



## Weekly Bulletin – April 28, 2023



### WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK?

#### Florida Alliance Awarded Another Fair Price Grant!

It is with great pleasure that we can announce the Florida Alliance for Healthcare Value has received one of the 15 Coalition Grant Awards to participate in the initiative ***Mobilizing Coalitions & Purchasers: Taking Action to Get to Fair Price***. The national grant, sponsored by Arnold Ventures, will bring participating coalitions together over the next two years to engage in a national and regional strategy that can address inappropriate pricing for hospital services. The Florida Alliance team will participate in a kick-off meeting in May so we will keep you posted on the details as we move forward.



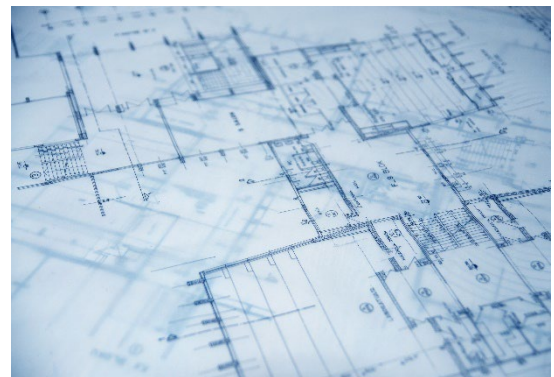
In addition to supporting our efforts to educate elected officials and holding meetings with the hospitals in Florida, the grant gives us access to a data expert who works with the National Academy of State Health Policy and RAND to conduct detailed analysis and produce reports at a market level.

If you have any questions about this initiative, please contact Karen van Caulil at [karen@flhealthvalue.org](mailto:karen@flhealthvalue.org)

#### 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference Slides and Materials

#### Blueprint for Change – Best Care at a Transparent and Fair Price

Our 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando was a big success. We hope those of you who were able to attend came away learning a lot and are poised for action. For those of you who were unable to attend, or for those wanting to review the slide decks and other materials provided by our exceptional speakers, click [HERE](#).





Congratulations to **Dr. Debra Pace, Superintendent of the School District of Osceola County!** Dr. Pace is the recipient of this year's **Dr. Jack Mahoney Healthcare Hero Award**. Awarded by the Florida Alliance Board of Directors, the award goes to an individual who leads an initiative that results in significant improvement of health for Floridians.

Check out the video in the conference materials to learn more about the groundbreaking work that has been accomplished by the District to drive costs down and improve quality.

This year's award was sponsored by [PatientsRightsAdvocate.org](http://PatientsRightsAdvocate.org) and presented at the Annual Conference by Cynthia Fisher, [PatientsRightsAdvocate.org](http://PatientsRightsAdvocate.org) Founder and Chair.

**Thank you again to all our generous conference sponsors!**





## Employer Member Educational Programs And Employer Learning Collaboratives (ELC)

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### The “Voice of the Purchaser” Survey Results Released

The National Alliance, in collaboration with HR Policy Association, recently released its findings from the “Voice of the Purchaser” Survey. The survey was completed by 221 employers nationwide, focusing on network access for behavioral healthcare services.

Findings were shared this week during the Path Forward convening meeting held in Dallas. In attendance at this meeting were Karen van Caulil, Florida Alliance President and CEO, Board Chair Rosa Novo from Miami-Dade County Public Schools, and Brandi Kissel from The Mosaic Company. Thank you to Rosa and Brandi for their important contributions to the meeting and for taking the time to travel to Dallas this week!



In the survey, employers reported overall that gaps, challenges, and barriers to accessing care continue to persist with respect to mental health and substance use services and plan offerings. The report can be found by clicking [HERE](#).

We will be discussing the Florida level findings at an upcoming Mental Health/Substance Use Employer Learning Collaborative (ELC) meeting and proposed solutions. At the next ELC meeting, we will also present the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) employee/patient/consumer survey findings on access to mental health/substance use services as they compare to access to physical health services. This is the survey that we promoted last year, and we look forward to finally seeing the report and associated recommendations. The date has not been set for this meeting yet.

If you have any questions about our work in mental health/behavioral health, please contact David Cavalleri at [David@flhealthvalue.org](mailto:David@flhealthvalue.org)



## In Case You Missed It

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### Non-Profit Hospitals Stray from their Charitable Roots



The Florida Alliance team continues to seek understanding of the hospital rationale for charging employers three times the rate of Medicare on average in the state. Tax-exempt hospitals in Florida have risen to the top as the most expensive locations to seek care in the state with no relationship between the price paid and the quality of care received.

In this new white paper, [\*\*“Wayward Samaritans: ‘Non-Profit’ Hospitals and Their Tax Exempt Status,”\*\*](#) we learn how modern hospitals have strayed from their purely charitable roots.

*"Many hospitals today function as part of large, corporate conglomerate healthcare systems, pay vast sums to executives, and consolidate power through vertical and horizontal mergers and acquisitions, just like commercial businesses do. Yet many hospitals continue to claim the 'charitable' mantle and retain valuable tax exemptions. As a result, communities across the country are deprived of billions of dollars in tax revenues every year."*

For more information on our work to reduce hospital prices, please contact Karen van Caulil at [karen@flhealthvalue.org](mailto:karen@flhealthvalue.org)