

# Accountable Care Program delivers on high-quality care needs



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Kathy Boucher, an enrollee of Uniform Medical Plan Plus, works for Puget Sound Clean Air Agency.

When Kathy Boucher was first diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS), she had never heard of the disease. It started as trouble with her balance and walking. “I didn’t know what was going on,” she recalls.

In her early 40s, Kathy enjoyed snowmobiling with her husband, but even things like working in her yard became too difficult with MS.

“When I was diagnosed, my husband wasn’t with me,”

Kathy recalls. “I went to my car and I called him. Then I hung up, and I sat in my car, crying.”

That was seven years ago. Kathy’s life changed in many ways since that day. She does her best to take care of herself and work with her neurologist to manage her condition so she can enjoy the best quality of life possible. She’s also become much more aware of the costs associated with her health care.

Through her employer, Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, Kathy is a member of UMP Plus, offered by the state to public employees. Since joining UMP Plus, a value-based health plan offered by the state to public employees, Kathy has personally experienced cost savings—particularly when paying for the prescription drugs she relies on to manage her disease. Under UMP Plus, there is no prescription drug deductible, which has been a major blessing for Kathy.

But it’s more than cost savings that Kathy values about the plan—it’s the quality of care she receives. MS is a complex condition that requires a team of professionals to treat effectively.

## Healthier Washington Linkages:

Healthier Washington supports multi-sector engagement exemplified in the story shared by Coulee Medical Center; empowering local communities to come together to address health. By using a collaborative regional approach, providers who are working to address an individual’s physical and mental health are being connected to resources.



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