



Weekly Bulletin – December 6, 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 ITEM

New Project Opportunity - Making Direct Contracting Easier Survey



You may recall that in the Florida results from the National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalition’s *Pulse of the Purchaser* Survey that was released this fall, there was great interest expressed by our Employer Members who responded in pursuing direct contracting as a strategy to drive value in their health plans. In response to that feedback, we have identified a potential solution that was brought to our attention by Jeff Hogan of Upside Health Advisors, LLC. Jeff was

the moderator of a panel at our Annual Conference in May 2024 on advanced primary care and is an adviser to a new initiative called OpenNetworks.

OpenNetworks is a direct contracting marketplace that is open to any healthcare purchaser seeking transparently priced healthcare services, and to any provider willing to deliver them. They have built a network platform that is designed for today’s transparency demands and data-sharing needs. Purchasers can see real costs. There are no “favored nation” clauses. They have developed flexible contracting models and have simplified the process for direct contracting. They have also added the ability to curate networks to meet specific cost, quality, and geographic requirements.

OpenNetworks wants to expand to Florida. They have engaged with the Florida Alliance to explore this new approach, but before we move forward, we will need some baseline information from you and a better idea of your needs. **We have created a survey to learn more about your experience and/or interest in direct contracting** – or your lack of experience and/or interest – whatever the case may be!

For those interested in learning more about OpenNetworks, we will have a roundtable discussion the week of February 3 (date and location still to be determined).

Please respond to the survey by December 12. Click [HERE](#).

To view a video on *Open Networks: Transforming Healthcare in America Overview*, click [HERE](#).

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



WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK?

Important Information: 29th Annual “Best of the Best” – Tuesday, December 10

We are looking forward to our “Best of the Best” event being held at the [GuideWell Innovation Center](#) in Orlando, Florida on Tuesday, December 10, 2024.



GuideWell Innovation Center
6555 Sanger Road, Orlando, FL 32827

If you are attending, here are a few details you may find helpful:

- Please stop by the registration table to pick up your name badge prior to the start of the program. Registration opens at 8:30AM, programming begins at 9:00AM.
- Be sure to bring a jacket and/or sweater. The meeting space may be COLD.
- Only bottled water is allowed in the theater. Food and other beverages are NOT permitted.
- There is plenty of available parking.
- Click [here](#) for the agenda. We will have limited printed copies, so you may want to print one to bring with you.

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



Thank you to our generous sponsors!



If you have registered and are no longer able to attend this event, please contact Lisa Hain at lisa@flhealthvalue.org as soon as possible.



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

Employer Member Benefit: Pharmacy Benefit Management Misalignment: Vendor Engagement Template



Managing rising prescription drug spending is creating challenges for employers with their Pharmacy Benefits Managers (PBMs). **Employers need to lay the “groundwork” prior to conducting interviews with prospective PBM vendors. They should have vendor questions in hand asking how they meet standard requirements, allow for claims auditing, and structure their formularies.** This groundwork will allow your organization to have better cost management, compliance, and improved employee health outcomes. The National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions has developed a new tool to provide this guidance and assistance. This tool can also be used to assess the performance and practices of your current PBM vendor.

Click [HERE](#) to view the Vendor Engagement Template.

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

Employer Member Benefit: Achieving Mental Health Parity Compliance Webinar (Part 2): Thursday, December 12, 3:00PM – 4:00PM ET



The Florida Alliance is working with Mental Health Parity experts, Henry Harbin, M.D., Beth Ann Middlebrooks, J.D., and the Bowman Family Foundation to develop an employer checklist and a toolkit that can be used to conduct the needed non-quantitative treatment limits (NQTL) analysis needed for Mental Health Parity Law compliance.

Part 1 of this 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. Using this self-compliance tool is a requirement of the parity law. The toolkit being presented next week provides additional guidance on the NQTL portion of the analysis, the most detailed and complicated part of the required analysis.

This second webinar will be a walkthrough of the employer toolkit.

As a reminder, you should have already received the invitation from info@flhealthvalue.org for this webinar. If you have not yet received the invitation to the webinar, please contact Lisa Hain at lisa@flhealthvalue.org.



VALUE-BASED PURCHASING OF HEALTHCARE COURSE

Value-Based Purchasing of Healthcare – A Practical Course for Employers Seeking Greater Value from their Health Benefit Spending – Informational Webinar - Monday, December 9, 1:00PM – 2:00PM ET

The Value-Based Purchasing of Healthcare course is designed for benefits professionals to introduce them to the principles and methods of advancing the value of the health benefits spend. The program encourages participants to think and act differently and culminates in each participant developing their own customized action plan for applying knowledge gained in the course to their current place of employment.



VALUE-BASED
PURCHASING
OF HEALTHCARE

There will be an informational webinar held Monday, December 9, 1:00PM – 2:00PM ET intended to explain the course in more depth. If you are interested in attending the webinar and would like an invitation, please email Hannah McChesney at hannah@flhealthvalue.org and she will forward the calendar invitation to you.

President and CEO Karen van Caulil is on the faculty for this course. She is teaching two sessions – one on driving value through transparency and primary care and the other on alternative payment models. Thanks to Florida Alliance Board Member Kenneth Aldridge from Rosen Hotels and Resorts for his participation in the advanced primary care session!

There are SHRM credits available for those who take the course. The course is an 8-week virtual, asynchronous course commencing on Monday, January 13, 2025.

Click [HERE](#) to view the Program Overview.

Click [HERE](#) to register for the course.



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SAD NEWS

Announcement of the passing of Harris Rosen, President and COO of Rosen Hotels & Resorts



Harris Rosen

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of President and COO of Rosen Hotels & Resorts, Harris Rosen. Mr. Rosen was a great friend and supporter of the Florida Alliance and our mission and purpose. He was very generous with his time and resources and urged us to lean into our role as a catalyst of change.

We are so grateful that Mr. Rosen was able to celebrate our 40th Anniversary with us this year at our Annual Conference. His kind words about our successes and his encouragement about the hard work we have ahead of us will not be forgotten.

We awarded Mr. Rosen the Dr. Jack Mahoney “Healthcare Hero” award in 2019 for his tireless efforts in improving the health of Floridians.

We are also pleased that the Employer/Purchaser Excellence Award from the National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions was given to Rosen Hotels & Resorts the week prior to his passing. We have been told that he was aware of the award and very honored.

The Florida Alliance Board of Directors voted on Tuesday of this week at the quarterly Board meeting to rename our “Most Engaged Employer Award” to the “Harris Rosen Most Engaged Employer Award.” This award is given annually to the Employer Member that has demonstrated the highest level of commitment to our efforts to drive value in health care. We will be presenting this award at our Annual Conference on May 1, 2025 being held at the Rosen Centre Hotel.

We would like to extend our deepest sympathies to Mr. Rosen’s family, friends, and many devoted associates and colleagues and especially to Florida Alliance Board Member Kenneth Aldridge and former Board Vice Chair, Ashley Bacot.

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