

## NY44 Trust Announcement

As we announced in March, the Board of Trustees of the NY44 Health Benefits Plan Trust made the decision to embark on a search for a benefits consultant.

We are proud of the work that has been accomplished since the Trust was first established in 2003. However, given the challenges we face, the Trustees believe the interests of our members would best be served if we worked in collaboration with an experienced benefits consultant who can bring a team of people together to move us forward.

After a wide-ranging and exhaustive selection process, we are pleased to announce that the [Oswald Companies](#) has been selected as the health benefit consultant for the Trust, effective August 1, 2019. We strongly believe Oswald is the professional, highly qualified, experienced partner we need! Oswald will provide strategic and tactical guidance to help meet one of our most pressing challenges, continuing to provide quality, cost-effective health insurance to the employees of our member districts in an environment where costs continue to escalate at a rate significantly higher than inflation. One of the reasons that Oswald stood out is that they provided a very comprehensive communication plan which focuses on increasing employer and employee involvement and on ensuring that our members feel that they are a part of the Trust.

The [Oswald Companies](#) is headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio where it was founded in 1893. Oswald is an employee owned company which is also what attracted us to them because we are looking to develop that same type of culture among our members. The firm has 450 employee-owners and 150 of these professionals work in its Employee Benefits and Health Management Division. Oswald has the experience and expertise, especially in the area of multi-employer health plans, to work with the Trust and NY44 staff to assist in guiding the Trust.

One of the immediate things we've tasked Oswald to help us with is to develop a more effective, regular communication strategy between the Trust and our member districts. Your input and increased engagement with the direction of the Trust is critical to maintaining a healthy, viable benefits program into the future.

The Trust is proud of its reputation for providing quality and cost-effective health benefits. As we look to the future, there are many changes that we will no doubt need to make. However, what will not change is our commitment to serving the schools that comprise our membership.

Thank you for your continued support as this new chapter begins.