



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CHURCH PENSION GROUP RELEASES 2015  
DENOMINATIONAL HEALTH PLAN ANNUAL REPORT**

**NEW YORK, NY** — May 11, 2016 - [The Church Pension Group](#) (CPG), a provider of employee benefits, property and casualty insurance and published works to the institutions and individuals that comprise The Episcopal Church, released its [2015 Denominational Health Plan \(DHP\) Annual Report](#) ([www.cpg.org/2015DHP](http://www.cpg.org/2015DHP)).

The DHP, established in July 2009 by the General Convention of The Episcopal Church through Resolution 2009-A177 and its associated canon, continues to help domestic dioceses, parishes and other institutions subject to the authority of The Episcopal Church control the rising costs of healthcare. The 2015 Annual Report, published pursuant to General Convention Resolution 2012-B026, summarizes more recent developments with the DHP.

“The DHP has two separate goals – cost containment and parity of benefits,” said John Servais, Senior Vice President of Benefits Policy and Design at CPG. “We made progress delivering cost containment that continues to be passed on to the Church as most dioceses have received annual rate reductions or low single-digit annual increases since 2009, and reduced the cost disparities between the highest-priced and lowest-priced dioceses to allow for a more equitable sharing of healthcare contribution costs. We also continued to benchmark DHP rates versus similar options available on the Affordable Care Act exchanges, and have taken steps to address the concerns of dioceses in which rates are not as competitive.”

Servais continued, “Looking ahead, we expect companies offering insurance through the health insurance exchanges to experience continued pressure to increase rates. We expect them to do this in an effort to offset higher than expected claims, the impact of failing health insurance cooperatives, and the sunseting of the



Federal reinsurance program at the end of 2016. As a forward-thinking supportive fiduciary, we will continue to focus on cost containment while providing quality customer service and increased value to our clients.”

In 2015, CPG advanced a number of key DHP initiatives, including:

- Maintaining robust participation in the DHP with more than 95% of all eligible clergy and lay employees participating in or obtaining healthcare coverage through approved sources
- Implementing a two-year plan to help dioceses that have traditionally provided only the most expensive plans consider a broader array of plans representative of those that are more prevalent in the marketplace
- Maintaining a strong financial position with rates that are competitive and remain comparable to or lower than online health insurance exchange rates in most markets
- Advancing the issue of parity through our efforts in assisting dioceses to establish the minimum required cost-sharing policy
- Absorbing an accumulated \$2.3 million in required ACA fees rather than passing these fees along to participating dioceses and institutions

#### **About The Church Pension Fund**

The Church Pension Fund (CPF) is an independent organization affiliated with The Episcopal Church with approximately \$12 billion in assets. CPF and its affiliated companies, collectively the Church Pension Group (CPG), provides retirement, health and wellness, and life insurance benefits to clergy and lay employees of The Episcopal Church. CPG also offers property and casualty insurance, as well as book and music publishing, including the official worship materials of The Episcopal Church. Its affiliated companies include [Church Life Insurance Corporation](#), [The Episcopal Church Medical Trust](#), [The Church Insurance Companies](#), and [Church Publishing Incorporated](#). Learn more at [cpg.org](http://cpg.org).

# # #

#### **MEDIA CONTACT:**

C. Curtis Ritter  
Senior Vice President of Corporate Communications  
212-592-1816  
[critter@cpg.org](mailto:critter@cpg.org)