



Weekly Bulletin – November 22, 2024

This Weekly Bulletin is a benefit of your organization’s Employer Membership in the Florida Alliance and is meant to **ONLY** be shared within Employer Member organizations unless approval has been given by the Florida Alliance CEO.



ACTION ITEMS

Employer Members’ Accomplishments – Your Awards and Recognitions



The Florida Alliance would like to feature your 2024 accomplishments at our “Best of the Best” event on Tuesday, December 10.

Please share with us information on any awards and recognitions that you as an individual and/or your organization have received in 2024 related to healthcare services, plan

design, or related areas. Please also let us know if the work you did to receive the recognition was impacted in any way by something you learned or gained access to as a member of the Florida Alliance.

When sending us the information, please include the title of the award or recognition, the organization sponsoring the award, and when it was awarded to you this year. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication!

Please send the information to Karen van Caulil at karen@flhealthvalue.org if you have any questions.



WHAT’S NEW THIS WEEK

National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions Annual Forum Highlights

We are excited to announce that the National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions awarded Florida Alliance Employer Member Rosen Hotels & Resorts the 2024 “Employer/Purchaser Excellence” award at the Annual Forum in Arlington, VA on Tuesday. The award recognizes the efforts of employers committed to promoting healthcare value while improving the health and wellbeing of America’s working families. Rosen Hotels & Resorts has demonstrated leadership and innovation in advancing overall health and healthcare value through their approach to benefit programs and design, employee engagement, and their support of the Florida Alliance efforts.

To read the National Alliance press release click [HERE](#).



Florida Alliance President and CEO Karen van Caulil was on hand to present the award to Ashley Bacot, Health Plan Architect, at Rosen Hotels & Resorts.

Congratulations to Rosen Hotels & Resorts! We are so proud of your many accomplishments and your commitment to driving healthcare value for your associates!



Pictured left to right: National Alliance CEO Shawn Gremminger, Ashley Bacot, and Karen van Caulil

Karen van Caulil was the moderator of a session at the Annual Forum entitled “Healthcare Price Transparency: Essential Insights for Informed Decision-Making.” Speakers who participated in the panel included Merck Executive Director of Strategic Insights/Integrated Account Management Susann Schlotterback, Senior Policy Advisor in the U.S. House of Representatives Corey Ensslin, Turquoise Health General Manager Shay Forbes, Purdue University Associate Vice President of Benefits and Payroll/Human Resources Candace Shaffer, and National Alliance Manager of Healthcare Initiatives Amanda Green. The panel members spoke about plan sponsor fiduciary rights and responsibilities, how to determine what a fair price is, and the available options to drive fair price practices in specific markets. All the feedback on this session was positive!



Pictured left to right: Susann Schlotterback, Corey Ensslin, Karen van Caulil, Shay Forbes, Candace Shaffer, and Amanda Green

Also, on Monday at the Annual Forum, Miami–Dade County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Jose’ Dotres, PatientRightsAdvocate.org Founder Cynthia Fisher, and National Alliance President and CEO Shawn Gremminger held a fireside chat entitled “Employer Call to Action – Finding the Courage to Drive Radical Change.” Dr. Dotres shared the importance of the C-Suite fully supporting the team that manages benefits and how they assure affordable, high-quality care at the District. He spoke highly of our wonderful Board Chair Rosa Novo, Administrative Benefits Director, and her tireless work to drive value for the employees and their families.



Pictured left to right: Dr. Jose’ Dotres, Cynthia Fisher and Shawn Gremminger

On Tuesday, Rosa participated on a panel with Pittsburgh Business Group Health President and CEO Mike Stancil, OSH360 Founder Mohannad Kusti, and Pfizer Senior Director, National Payer Account Medical Lead Heather Sell. The session was called “Don’t Let These Uninvited Guests Ruin Your Holiday Plans – or Budget!” The panel members spoke about diagnostic innovations that are driving early detection and treatment of respiratory infections to minimize workplace risk and maximize productivity, health, and wellbeing.



Pictured left to right: Mike Stancil, Ned Kusti, Rosa Novo, and Heather Sell

Karen and Rosa participated in Hill Visits with National Alliance staff, several coalition leaders, and their Board leadership on Thursday, visiting in the offices of several members of Congress including:

- Speaker Johnson
- Majority Leader Schumer

- Minority Leader Jeffries
- Representative Foxx
- Senator Cassidy
- Representative McMorriss-Rogers




The coalitions and their employer members spoke passionately about three key issues of concern to employers including the abuse of the 340B drug program that negatively impacts employers, the need for better accountability and transparency of pharmacy benefit management services, and the need for enhanced price transparency of all healthcare services. Another issue covered is the support of site neutral payments for Medicare which would eliminate facility fees. If Medicare is able to obtain this significant change, commercial plans can follow.

Click [HERE](#) to read the “leave-behind” documents for more information on the positions that the National Alliance and the member coalitions have taken on these issues and a letter of support sent to Congress and signed by several organizations including the Florida Alliance and

Floridians for Accountability in Health Care.

Please contact Karen van Caulil at karen@flhealthvalue.org if you have any questions.


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

Employer Member Benefit: Achieving Mental Health Parity Compliance Upcoming Webinar Part 2



The Florida Alliance is working with Mental Health Parity experts, Henry Harbin, M.D. and Beth Ann Middlebrooks and the Bowman Family Foundation to develop checklists and a toolkit that you can use to conduct the needed analysis to achieve Mental Health Parity Law compliance. Part one of the two-part compliance series was held Wednesday, October 30, click [HERE](#) to listen to the recorded webinar and view the slides. You can also view the DOL’s Self-Compliance Tool for MH Parity and Addiction Equity Act that was discussed on the webinar.

As a reminder, you have already received the invitation from info@flhealthvalue.org for the **Mental Health Parity Compliance Webinar - Part 2, which will be held on Thursday, December 12, 3:00PM – 4:00PM ET.**

If you have not yet received the invitation to the webinar, please contact Lisa Hain at lisa@flhealthvalue.org.

Please contact Karen van Caulil at karen@flhealthvalue.org if you have any questions.

★★☆ PATIENT QUALITY AND SAFETY

The Leapfrog Group – Fall 2024 Hospital Safety Grades Released



On Friday, November 15, The Leapfrog Group announced the Fall 2024 Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grades, evaluating nearly 3,000 hospitals on their ability to prevent medical errors, accidents, and infections. The Hospital Safety Grade incorporates up to 30 performance measures to assign an “A,” “B,” “C,” “D,” or “F” to individual hospitals and uses a public, peer-reviewed methodology, calculated by top patient safety experts under the guidance of a National Expert Panel.

In Florida, 191 hospitals were graded and 70 earned an “A,” 49 earned a “B,” 63 earned a “C,” 6 earned a “D,” and 3 earned an “F.” Overall, Florida came in as 13th of 48 states ranked with 37% of the hospitals in Florida earning an “A” grade.

On Tuesday, December 17, Florida Alliance Vice President and our Regional Leader Ashley Tait-Dinger will be in Washington, D.C. for the Annual Leapfrog Top Hospitals and Ambulatory Surgery Centers Awards dinner. We will include the names of the winners in the Weekly Bulletin on Friday, December 20.

How did the hospitals in your market do? To access the Fall 2024 Hospital Safety Grades, click [HERE](#).

Please contact Ashley Tait-Dinger at ashley@flhealthvalue.org if you have any questions.



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

29th Annual “Best of the Best” – Register today to make sure you have a seat!



All Florida Alliance Employer Members receive complimentary registration. The free registration code is located on page 7 of the Bulletin.

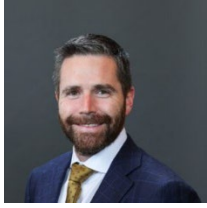
The session titles and speakers are:

Leveraging the Impact of Innovative Technology in Disease Management

- *David Hines*, Executive Director of Benefits, Metro Nashville Public Schools – back by popular demand!



David Hines



Brian Kehan



Rosa Novo



Sherri Samuels-Fuerst

Employer Insights for Oncology Management

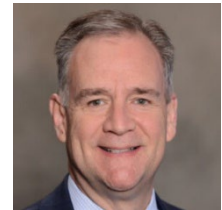
- *Brian Kehan*, Director of Benefits and Wellbeing, Merck
- *Rosa Novo*, Administrative Benefits Director, Miami-Dade County Public Schools, and Florida Alliance Board Chair
- *Sherri Samuels-Fuerst*, VP of Total Rewards, Sargento Foods, Inc.

Vaccine Misinformation and Vaccine Hesitancy

- *Antonio Iglesias*, Vaccines Medical Director, Pfizer
- *Thomas Heard*, Senior Director, Payer Account Medical Lead, Pfizer



Antonio Iglesias



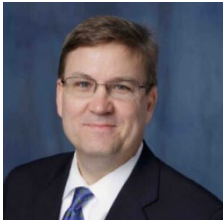
Thomas Heard



Robert Oyer



Joshua Rubich



Michael Stubee

Increasing Benefits While Reducing Cost – A Counterintuitive Approach

- *Robert Oyer*, Risk Manager, Lake County School District
- *Joshua Rubich*, Area Senior Vice President, Gallagher
- *Michael Stubee*, Vice President of Payor Strategy, Orlando Health

How Your Company Can Regain Control of Your Healthcare Program

- *Stephanie Koch*, Director of Human Resources, Hendry Marine Industries, Inc. and Florida Alliance Board Vice Chair



Stephanie Koch

Click [HERE](#) to see the full agenda.

Details of the event:

- **Date:** Tuesday, December 10, 2024
- **Registration:** 8:30AM – 9:00AM ET
- **Program Time:** 9:00AM – 4:00PM ET
- **Location:** GuideWell Innovation Center, 6555 Sanger Road, Orlando, FL 32827
- **Your Member Promo code:** EMPLOYER1224 (Please do not share this code outside your organization. If you have a colleague at an organization that is not a member of the Florida Alliance, please reach out to Karen@flhealthvalue.org for a guest code and flyer that you can share with them.)
- **Register** [HERE](#)

Thank you to **Healthcare Advisory Council member Florida Blue** for hosting this event again.



Thank you to our generous sponsors!



If you have any questions, and/or need assistance with your registration, please contact Lisa Hain at lisa@flhealthvalue.org

We are thankful for the support and guidance of our wonderful Employer Members! The staff at the Florida Alliance wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving!

The Weekly Bulletin will be returning to your inbox on Friday, December 6.

