



Weekly Bulletin – February 9, 2024



WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK?

ACTION ITEM High-Cost Claims Initiative Opportunity – Are You Interested in Participating? **RSVP Needed**

The National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions has announced a call for proposals to participate in a High-Cost Claims initiative aimed at addressing and mitigating challenges related to high-cost claims. This project will be a deep dive into high-cost claims and will focus on learning employer perspectives, defining best practice strategies, and determining effective benefit design decisions for addressing high-cost claims.

Each coalition selected (only four coalitions total) will have 6-10 employers able to participate in regional, in-person workshops scheduled for April, May, and June, and a National Alliance virtual workshop. **This is a competitive application process! The application is due February 20, and we cannot submit a proposal without a commitment from at least 6 employers.** Since the four meetings must take place in-person, we will determine the location if we are selected to participate and base it on the best location for the employers participating. We will cover travel-related costs for the participating employers.

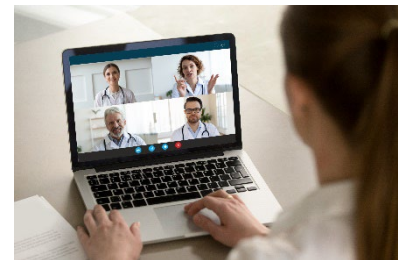


Please email Karen van Caulil at karen@flhealthvalue.org ASAP if you would like to participate.

Invitation to Join on Upcoming *Purchaser Advisory Council on Digital Health*

The National Alliance has issued an invitation for three employers to join an upcoming *Purchaser Advisory Council on Digital Health* being conducted by the Petersen Health Technology Institute (PHTI) this year. This Advisory Council will provide feedback on PHTI's Digital Health Initiative assessment framework, assessment domains, and digital health technologies in consideration for evaluation.

The work of the Council is just getting underway, so meeting times and agendas are not available yet. If you are interested in participating, **please RSVP before Tuesday, February 13 via email to mrehayem@nationalalliancehealth.org.**



About the Purchaser Advisory Council on Digital health: phti.com/our-partners

About the Peterson Health Technology Institute

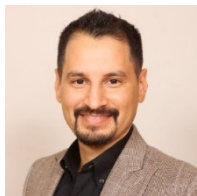
The Peterson Health Technology Institute (PHTI) provides independent evaluations of innovative healthcare technologies to improve health and lower costs. Through its rigorous, evidence-based research, PHTI analyzes the clinical benefits and economic impact of digital health solutions, as well as their effects on **health equity, privacy, and security**. These evaluations inform decisions for providers, patients, payers, and investors, accelerating the adoption of high-value technology in healthcare. PHTI was founded in 2023 by the Peterson Center on Healthcare. For more information, please visit PHTI.com.



FLORIDA ALLIANCE BOARD

Florida Alliance Board of Directors Candidates – Election on Thursday, February 22 at 2:00PM

The Nominating Committee of the Florida Alliance Board has identified 9 highly qualified and engaged leaders from our Employer Member community to serve on the Board of Directors. **We will hold a brief meeting on February 22 at 2:00PM via Webex so that the main contact for each Employer/Healthcare Purchaser Member may cast their vote for this slate.** If you are the main contact and unable to attend this meeting, please give your vote to another individual at your organization so they may cast a vote. Please let Karen van Caulil know if you need to make that change in who will attend by contacting her at karen@flhealthvalue.org.



Kenneth Aldridge, Jr., BSN, MS-HSA

Kenneth is the Director of Health Services for Rosen Hotels and Resorts and

RosenCare. He has been serving the Rosen organization for 25 years and currently oversees the health care of over 5000 covered lives made up of the employees and their dependents of the Rosen organization. He has enjoyed serving his alma mater, the University of Central Florida, for the past 11 years as an adjunct professor for the Health Services Administration

graduate program. While he is proud of his Bachelor's degree in Nursing and Master's degree in Health Services Administration from UCF, his mission in this role is to train up the next generation of healthcare leaders with excellence as a way of giving back to the Central Florida community he has called home since early childhood. Kenneth serves on the Board of Directors for the National Association of Worksite Health Centers and is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives, the Professional Association of Healthcare Management, and Medical Group Management

Association. In 2011, Kenneth was honored as an Outstanding Health Administrator by the Orlando Business Journal, and in 2012, Kenneth was honored to receive the College of Health and Public Affairs Outstanding Alumni Award from the University of Central Florida.



Yvette Best, Ed.D., CPP, SPHR, SHRM-SCP

Yvette is a seasoned professional with a combined 30+ years of global human resources and academic

experience, having worked for the transportation, aviation, pharmaceutical, hospitality, and consumer goods industry. During her time in academia, primarily teaching math in inner-city schools, she was also an Assistant Athletic Director and Athletic Coach of volleyball, basketball, and track where she honed her skills as a motivator and mentor, even founding a mentor group. One of her greatest passions is mentoring professionals and young women to become poised and confident leaders on/off the athletic fields and in corporate boardrooms. Deeply engaged in the community, Yvette has served on her church and local HR boards. She was a Girl Scouts co-leader for several years and is a charter member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. – Psi Theta Omega Chapter. Yvette received her BA in Spanish from the University of Michigan, MBA from Rutgers Business School, and a Doctorate in Organizational Leadership/Human Resource Development from Nova Southeastern University.

Yvette currently serves on the Florida Alliance Board of Directors.



Beth Curran

Beth Curran is the Senior Director of Risk Management for Orange County Public Schools. Orange County Public

Schools is the fourth largest school district in Florida and the eighth largest district in the US. The District serves over 215,000 students and 25,000 employees. Beth oversees all the insurance programs for Orange County Public Schools including employee benefits, property insurance, liability coverage, and workers' compensation. Beth has been in the insurance industry for 39+ years in Florida and Colorado. During her career, Beth has worked for over 20 years with two large central Florida school districts. She also has 14 years working for two national medical carriers, and 5 years working for two international benefits consulting firms. Beth received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Organizational Behavior from Rollins College.

Beth has served on the Florida Alliance Board of Directors for several years and is currently an At-Large Director on the Executive Committee.



Jair Espinoza, CGBA, BBA, CPP

Jair is the City of Miami's Group Benefits Manager in the City's Risk Management Department. He is a member

of the State and Local Government Association (SALBGA) and has served as a Board of Directors member since 2019. Jair earned his CGBA (Certified Government Benefits Administrator) designation in 2023. Jair is also a member of the Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade and the Cigna Wellness Council of Florida. His career spans over two decades of increasingly rewarding and responsible positions managing large multi-state employers, both public and municipal. He offers a diversified set of skills covering payroll, group benefits, and project

management with the ability to provide cost-effective solutions derived from a continued-process improvement approach. Jair is known for strategic, operational, and tactical proficiency aimed at optimizing internal operations. Jair obtained his Bachelor of Business Administration from Florida International University in 2004 and became a Certified Payroll Professional from the American Payroll Association in April 2012.



Susan McBroom

Susan is the Director of Human Resources at Patriot Rail Company LLC. She has over 30 years of HR and Railroad Industry

experience. She has held various HR roles such as HRIS Coordinator, Manager HR, Manager SAP HR/Payroll Support prior to her current position. Susan is currently a member of the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRA) and on the ALSRRA HR Committee, a member of the League of Railway Women, and SHRM.

Susan currently serves on the Florida Alliance Board of Directors.



Stephanie Koch, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, CHVA

Stephanie is the Director of Human Resources for Hendry Marine Industries/Gulf Marine Repair. Stephanie has over 25

years of HR leadership experience at various companies. Over the past several years, she has taken an active role in understanding and transforming employee health benefit plans. At Hendry Marine, and in her previous role, she was instrumental in moving the employee health plans to a self-funded model. Stephanie is passionate about sharing her knowledge and experience with other HR professionals so that more people understand the benefits a self-

funded health plan has for both the company and for employees. Because of Stephanie’s healthcare knowledge and unique experience in self-funding, she has become a frequent speaker at events across the country. She is a graduate of William Paterson University, Leadership Tampa – Class of 2012, as well as a member of SHRM and HR Tampa.

Stephanie currently serves on the Florida Alliance Board of Directors as the Vice Chair.

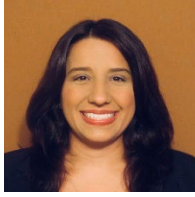


Rosa Novo

Rosa is the Administrative Benefits Director of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, where for 37 years she has been creating strategic health

solutions, negotiating, contracting and creation, plus implementation of the District’s Wellness Program “Well Way” for the 3rd largest School Board in the nation. Rosa is responsible for the administration of the district’s self-insured healthcare plan which is the second largest expenditure in the district. The annual cost of offering healthcare coverage to 46,000 covered lives (32,000 employees plus dependents and 9,241 retirees plus dependents) is \$441 million. Rosa is active on many state and national boards and councils including as an Advisory Board Member of the Florida School Retiree Benefits Consortium, the District’s Wellness Committee, the Health Promotion & Disease Prevention Committee & Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade, Cigna’s Health Disparity Advisory Council, and a member of the National Purchaser Leadership Council for the National Alliance. Rosa received her Bachelor of Science in Health Service Administration from Barry University.

Rosa has served on the Florida Alliance Board of Directors for many years and is currently the Board Chair.



Kimberly Ramos

Kim is the Director of Global Benefits at The Mosaic Company. Kim is responsible for the company benefit plans and programs to ensure they support the business strategic objectives and total rewards philosophy. This includes programs that serve their 13,000 employees, primarily located in Canada, US, and Brazil. In her role, Kim serves as a voting member and Secretary of the Board-appointed Global Benefits Committee that is responsible for governance of global benefits. In addition, Kim leads the company’s wellness initiatives in partnership with the Health and Safety organization, as Mosaic’s top priority is the health and safety of their employees. Kim

has more than 17 years of experience in Human Resources. Her past positions include Senior Benefits Manager for Amgen, and Health and Group Benefits Consultant for a leading HR consulting firm. Kim serves on the Tampa Bay Thrives Board, a non-for-profit organization focused on improving mental health for Tampa Bay residents. Kim has a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from Temple University, Fox School of Business and Management.

Kim has served on the Florida Alliance Board for the past several years and is currently an At-Large Director on the Executive Committee.



EMPLOYER MEMBER EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, REPORTS, RESOURCES, AND EMPLOYER LEARNING COLLABORATIVES (ELC)

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN! Annual Conference – 40 Years of Impact: Pioneering Progress in Health Care – Addressing Challenges, Shaping the Future – Monday, May 6, 2024

The Florida Alliance Annual Conference celebrating 40 years of improving the quality and value of health care in Florida will take place on Monday, May 6, 2024, from 8:00AM to 5:00PM at the Rosen Shingle Creek in Orlando.

Keynote Speaker: Dr. David B. Nash



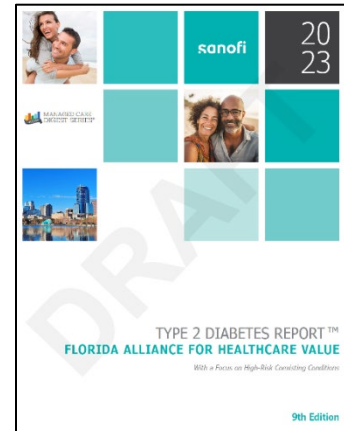
David B. Nash, MD is the Founding Dean Emeritus, and remains on the full-time faculty as the Dr. Raymond C. and Doris N. Grandon Professor of Health Policy at Jefferson College of Population Health. He is internationally recognized for his work in public accountability for outcomes, physician leadership development, and quality-of-care improvement. Dr. Nash's work is well known through his many publications, including his most recent bestselling book, *How Covid Crashed the System: A Guide to Fixing American Health Care*.

Employer Members can attend the Annual Conference by using promo code **EMPLOYER40** when registering. To learn more about the Annual Conference, including hotel information and registration, please visit our website by clicking [HERE](#).

Employer Member Benefit: *Webinar* – Diabetes Trend Report for Florida – Wednesday, February 28, 10:00AM – 11:00AM ET

Join us for a review of the 9th Edition of the [Florida Alliance for Healthcare Value Type 2 Diabetes Report](#), sponsored by Affiliate Member Sanofi. We will discuss what actions can be taken based on the utilization and gaps in care trends seen in the report. The presenters will share insights into the data provided in the report, and how it may impact your employees and your organization.

You should have already received a calendar invitation but if you need it re-sent or need more information, contact Lisa Hain at lisa@flhealthvalue.org



Employer Member Benefits: National Alliance Pulse of the Purchaser Webinar Series – *Beyond the Pulse: Navigating Employer Insights*

The National Alliance is offering the following series of three complimentary webinars. Each requires separate registration:

Webinar 1: Decoding the Workforce Environment and Forecasting Change

Date: February 20, 2024

Topics: Workforce environment, current workforce landscape, largest employer threats, potential reforms

REGISTER *(and learn more!)*

Webinar 2: Strategies for a Healthier Workplace

Date: March 5, 2024

Topics: Health strategies (e.g., whole-person health, equity, women’s health, mental health, obesity management)

REGISTER *(and learn more!)*



Webinar 3: Navigating the Financial Landscape: Fiduciary Perspectives, and Cost Management

Date: March 19, 2024

Topics: Fiduciary perspectives, hospital fair price, pharmaceutical drugs, high-cost claims

REGISTER *(and learn more!)*



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Lawsuit: Johnson & Johnson Health Plan Overpaid for Drugs – *article from The Mahoney Group*

A federal class-action lawsuit was filed this week against Johnson & Johnson by one of its employees. The plaintiff, a healthcare policy and advocacy director for the company, claims J&J is in breach of its duties under the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) to prudently manage employee benefit plans.



The result, according to the suit, is that J&J workers have over the years purportedly paid millions of dollars more for generic drugs than they should have.

The Florida Alliance team will be tracking the progress of this lawsuit as it has implications for all self-funded employers.

Read the full article [HERE](#).

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER!

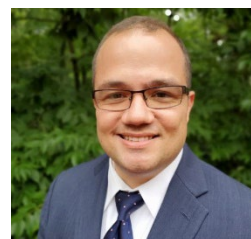
Annual Meeting – *a Virtual Event on Tuesday, March 12, 1:00PM-3:00PM ET*

The 40th Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Florida Alliance for Healthcare Value is a free event open to all our members and offers the opportunity to learn about the important work the Florida Alliance is undertaking to improve the quality and value of health care in Florida including new opportunities to engage in our research and educational activities. Click [HERE](#) to register.

Confirmed speakers for this virtual event include:



Leah Binder, MA, MGA
President and CEO
The Leapfrog Group



Shawn Gremminger, MPP
President and CEO
National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions

Leah and Shawn will speak about the important work the Florida Alliance undertakes with their organizations.