



EMPLOYER MEMBER BULLETIN

July 31, 2026

Employer Members-only: Shareable only within Employer Member organization unless approved by the Florida Alliance CEO

5 THINGS FOR YOU TO DO

1. Accept the calendar invitation and attend next week's All-Employer Member Meeting, Wednesday, August 5, 11:00AM ET. Webex link already sent.
2. Register free of charge for PBMI National Conference, September 10–11, Orlando
3. Accept the calendar invitation for the Mental Health & Substance Use Learning Series Webinar - Thursday, September 3
4. Submit your organization's interest in participating in the RAND Hospital Price Transparency Study – Deadline to start the process is the end of August
5. Share with Florida Alliance your surprise billing independent dispute resolution experience to inform policy work

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 - Vote on new Board of Directors member candidate
- **Mental Health & Substance Use Learning Series** Webinar - Thursday, September 3, 3:00PM – 4:00PM Eastern
- **Advancing Health Policy "Hot Topics"**
- New **Pharmacy-Based Services Guide**
- New **Cancer Awareness Toolkits**
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- **Leapfrog Hospital and Ambulatory Surgery Survey Data** Now Available
- August Deadline to Participate in the **RAND Hospital Price Transparency Study**
- **Membership Update**

Florida Alliance Staff Contact Information

For questions or information about Leapfrog and membership updates contact Ashley Tait-Dinger, Vice President, ashley@flhealthvalue.org

For questions or information about event registration contact Lisa Hain, Administrative Coordinator, lisa@flhealthvalue.org

For all other questions or comments contact Karen van Caulil, President and CEO, karen@flhealthvalue.org

Long-time Board Member Mark Weinstein Retiring

The Florida Alliance for Healthcare Value extends its sincere appreciation to **Mark Weinstein** as he retires from his role as President and CEO of the Independent Colleges and Universities Benefits Association (ICUBA). **Mark has led ICUBA since 2003 and has been a dedicated and engaged member of the Florida Alliance Board of Directors since then!** During his tenure, he has served as both Board Chair and Vice Chair, providing thoughtful leadership and a steadfast commitment to our mission.

Under Mark's leadership, ICUBA was twice recognized as the Florida Alliance's **Most Engaged Employer**, most recently at the 2026 Annual Conference, a reflection of his belief in the power of employer collaboration to improve healthcare quality, affordability, and value.

We are grateful for Mark's many years of service, leadership, and partnership, and we wish him all the best in his well-earned retirement. Thank you, Mark! We will miss you!



MEMBER EXCLUSIVE

Reminder: All-Employer Member Meeting – Wednesday, August 5, 11:00AM – 12:00PM Eastern 340B White Paper Briefing

The first 20 minutes of the meeting will focus on the 340B Drug Pricing Program and practical steps employers can take to help mitigate its impact on pharmacy spending. One of the authors of the recently released Milliman white paper, *340B Considerations for Self-Funded Employers*, will review the paper's recommendations and explain how employers can better understand—and potentially reduce—the program's financial impact on their health plans, including ensuring they receive all manufacturer rebates for which they are eligible. The presentation will be followed by an open discussion to explore the recommendations, share employer perspectives, and identify ways the Florida Alliance can support employers in implementing these strategies.

Click [HERE](#) to review the Milliman 340B Drug Program white paper.

During the remainder of the meeting, we will share updates on upcoming Florida Alliance events, initiatives, and other issues of importance. We will also ask Employer Members to vote on the nomination of Emily Stovall to fill the Board seat vacated by Mark Weinstein.

Emily Stovall joined ICUBA in 2022 as Chief Operating Officer and was promoted to Chief Financial and Operating Officer, overseeing the organization's financial, operational, compliance, and strategic functions. She will serve as Interim President and Chief Executive Officer of ICUBA upon Mark's retirement, providing leadership and ensuring continuity during a period of organizational transition. Emily holds a Bachelor of Science in Finance from the University of Florida and a Group Benefits Associate designation from The Wharton School and the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans. She has more than 25 years of experience in corporate finance and operations across the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.



Emily Stovall

One person per Employer Member organization will be asked to vote on Emily's appointment to the Board during a roll call.

Registration is not required. Join with the Webex link sent on July 2. | Resend needed? Contact Lisa at lisa@flhealthvalue.org

MEMBER BENEFIT

Mental Health & Substance Use Learning Series Webinar - Thursday, September 3, 3:00PM – 4:00PM Eastern

The Florida Alliance is launching its new Mental Health & Substance Use Learning Series with a webinar examining the critical role health benefit design plays in supporting recovery from substance use disorders. **Dr. John Dyben, Chief Clinical Officer, and Samuel Bovard, Director of Community Relations at Affiliate Member Hanley Center**, will discuss how benefit design can either support or hinder recovery and highlight key considerations related to Mental Health Parity compliance.



Samuel Bovard



Dr. John Dyben

Moderated by Florida Alliance President and CEO Karen van Caulil, this educational program will provide employers with practical insights to help evaluate behavioral health benefits and better support employees and their families.

Registration is not required. Join with the Webex link sent on July 31. | Resend needed? Contact Lisa at lisa@flhealthvalue.org

Advancing Health Policy - “Hot Topics”

We have achieved our goal of ensuring employers are a recognized and respected voice in federal health policy discussions! Every Congressional committee with jurisdiction over the health policy issues that matter most to employers is actively engaging with us and the National Alliance member coalitions and our employer members. This is a significant change from the past when employers had little to no presence in these discussions.

And this change could not have come at a better time! Several important federal policy initiatives are gaining momentum. Bipartisan legislation to reform the 340B Drug Pricing Program has been introduced in both the House and Senate, increasing the likelihood that meaningful reforms could advance. In case you want to learn more about why the program needs to be reformed, click [HERE](#) to watch **The Great 340B Debate**. National Alliance President and CEO Shawn Gremminger represented the “why we need to reform” side of the debate while a pharmacist from the hospital industry represented the “leave it as is” argument.

The Florida Alliance and other National Alliance member coalitions continue to support the **Patients Deserve Price Tags Act**, which would strengthen employer access to healthcare data and provide consumers with more actionable cost information before they receive care.

Another issue we are monitoring closely is implementation of the **No Surprises Act**. Data shows that Florida is adversely impacted by the independent dispute resolution (IDR) process due to the large concentration of out-of-network providers. These providers are prevailing in the process almost 90% of the time. Florida employers already pay more for care than any other state (345% of Medicare on average) and we have heard that the IDR awards are even higher (500% and more of Medicare).

OUR ASK

The Florida Alliance would like to hear from employer members about their experience. **Have unexpectedly high payments resulting from the federal IDR process affected your health plan costs? If so, please let us know, as employer feedback will help inform our advocacy efforts.**

Ready to share your experience with our representatives in Congress? The next employer **Congressional Hill Visits are scheduled for November 13**. These meetings provide employers with an opportunity to meet directly with congressional offices to discuss health policy issues impacting them and their plan members. Employers interested in participating are encouraged to contact Karen van Caulil for additional information.

Karen would also like to share with you the slide deck from this week's Advancing Health Policy Strategy Group meeting. She is the co-chair of this important committee. The deck provides more information on each of the policy items mentioned above. Click here to access the [slides](#).

NEW RESOURCE

New Guide Helps Employers Maximize the Value of Pharmacy-Based Services

Community pharmacists are among the most trusted and accessible healthcare professionals, yet many employers have not fully explored the role pharmacy-based services can play in improving employee health, access to care, and healthcare value. The **Health Action Alliance**, in partnership with the **National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS)**, has released a new employer resource, ***Beyond the Script: An Employer's Guide to Unlocking the Value of Pharmacy-Based Services***, to help employers better understand how pharmacists can support preventive care, chronic disease management, immunizations, health screenings, and other clinical services. The Florida Alliance is proud to have contributed to the development of this resource.



The Health Action Alliance and the NACDS have developed complementary resources to help employers put these concepts into practice, including:

- **A Carrier Conversation Guide** walks you through how to start the conversation with your carrier, broker, or health plan partner, what to discuss at each stage, and what to keep in mind as you roll out your program.
- **A Sample Scope of Services** aims to help you get started with pharmacy partnership contracting. It covers key considerations to work through before issuing a request for proposals or drafting a scope of work and provides suggested language you can adapt when building your agreement.

Together, these tools provide practical guidance for employers seeking to improve access to care, enhance employee health, and maximize the value of their healthcare investments.

Explore the resources:

- **Employer Guide:** <https://hlthact.org/pharmacy-employer-guide-dl>
- **Carrier Conversation Guide:** <https://hlthact.org/pharmacy-conversation-dl>
- **Sample Scope of Services:** <https://hlthact.org/pharmacy-scope-dl>

NEW RESOURCE

New Cancer Awareness Toolkits Available from the American Cancer Society

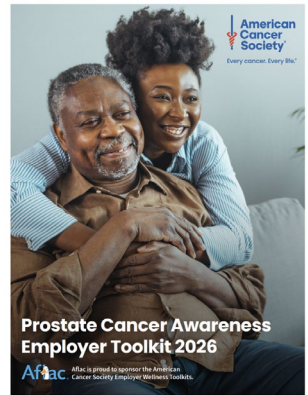
FREE RESOURCES

To help employers promote cancer prevention, early detection, and employee wellbeing.

The American Cancer Society has released new and updated toolkits that provide employers with ready-to-use educational resources to help raise awareness, encourage informed conversations, and support employees and their families.

- [2026 Colorectal Cancer Toolkit](#)
- [2026 Prostate Cancer Toolkit](#)

These resources are also available in our [Employer Guide and Insights for Oncology Management](#). Developed by the Florida Alliance for Healthcare Value, this guide provides strategic, evidence-based approaches to managing cancer care, enhancing benefit design, and supporting employees and their families through every stage of the cancer journey.



MEMBER BENEFIT

Free Registration (a \$1,450 value) to attend the PBMI Annual National Conference in September

As prescription drug costs and pharmacy benefit strategies continue to evolve, the 2026 Pharmacy Benefit Management Institute (PBMI) Annual National Conference will bring together employers, health plans, consultants, pharmacy benefit managers, and other industry leaders to discuss the issues shaping the future of pharmacy benefits. The conference will be held September 10–11 in Orlando and will feature sessions on drug pricing transparency, fiduciary oversight, obesity management, oncology, artificial intelligence, and innovative pharmacy benefit strategies.



As an exclusive Florida Alliance Employer Member benefit, complimentary registration (a \$1,450 value) is available using code **KVCA100**. To register, click [HERE](#).

PBMI will offer four accredited continuing education (CE) sessions during breakfast and lunch, allowing attendees to earn CE credits.

Florida Alliance President and CEO Karen van Caulil will moderate **340B and the Employer: Rebate Erosion, Transparency, and What Comes Next**, featuring employer, pharmacy benefit manager, consultant, and health plan perspectives on how the 340B Drug Pricing Program is affecting employer-sponsored health plans, including rebate erosion, transparency, and evolving policy considerations.

The conference offers an excellent opportunity to learn from national experts, connect with employer peers, and gain practical insights into pharmacy benefit issues affecting employer healthcare purchasing.

For questions or to let Karen know you if plan to attend, please contact her at karen@flhealthvalue.org

MEMBER BENEFIT

Florida Ranks Among the Nation's Leaders in Leapfrog Participation

The Leapfrog Group has released its 2026 safety and quality survey results for a record number of U.S. hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers (ASCs), demonstrating continued momentum toward greater transparency in health care.

Hospital results are based on voluntary participation in the 2026 Leapfrog Hospital Survey. ASC ratings combine federal CMS data, verified accreditation information, and voluntary responses to Leapfrog's ASC Survey 2.0. The launch of Leapfrog's ASC Public Reporting Program significantly expands publicly available information on patient rights and ethics, health equity, hand hygiene, and informed consent.



For employers and other healthcare purchasers, these free public reports provide valuable information to evaluate provider quality, inform benefit strategies, support value-based purchasing, and help employees make more informed decisions about where to receive care. With ASCs now performing the majority of outpatient surgeries in the United States, increased transparency provides purchasers with important insights into a setting that has historically offered limited public quality information.

THE BOTTOM LINE

Greater transparency means better information for employers evaluating healthcare quality, value, and accountability.

The Leapfrog Group also recognized the important role that regional business coalitions, including the Florida Alliance for Healthcare Value, play in encouraging provider participation and advancing accountability through public reporting.

Florida Snapshot:

- **Hospitals:** Florida ranks 4th nationally in hospital participation, with 198 hospitals reporting to the Leapfrog Hospital Survey—representing 89.2% of eligible hospitals in the state. Florida also ranks 2nd nationally in the total number of participating hospitals.
- **Ambulatory Surgery Centers:** Florida continues to lead the nation, with 21 ASCs participating in the public reporting program—representing 18.5% of all participating ASCs nationwide.

Leapfrog updates the results monthly as new information becomes available. You can search The Leapfrog Group's hospital and surgery center ratings [HERE](#).

MEMBER BENEFIT

RAND Hospital Price Transparency Round 6: Employer Participation Must Start By August

According to the RAND Hospital Price Transparency Study (Round 5), Florida was tied with Georgia as the most expensive state in the nation for employers purchasing hospital services. Based on claims data from 2020–2022, the Round 5 study found that hospital prices continue to significantly exceed Medicare rates, with costs expected to keep rising. It is time for more updated data!

RAND is now recruiting employers for Round 6. Employer participation helps strengthen the accuracy of the findings, ensures Florida is well represented, and supports efforts to improve healthcare price transparency and affordability.



How to Participate: Submit your interest through the RAND contact form to begin the Data Use Agreement (DUA) process. Click [HERE](#) to access the form. This form must be submitted before the end of August.

Participation Options:

- **Data Only (No Cost):** Contribute data for state and national reporting without receiving a customized report.

- **Data + Custom Report (Fee):** \$0.20 per covered life (minimum \$1,000; maximum \$15,000), including an employer-specific report.

Working with Your Health Plan or TPA: RAND already has master data use agreements in place with UnitedHealthcare, Aetna, Cigna, and Anthem. If you use one of these carriers, contact your account representative and copy Brian Brisco at RAND (bbrisco@rand.org) so RAND can coordinate directly with the carrier. Employers using other TPAs should request that their administrator execute a Data Use Agreement (DUA) with RAND.

OUR ASK

We strongly encourage your participation in this important effort. If you plan to participate, or are considering it, please let Karen van Caulil know at karen@flhealthvalue.org

Your involvement helps strengthen the collective employer voice and supports more informed, data-driven action on hospital pricing in Florida.

Thank you to Miami-Dade County Public Schools and Orange County Public Schools for getting their data to RAND already!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Five Employer Members renewed their membership – thank you!



MEMBER EXCLUSIVE RESOURCES

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>2026 Prevention Learning Series</u> • <u>Pulse of the Purchaser Research Institute (PPRI)</u> • <u>Mental Health Parity Compliance</u> • <u>340B Drug Pricing Program</u> • <u>Direct Contracting</u> • <u>Women's Health Employer Learning Collaborative</u> • <u>Oncology Learning Collaborative</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Diabetes – Obesity Employer Learning Collaborative</u> • <u>Mental Health/Substance Use Employer Learning Collaborative</u> • <u>Enhanced Recovery After Surgery/Delivery Collaborative</u> • <u>Expanding the Generosity of HSA-Eligible Health Plans</u> • <u>Fair Hospital Price Initiative</u> |
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Recent event materials:

[33rd Annual Conference \(May 13, 2026\)](#) | [30th Annual "Best of the Best" \(December 11, 2025\)](#) | [32nd Annual Conference \(May 1, 2025\)](#)

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