# Welcome to Leave Training for Long Island Rail Road





## **AGENDA**

- Introductions
- Workpartners Process
- Policy Information
- Program Specifics
- Platforms and Access
- Questions



## **INTRODUCTIONS**



Linda Croushore

AVP, Absence Management



**Brian Curley**Account Manager



**Lindsay Schreiber**Director, Absence Management



**Chris Power**Sr. Project Analyst



Angelina Daley
Systems and Implementation
Analyst

\*Note: these individuals are not points of contact for assistance with absences/leaves.

## **EXCITING NEWS!**

## BEGINNING 3/18/2025, OUR NEW ABSENCE MANAGEMENT PARTNER IS WORKPARTNERS

**Workpartners** is part of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC). They have provided absence management services for over 25 years.

**Workpartners** provides analytics, health advocacy, absence management, and HR solutions to clients in a wide variety of industries, such as transit, healthcare, education, manufacturing, human services, real estate, and government.



## PATH TO GO-LIVE















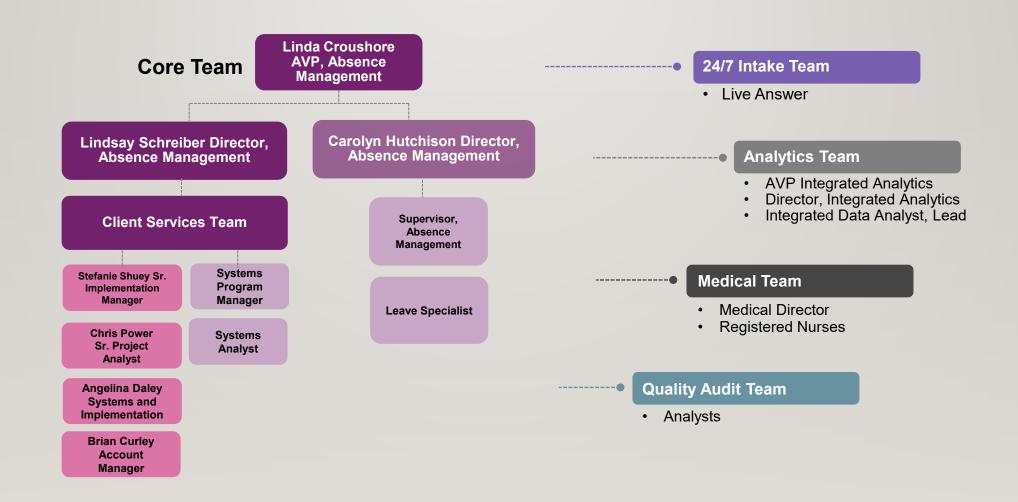
Department Head Training 2/6/2025

Union Representative Training 2/12/2025

Marketing and announcements provided to employees
Week of 2/17/2025

Program Go-Live 3/18/25

## THE WORKPARTNERS TEAM





## WORKPARTNERS CONTACT INFORMATION FOR LIRR EMPLOYEES



Intake Phone Number: 1-833-325-7004

• To request leave, report intermittent time, report intermittent absences, and discuss questions related to leave/policies



Online Portal: https://www.workpartners.com/portal

• Portal to request leave, report intermittent time, review status updates on a leave case and upload leave related documentation



Toll-free, Secure Fax Number: 1-844-531-4854

• To send paperwork related to leave/absence (medical certification, documents, etc.)



Email Service Account: <u>LIRRFMLA@workpartners.com</u>

- To send paperwork related to leave/absence and communicate with specialist
- Not an avenue for reporting intermittent time or intermittent absences

## TYPES OF LEAVE IN SCOPE

Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA)



## FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT (FMLA) INFORMATION

The FMLA entitles eligible employees to take 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave for specified family and medical reasons with continuation of group health insurance coverage under the same terms and conditions as if the employee had not taken leave.





## FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT (FMLA) INFORMATION

#### **Qualifying Leave Reasons for FMLA:**

- Birth/Adoption/Placement of a Foster Child
- Child/Spouse/Parent's Serious Health Condition
- Own Serious Health Condition
- Pregnancy/Maternity
- Family member of a servicemember of the US Armed Forces on active duty or impending call to active duty (Exigency)
- Family member caring for an injured servicemember or veteran

#### **Eligibility Criteria:**

12 months of service with the employer

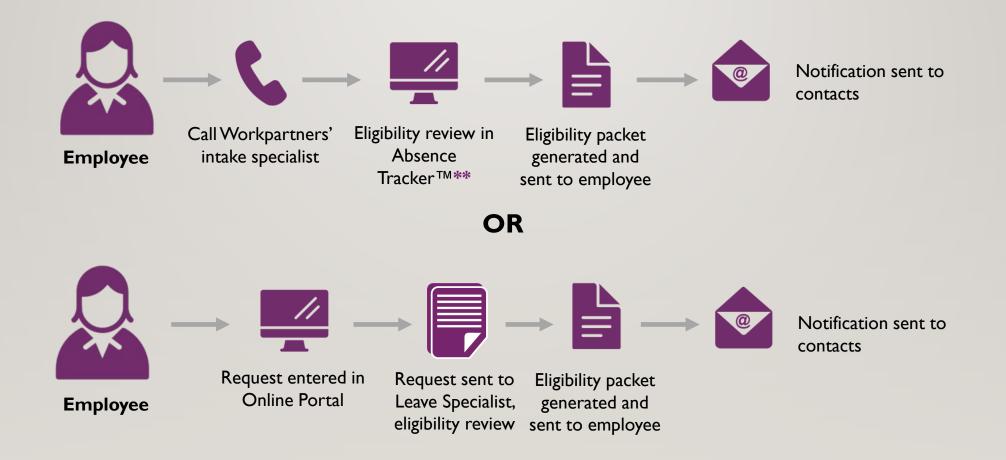
#### AND

1.250 hours worked within the last 12 months NOTE: Hours worked does not include hours paid for vacation, sick, personal, holidays, jury duty, and bereavement, etc.





## INTAKE PROCESS



## CASE MANAGEMENT PROCESS



Mail

preference

made

## **RETURN-TO-WORK PROCESS**



Leave specialist calls employee prior to RTW date to confirm details (date of return, full duty) or request updated documents if RTW has been delayed.



Leave specialist sends RTW confirmation email to Employer Recipients.



If employee returns as scheduled, specialist closes leave case



If employee fails to return, Leave specialist calls employee to discuss and updates employer via email

## PROGRAM SPECIFICS

## NOTIFICATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS

- All notifications will be sent to <u>FMLA@LIRR.org</u>
  - Examples of notifications: eligibility notification, approval/denial notifications, extension notification, intermittent time reported, return to work confirmation notification



## INTERMITTENT LEAVE REPORTING

• Employees will follow a two-call process and will notify both Workpartners and their employer of any absences related to an intermittent leave.



## EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES OVERVIEW

- Clearly advise the manager when an absence is related to FMLA.
- Attempt to schedule planned absences in a manner that is "least disruptive" to the department's operations.
- Follow the company's call-off procedures whenever possible.
- Contact the leave specialist with any medical changes that could impact the FMLA record.

## DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES OVERVIEW

- Clarify if an absence is related to an FMLA reason so the absence can be tracked correctly.
- Ensure FMLA time is coded correctly.
- Direct employees who may need FMLA to Workpartners.

## WORKPARTNERS RESPONSIBILITIES OVERVIEW

- Managing employee leaves.
- Maintaining compliance standard.
- Accurate tracking and monitoring of employee FMLA entitlement
- 24/7 Call Center and online portal access for requesting new cases or reporting intermittent time.
- Data Reporting

### BENEFITS OF WORKPARTNERS MANAGING FMLA

- Ability to speak to a representative 24/7.
- Dedicated Specialist who will work with the employee through the life of their case
- Accurate reporting of Intermittent FMLA
- Meeting compliance standards for FMLA with available metrics
- Employee is ensured their rights are upheld while taking FMLA
- Continued process refinement