

Minnesota Health Action Group



New KFF Survey Finds Premiums for Employer-Sponsored Health Coverage Rise Markedly

Annual family premiums for employer-sponsored health coverage reached nearly \$20,000 this year, while single coverage is now almost \$7,000, according to the new [KFF Employer Health Benefits Survey](#).

"While the news of further increases across the nation is troubling, we are facing even greater hikes here at home," says Carolyn Pare, Action Group president and CEO. "The Action Group's [2018 Employer Benefits Survey](#) revealed that Minnesota employers are experiencing trends even higher than the national average."

Action Group Survey participants say it is an invaluable resource, offering strategic and tactical plan design details, along with insight into a wide array of trends. To participate in the 2019 Survey (open to all Minnesota organizations), please contact [Deb Krause](#) (dkrause@mnhealthactiongroup.org). Those who commit to taking the 2019 Survey will receive a full copy of the 2018 results.



Click on the image above to view the 2018 KFF Employer Health Benefits Survey.



- [Summit in Minneapolis Ponders the Future of Health Care](#) (*Star Tribune*, October 9, 2018)
- [Why Aren't Employees Getting Raises? Blame Health Care Costs](#) (*Employee Benefit News*, October 9, 2018)
- [Forget the Savings. Employees Use HSAs as Spending Accounts](#) (*Employee Benefit News*, October 5, 2018)

Spots Filling Fast! Don't Miss the Chance to Help Accelerate Mental Health Care System Improvements

The Action Group's Community Dialogue, "[Accelerating Performance Improvement in Integrated Mental Health Care.](#)" will drive new, collective resolve to ignite long overdue change and bring us closer to achieving true mental health parity. This event is **free and open to the public**, but spots are filling fast!



Our expert speakers and panelists (in order of appearance) include **Liz Beckius** from Best Buy; **Nance Lee Mosquera** from the City of St. Paul; **Dr. Tim Hernandez** from Entira Family Clinics and one of his patients; **Jan Malcolm**, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Health; **Dr. Claire Neely** and **Tani Hemmila** from ICSI; **Dr. Karen Lloyd** from HealthPartners; and special advisor **Sue Abderholden**, executive director of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Minnesota. Together, they will drive meaningful dialogue to break down silos, overcome barriers, leverage successes, and collaborate for the greatest possible impact. Learn more [here](#).



When:

Tuesday, October 30, 2018, 8 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Where:

Science Museum of Minnesota (**Attendees receive free admission to the exhibits, including [Mental Health: Mind Matters](#)**)

Registration Now Open! December Member Meeting to Showcase Mental Health Innovations

At our [December 11, 2018, member meeting](#), we will review our work and accomplishments over the past year and host a **SPECIAL EDITION** Innovator's Showcase featuring companies with new products and solutions to improve mental health care access and outcomes.

The Showcase companies will help build understanding of the marketplace and jump start 2019 strategic planning.

We'll have a delicious hot breakfast to thank our members for their passion and engagement over the past year. HR and benefits professionals who are actively considering membership are welcome to attend! It's a great opportunity to network, celebrate and learn. Click [here](#) for the full meeting description.



National Alliance Announces Keynote Speaker; Hotel Discounts End Oct. 20

Dr. Christa-Marie Singleton, CDC senior medical advisor, will serve as the keynote speaker at the National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions' [Annual Forum](#) taking place November 12-14, 2018, in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Singleton provides clinical guidance regarding the strategic planning, direction, prioritization, implementation and tracking of outcomes for the CDC's [6|18 initiative: Accelerating Evidence Into Action](#).

Because The Action Group is a National Alliance member, our members may register at a rate of \$500 -- a \$350 savings! **Discounted room rates are available until October 20**. Click [here](#) to learn more or to register.



Christa-Marie Singleton, M.D., M.P.H., will present at the National Alliance 23rd Annual Forum, "Leading the Future of Innovation, Health & Value"

Save the Date for a Specialty Pharmacy Community Dialogue!

SAVE THE DATE! Members of The Action Group's Specialty Drug Guiding Coalition, comprised of over 40 members from more than 20 employers, health plans, provider organizations, PBMs, specialty pharmacies and manufacturers will host a Community Dialogue on January 16, 2019, from 8 a.m.-10:30 a.m. **This event is free and open to the public.**



In addition to innovative, adaptable work products developed by the group, the event will feature national policy experts who will provide insights and opportunities to help shape state and federal policy to improve access to and affordability of specialty drugs.



Save the DATE

Join us for a variety of events that offer HR and benefits professionals the opportunity to take advantage of professional development happenings.

Member Meetings:

Meetings begin with networking at 8 a.m., and conclude at 10 a.m. All are held at the Hilton Airport/MOA, 3800 American Boulevard East, Bloomington. Members who miss a meeting or are interested in viewing the slides may log into the Member Center from the [homepage](#) and select Member Meeting Presentations.

- **December 11, 2018:** [Year in Review; Mental Health Innovator's Showcase](#)

Public Meetings and Events:

- **October 30, 2018:** [Community Dialogue: Accelerating Performance Improvement in Integrated Mental Health Care](#)
- **November 12-14, 2018:** [National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions Annual Forum in Washington, D.C.](#) (Action Group members may attend



for \$500 -- a \$350 savings!

- **November 29, 2018:** [Accelerating Health Care Affordability: Cross-sector Leaders Collaborating to Drive Progress](#) (free event held by Action Group partners [ISCI](#), [MNCM](#) and [Stratis](#) from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Aire MSP Airport -- Mall of America)
- **January 16, 2019:** Community Dialogue: Addressing the High Cost of Specialty Drugs (To be held at the Hyatt Regency Bloomington -- details to follow!)
- **May 2, 2019:** Minnesota Health Action Group Annual Employer Leadership Summit (To be held at the Westin Edina Galleria -- details to follow!)



THOUGHT for the Week

"While a number of forces have created barriers to the American Dream in recent years, one culprit generally overlooked is our singularly expensive health care system."

***Sylvester Scheiber in Employee Benefit News
October 9, 2018***



The Minnesota Health Action Group is a coalition of public and private purchasers whose sole purpose is to represent the collective voice of those who write the checks for health care in Minnesota. Action Group members collaborate with community stakeholders to drive innovations that support high quality health care, create engaged consumers, and ensure the economic vitality of all Minnesota communities. Based in Bloomington, MN, the Minnesota Health Action Group was formed in 1988 as the Buyers Health Care Action Group. To learn more, visit www.mnhealthactiongroup.org. Follow us on LinkedIn and Twitter: @actiongroupmn