

Minnesota Health Action Group



### New Blog Highlights Summit Pathways to Exciting Possibilities

This year's Summit, [CHANGE @ THE SPEED OF LIFE: Investing in the Workforce of Tomorrow](#), will open new pathways to diversity discovery, inspiring attendees to imagine the exciting possibilities that lie ahead if we adapt to the shifting nature of the workplace with enthusiasm, speed and agility. In this new [Action Group blog](#), we examine how the Summit will bring people together to create stronger, more-inclusive workplaces.

"While all of The Action Group's Summits are designed to inspire fresh thinking, forge new business relationships, and challenge the status quo, this year's event promises to deliver even bigger returns," says Jean Hanvik, Action Group communications director. "During a time of unprecedented political disharmony, we will pause to set aside preconceived notions, opening our hearts and minds to the limitless possibilities ahead for those who are courageous and committed to investing in the workforce of tomorrow."

The Summit will be held May 2, 2019, at the Westin Edina Galleria. The member rate is \$249; non-member rate is \$399.

***This event typically sells out. Register today to secure your spot!***



**12th ANNUAL EMPLOYER LEADERSHIP SUMMIT**  
May 2, 2019, 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
Westin Edina Galleria



**The Shifting Nature of Employment**  
*Keynote Address from Rebecca Dittmer, Principal, EY*  
Rebecca Dittmer will inspire attendees to reimagine the working world and to be a part of a new wave of the changing nature of employment with enthusiasm, speed and agility. With about 30% of the U.S. workforce now part of the gig economy and non-traditional employment arrangements, organizations need to adapt to the new reality of the workforce. Dittmer will discuss the challenges and opportunities of this new reality and how organizations can adapt to the changing nature of employment by creating a culture of innovation and agility.

**The Power and Science of Storytelling: Changing Workplace Cultures and Communications**  
*Keynote Address from Lisa M. Gagnier, Director of HR, GE*  
Lisa M. Gagnier will discuss the power of storytelling in creating a culture of innovation and agility. She will share how GE has used storytelling to create a culture of innovation and agility and how organizations can use storytelling to create a culture of innovation and agility.

**When Innovation Is a Way of Life: Meet Today's Hottest Health Care Innovators**  
Meet the innovators who are leading the way in health care today. Hear from some of the industry's most innovative leaders and learn how they are using innovation to create a culture of innovation and agility.

**Thought-Provoking Panel Discussions**  
*Putting Experience to Work: Lessons from Real Life*  
This panel of experts will discuss the challenges of putting experience to work in the workplace. They will share their insights and experiences and provide practical advice for organizations looking to create a culture of innovation and agility.

**The Importance of the Employee Voice**  
This panel will discuss the importance of the employee voice in creating a culture of innovation and agility. They will share their insights and experiences and provide practical advice for organizations looking to create a culture of innovation and agility.

**An All-Star Sponsor Leap**  
This panel will discuss the importance of sponsorship in creating a culture of innovation and agility. They will share their insights and experiences and provide practical advice for organizations looking to create a culture of innovation and agility.

Click on the image above for this year's Summit Preview. Click [here](#) to view last year's photo gallery and presentations.

- Related Reading:**
- [Worker Intent to Stay Keeps Declining](#)
  - [22 Facts on the Future of Work in the Digital Economy](#)

# THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!

MINNESOTA HEALTH ACTION GROUP 2019 ANNUAL EMPLOYER LEADERSHIP SUMMIT



## DIAMOND



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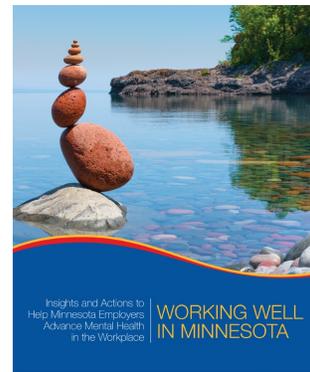


## Setting Aside Politics to Achieve Mental Health Parity in Minnesota

"Let's set aside politics, focus on good policy, and take an important step forward for all Minnesotans by passing the long-overdue [bill](#) before the Legislature to ensure that mental illness is covered by insurers the same as cancer, heart disease, diabetes and other conditions."

This is the focus of a recent *Star Tribune* [editorial by Deb Krause](#), Action Group vice president, in response to [commentary](#) by the publication's editorial board in support of the bill that will improve enforcement of a national law already on the books.

"As recently as last week, I had an employer say, 'we have parity,'" says Deb. "And, of course, I had to say, 'well, actually, we don't.' Members of The Action Group's [Mental Health Guiding Coalition](#) are working together to identify and advance creative private-sector solutions to improve mental health care and outcomes, but we also support increased transparency and accountability, which the bill would provide."



To view the Minnesota Health Action Group's mental health Employer Guide, click the image above.



- [Readers Write: Mental Health Parity a Long Time Coming in Minnesota](#) (Scroll down or click "read more" to view) *Letters to the Star Tribune by Deb Krause and Sue Abderholden, Executive Director of NAMI Minnesota and special advisor to The Action Group's Mental Health Guiding Coalition, March 22, 2019*
- [In Scathing Ruling, Judge Rips Insurer for Putting 'Bottom Line' Over Patients' Health](#) (CNN, March 6, 2019)
- [Addiction and Mental Health vs. Physical Health: Analyzing Disparities in Network](#)

## Survey Results Meeting Enables Employer Collaboration

Results from The Action Group's 2019 Annual Employer Benefits Survey are being tallied and those who participated are encouraged to attend a [Results Meeting](#) on **April 11, 2019**, from 8:30 a.m.-11 a.m., at the Hilton Airport/MOA.

"Learning from my peers about what they are doing to improve the value and affordability of health care is so helpful," says Jon Schloemer, director of compensation and benefits for Fleet Farm. "I look forward to seeing everyone at the Results Meeting to collaborate and compare notes."



View the 2018 Survey Executive Summaries [here](#).

## National Alliance 2019 Leadership Summits: Registration Now Open!



The National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions holds Summits each year that bring together employers, coalitions, healthcare experts, and other thought leaders from across the country to share insights and expertise.

Minnesota Health Action Group members are invited to take advantage of special member rates to save \$100 (additional savings are available through early bird rates, available until April 25, 2019). Learn more about Mobilizing the Power of the Employer [here](#). And don't miss out on the latest National Alliance publications: [Achieving Value in Cancer Care](#), [Achieving Value in Mental Health Support: A Deep Dive Powered by eValue8](#), and the Action Brief "[Mental Health: Accelerating Action for Parity and Peak Performance](#)."



## From the CAPITOL

### Mental Health, Prescription Drugs Top Legislative Health Care Agenda

This week the Legislature starts turning its attention toward assembling omnibus bills. These packages, including Health and Human Services (HHS), are expected to be crafted and amended over the next several days and eventually acted upon by the full House and Senate. The finance committees have until April 12, 2019, to officially act upon all of the omnibus spending bills.

Many of the pharmacy transparency bills highlighted in this space will be included in the omnibus bills. SF278, Sen. Jensen's bill to license and further



Click on the image to find additional information about the Minnesota State

regulate pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) that operate in the state, is scheduled for a hearing in the Senate Finance committee Wednesday, April 3, 2019. The latest language for that bill can be found [here](#).

HF1340/SF1229, which requires parity of mental health benefits and additional accountability from the commissioners of Commerce and Health, continues to move through the process. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in the House HHS omnibus bill, and has passed to the floor in the Senate. The bill language can be found [here](#).

End-of-session negotiations between the administration, House and Senate are framed by the respective budget targets. Gov. Walz released his revised budget last month, and last week the House and Senate announced theirs. For comparison, the governor proposed a biennial state budget of \$49.4 billion, the House \$49.8 billion, and the Senate \$47.6 billion. Both the House and Senate are looking at spending more dollars in HHS, but overarching questions about what to do with the state's expiring Provider Tax, whether to implement all or part of Gov. Walz's OneCare public option health plan proposal, and financial improprieties in the state's Medical Assistance program remain unanswered.

The Legislature will take its annual break for Easter and Passover from April 13-22, 2019, after which they will have until May 20, 2019, to complete their work.



## Save the DATE

HR and benefits professionals are encouraged to participate in Action Group meetings and events. If you are not yet a member and would like to join us at member meeting, contact [Sue Jesseman](mailto:sjesseman@mnhealthactiongroup.org) (sjesseman@mnhealthactiongroup.org) for a complimentary meeting pass.

### Save the Dates for 2019 Member Meetings:

- **June 27, August 9, September 5, December 6**

Each meeting begins with networking at 8 a.m. and concludes at 10 a.m. They are held at the Hilton Airport/MOA. Members who miss a meeting or are interested in viewing the presentations may log into the Member Center from the [homepage](#) and select Member Meeting Presentations.

### Public Meetings and Events:

- **April 11, 2019:** [Annual Employer Benefits Survey Results Meeting \(for Survey participants only\)](#)
- **May 2, 2019:** Action Group Annual Employer Leadership Summit: [CHANGE @ THE SPEED OF LIFE: Investing in the Workforce of Tomorrow](#)



- June 24-26, 2019: [National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions Annual Summits](#) (*Action Group members receive a member discount of \$100!*)



## THOUGHT for the Week

**“Current trends in business and technology show that the way employees work -- where, when, why and with whom -- will change completely over the next decade and bear little resemblance to work as we understand it today.”**

Sharon George, [Gartner](#)

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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](http://www.mnhealthactiongroup.org). Follow us on LinkedIn and Twitter: @actiongroupmn