

# Action Group @ Work!

*Even with the climate of uncertainty about the future of health care in America, on one thing we can all agree: Everyone deserves to live the healthiest life possible. That's why the nonpartisan Action Group unites the public and private sectors, fostering partnerships that lead to proactive, collaborative strategies focused on a common end point: Better, more affordable health care solutions for all.*

## ■ Annual Employer Benefits Survey Guides Benefit Strategies

Do you find today's quick-poll questions fun and interesting? Many of them are from our exclusive Annual Employer Benefits Survey that digs into what is and isn't working for Minnesota employers. There are now two versions: One for general industry, and one for cities, counties and school districts. Executive summaries for both are available at [mnhealthactiongroup.org](http://mnhealthactiongroup.org).

*The Annual Employer Benefits Survey is open to members and non-members. Want to participate in the 2018 Survey? If you commit to taking it, you'll receive the full 2017 results with our thanks.*

## ■ Specialty Drug Guiding Coalition Members Unite to Improve Affordability, Access

The purpose of The Action Group's Specialty Drug Guiding Coalition is to provide multi-stakeholder input, insight and guidance to employers to ensure their success in achieving specific goals that address challenges related to the rapidly rising cost of specialty drugs. The diversity of this group ensures all perspectives are represented and specific goals are met as efficiently as possible. Action Group members may access the Specialty Pharmacy Employer Purchaser's Guides through the Member Center at [mnhealthactiongroup.org](http://mnhealthactiongroup.org).

*Employer Purchaser's Guides available to the public:*

- *Back Pain and Surgery*
- *Maternity and Infertility*
- *Total Joint Replacement*

## ■ All Payer Claims Database: A Valuable Community Asset

The Action Group is partnering with the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) to define a value proposition for employer use of the All Payer Claims Database (APCD). The APCD holds great promise for improving health care coverage, reducing costs, and ensuring the delivery of high quality health care in Minnesota.

*Action Group members from leading employers have participated in key informant interviews and focus groups, and are guiding the development of proposed reports.*

## ■ Ending the Stigma: Addressing Mental Health in the Workplace

Every one of us has been touched by mental illness. Did you know one in five American adults has a mental illness, and depression is now the leading cause of disability worldwide?

With mental health and substance abuse disorders now accounting for nearly a quarter of worldwide disability, Action Group Mental Health Learning Network members are identifying opportunities to improve access to quality care, and helping reduce the stigma that often accompanies these issues.

*"Addressing mental health in the workplace has long been a core commitment at The Action Group. Our current Mental Health Learning Network brings members together to learn how best to build healthier, happier workplaces and communities, free from stigma."*

*Carolyn Pare  
Action Group President and CEO*

## ■ Stopping Diabetes in its Tracks

With 86 million U.S. adults at high risk for developing type 2 diabetes (also called prediabetes) the tsunami of poor health and high costs will be staggering. MDH is contracting with The Action Group to engage employers and insurers to make the National Diabetes Prevention Program (NDPP) a covered benefit. How is your organization helping stop diabetes in its tracks? We can connect you with the people and programs to help people with prediabetes delay or avoid the onset of type 2 diabetes.

*Want to learn more about how you can provide the NDPP as a covered benefit? We can help! Please contact The Action Group to learn about the many affordable, practical options.*