

Add a new subparagraph after ¶1504.20 that reads as follows:

To support the health as wholeness of the clergy and lay workers of the denomination, and thereby mitigate the frequency and duration of disability and incapacity, by collecting, analyzing, and disseminating the group health care plan data and health and wellness program information submitted by annual conferences, the General Council on Finance and Administration for bishops, and general agencies. The General Board of Pension and Health Benefits shall use the collected group health care plan data and health and wellness program information to (i) establish denomination-wide benchmarks and standards; (ii) identify and disseminate best practices for healthy lifestyles and health and disability costs management; (iii) provide reports of data; (iv) share data and analyses with the denomination; (v) advise about health care plan designs, coverage, financial soundness, and wellness programs and initiatives; and (vi) recommend health and wellness strategies and guidelines for annual conferences, the General Council on Finance and Administration for bishops in the United States, and general agencies.

RATIONALE: The General Board of Pension and Health Benefits will work to improve the health as wholeness of clergy and lay employees and ease the Church's struggle with the costs of health care coverage, by sharing information throughout the connection and increasing access to information about best practices and plan designs.

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Suggested Title: Denominational Health – General Board of Pension and Health Benefits Support

Discipline Paragraph: 1504

Financial Implications: None

Agency Name: General Board of Pension and Health Benefits

SUBMITTED BY: Barbara A. Boigegrain, General Secretary

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Bishop Ben R. Chamness, Chairperson

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