



Weekly Bulletin – July 8, 2022



WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK?

"Best of the Best" – Save the Date!

This year, our annual "Best of the Best" will be held in partnership with the Validation Institute during their Health Benefits Nation conference. "Best of the Best" will take place on **Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at the Caribe Royale Resort in Orlando.**



More details to come, but please save the date!

Health Benefits Nation Conference, *Reshaping Health, Well-Being, and Benefits Strategies to Transform Employer Healthcare* – September 14-16

We are partnering with the Validation Institute for their Health Benefits Nation conference, the premier event that convenes CHROs, CFOs, HR, Benefits Executives, and Benefits Advisors to break away from the status quo and accelerate the move to accountable, transparent, and high-quality employer healthcare. This year's event is being held in Orlando on September 14-16 at the Caribe Royale Resort.



Health Benefits Nation

September 14-16, 2022 | Orlando, FL

To view the conference agenda, click [here](#).

Our Board of Directors members will be able to attend the three-day conference at no charge, so Board members, please email Karen van Caulil ASAP at karen@flhealthvalue directly if you would like to attend and she will work with the Validation Institute to get you registered.

For our employer members not currently serving on the Board, you may use promo code **FLAlliance** to receive 50% off the lowest conference rate of \$195 (**the early bird rate is then \$97.50, which expires July 15**) for the full conference including "Best of the Best." The cost to attend increases after that time, but you would still be able to receive half off their normal employer rate. Click [here](#) to register. But before you do that, **anyone who is speaking at the event receives free registration, so if you are interested in participating in a panel or speaking on any of the following topics, please reach out to Karen van Caulil ASAP at karen@flhealthvalue.org.**

Topics:

- Reimagining Employer Health Care and the Culture of Health
- Take Action on Behavioral Health to Elevate Employee Health and Well-Being
- Prioritizing DE&I and Empowering Employees with Fertility Benefits
- Implementing Direct-Contracting Models That Promote Value, Improve Outcomes, and Curb Rising Healthcare Costs
- Equity, Accessibility, Transparency: Redesigning Benefit Plans to Meet the Needs of Today's Workforce
- Leverage Virtual Technology and Adopt a Personalized Approach to Manage and Treat Chronic Conditions
- Solving the Drug Spend Crisis: What Employers Can (Should) Do



POLICY ACTIVITY

No Surprises Act

The American Hospital Association and the American Medical Association filed a joint lawsuit against the federal government, challenging the Biden administration's implementation of the *No Surprises Act*. Last week, the Florida Alliance, along with nearly 70 other organizations representing patients, consumers, unions, and employers, signed off on and sent a letter to Secretaries Yellen (Treasury), Becerra (HHS), and Walsh (Labor) reinforcing the essential nature of the *No Surprises Act*. These diverse groups have been sending joint letters for three years to stress the importance of bipartisan legislation and final

regulations that protect patients from surprise bills while also lowering healthcare costs.



Recent data shows that **more than 2 million surprise medical bills were already prevented** by the *No Surprises Act*. As noted in the letter, the law is critical legislation that puts patients first, which is why it must be implemented in-full to protect American families.

Highlights from the letter include:

- “The *No Surprises Act* is a notable example of broad, bipartisan health care reform legislation. It has already protected millions of Americans from surprise medical bills and, if implemented according to congressional intent, it promises to help restrain health care inflation.”
- “Knowing how much this landmark law has already helped American families, it is crucial the Biden Administration continue to stand firmly on the side of consumers and patients in defending the *No Surprises Act*, including implementing the law in a manner that helps reduce health care spending.”
- “A recent survey from AHIP and the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association found that in January and February 2022 the *No Surprises Act* prevented more than two million claims from resulting in surprise medical bills. This trend indicates the *No Surprises Act* is likely to prevent at least 12 million surprise bills in its first year of implementation. Millions of American families are counting on this law to ensure a medical emergency does not lead to financial ruin.”
- “Our health care system cannot bear to have 12 million out-of-network claims disputed through costly IDR. Americans want more health care providers and facilities to be in-network, and a predictable IDR process centered on market-based reimbursement for services helps accomplish that.”
- “Patients, consumers, labor unions, and employers of all sizes stand firm in our support for the *No Surprises Act*. We are troubled that some health care providers and private-equity backed groups are intent on ending or eroding the *No Surprises Act*, so much they have repeatedly challenged the law and/or its implementing regulations in court.”
- “To date, eight lawsuits have been filed to weaken the law and regulations. Were this law to be struck down or eroded, the financial security of millions of Americans each year is at risk and many providers and facilities will see license to continue to increase health care costs.”
- “There is a future where the *No Surprises Act* remains fully in effect, more providers and facilities are participating in health plan networks, and IDR is used sparingly, with most payment determinations trending towards market rates for services. This ensures American consumers have greater choice of in-network providers, peace of mind when seeking medical care at a hospital, and lower health care costs.”

Questions? Please contact karen@flhealthvalue.org



PROJECT/EMPLOYER LEARNING COLLABORATIVE (ELC) OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO OUR EMPLOYER MEMBERS

Diabetes/Obesity ELC – Health Equity Focus

Our last Diabetes/Obesity ELC is on **Wednesday, July 13, 2:00-3:30PM**. At this fourth and final session of the ELC we'll hear Jenny Goins from the Kentuckiana Health Collaborative present what actions employers need to take to reduce obesity and diabetes via support of lifestyle management and value-based benefit design.

If you need additional information on the Diabetes/Obesity ELC, please contact Lisa Hain at lisa@flhealthvalue.org



*Jenny Goins
President/CEO
Kentuckiana Health Collaborative*

Sage Transparency Hospital Value Dashboard Employer Roundtable

Last week's Weekly Bulletin included an error in the zip code listed for the Nova Southeastern University Orlando Campus where the Sage Transparency Hospital Value Dashboard in-person meeting will be held. The correct information for this in-person Employer Roundtable is:

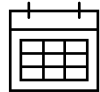
Tuesday, August 16, 1:00-5:00PM
Nova Southeastern University Orlando Campus
4850 Millenia Boulevard, Room 300
Orlando, Florida 32839



The calendar invitation that was sent to employer main contacts contained the correct zip code.

We do not have any other space available for this initiative. We will be in touch with any prep materials and the specific agenda for those who previously indicated interest in participating.

Please contact karen@flhealthvalue.org with any questions.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Meet with our newest Healthcare Advisory Council Member – Cleveland Clinic

Our first hospital-employer meeting with Healthcare Advisory council Member Cleveland Clinic is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 24, 10:00AM-12:00PM**. This meeting will be held virtually.



Please see the flyer attached to the email. The meeting agenda will follow soon, but please reach out to karen@flhealthvalue.org if there are topics and issues you would like to see presented and discussed.



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

The National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions Elects New Board

The National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions announced its slate of new officers for the Board of Governors at its 2022 Leadership Summits held June 27-28 in Detroit. **Congratulations to Florida Alliance President and CEO, Karen van Caulil, who continues her eighth year of service on the National Alliance Board.**

To read the full press release, please click [here](#).

