Press Release

From: **The Office of the Town Manager**

By: **Michael C. Wood**

Town Manager

The Town of Burrillville (town and schools) have elected to join the Governmental Health Group of Rhode Island (GHGRI).

GHGRI is a collaborative health insurance purchasing group consisting of the following communities with approximately 4800 members:

Newport (city & school)	Middletown (town & school)
Portsmouth (town & school)	Tiverton (town & school)
Little Compton (town & school)	Bristol/Warren Regional Schools
Central Falls Schools	Woonsocket Education Department

Burrillville will benefit as we combine with the purchasing power of a multi-town collaborative rather than trying to be competitive on our own.

The first year savings are estimated to be \$573,000 which extrapolates to a savings of approximately \$1,700,000 over the three (3) year commitment.

After the initial 3-year commitment, the Collaborative will rebid its insurance programs and the town can decide whether or not to remain in the Collaborative at that point in time – although it is highly improbable that Burrillville standing alone can achieve the same savings and benefits as the Collaborative.

By way of example, this coming budget year, Burrillville on its own was advised of an 8% projected increase in its health care premiums, but by joining the Collaborative our projected health care budget(s) actually will decrease from 2008 levels.

This, by no means, solves the larger budget problems precipitated by the state, but Burrillville is moving in the right direction.

Michael C. Wood
Town Manager