

## **Frederick B. Fries**

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Ohio Employee Health Partnership received this letter from Fred Fries, who previously served as the Business Manager for Barberton School District.

Dear Karen Conger:

This letter is sent to you, as the CEO of Ohio Employee Health Partnership, to let you know how beneficial your MCO services have been to helping manage the workers compensations cases in the Barberton City School District. For a number of years, as the Business Manager, I encountered significant workers compensation claims. The district was in a penalty rated situation costing the taxpayers of Barberton. I decided to change the Managed Care Organization that represented the district to try to obtain more proactive claims management.

The change to your organization, Ohio Employees Health Partnership, resulted in better communication with the injured workers. The management of the claim was proactive to get the worker back to their job as safe and timely as possible. Quarterly team meetings were scheduled with OEHP that included our Bureau of Workers Compensation representatives, and together we reviewed each claim status and determination of work ability. Time-off costs school districts money in many different ways. It is critical that from the first report of injury your Managed Care Organization became immediately involved, were fully aware of the situation and worked cooperatively with the injured worker and the district.

Communication is the key and Ohio Employees Health Partnership is large enough to have the appropriate resources but yet small enough to never forget to treat the claim as if it was from one of their own staff members. Their personal service is without question the reason that the rates of the Barberton City School District have now stabilized.

As the retired Business Manager of Barberton, all I can do is say thank you for helping the taxpayers of Barberton save precious tax dollars.

Sincerely,

Fred Fries