

Minnesota Health Action Group



LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER for August 9 Member-Exclusive Meeting: *Managing Your Pharmacy Costs: Now What?*

All Action Group members are highly encouraged to attend the August 9, 2019, member meeting [Managing Your Pharmacy Costs: Now What?](#)

Not only will we hear from experts in the field who will share timely and candid insights on recent market developments and legislative activity, ***there will also be a very important special strategic update at the end of the meeting.***

[Dr. Stephen Schondelmeyer](#), international expert and trusted advisor to Action Group employers, along with [Grace Arnold](#), Deputy Commissioner of Insurance, Minnesota Department of Commerce, and [Buck Humphrey](#), a consultant with Hill Capitol Strategies, will be on hand to share their vision and expertise.

If you are concerned about the high cost of prescription drugs, this is a meeting you won't want to miss!

PLEASE NOTE: This meeting is ***exclusively for Action Group members***. If you are not yet a member and are interested in attending a future meeting, contact [Sue Jesseman](mailto:sjesseman@mnhealthactiongroup.org) (sjesseman@mnhealthactiongroup.org).



Click on the image above for a full description of the August member meeting.

Rx News:

- [HHS Announces New Action Plan to Lay Foundation for Safe Importation of Certain Prescription Drugs](#)
- [Drug Prices in 2019 are Surging, with Hikes at 5 Times Inflation](#)

[Register](#)

Meeting the Needs of Caregivers in the Workplace: September Member Meeting

Nearly 75% percent of employees reported having some type of current caregiver responsibility, according to a recent survey by PwC. And *Inc.* says ["Caregiving Is the Next Big Workplace Crisis and Hardly Anyone Is Talking About"](#)... but The Action Group is! We are dedicating our September 5, 2019, member meeting to this important topic.



Liz Beckius, Sr. Manager, HR Rewards at Best Buy, will provide an overview of the company's approach to supporting caregivers in the workplace. We will also facilitate discussion of what other Action Group members have done to address caregiver needs, including topics such as enhanced leave, culture, resources and technology, and building the business case.

Whether you are just beginning to consider providing caregiver support or are well down the road, you'll walk away with fresh insights and valuable resources. Click on the image above for the full meeting description.

This meeting is exclusively for Action Group members. If you are considering membership and would like to attend to learn more, please contact [Sue Jesseman](#) (952-896-5186) for a complimentary meeting pass! Learn more about becoming a member [here](#).

Register



- [The Caring Company: How Employers Can Help Employees Manage Their Caregiving Responsibilities--While Reducing Costs and Increasing Productivity](#) (Harvard Business School)
- [Employers Urged to Find New Ways to Address Workers' Mental Health](#) (Kaiser Health News, July 19, 2019)
- [On U.S. Workers' Wish List for 2019: Help with Caregiving, Finances](#) (Yahoo Finance, December 13, 2018)

News, Events and Resources from Friends of The Action Group

The success of The Action Group depends on collaboration with members, communities and organizations with shared goals. Following are news, events and resources of some of our strategic business partners.

- The National Committee for Quality Assurance ([NCQA](#)) just introduced *Employer Quality Connection*, a quarterly e-newsletter featuring the latest NCQA updates of relevance to employers. This newsletter is free by subscription only. Subscribe [here](#).



- [Network for Regional Healthcare Improvement](#) (NRHI), an organization that works closely with federal agencies, national foundations, and national stakeholder groups to transform health care delivery, payment and information systems, will hold its 3rd [Annual National Affordability Summit](#) in Minneapolis. It will bring together top change makers taking action and creating urgency for affordable health care, including Deb Krause, Action Group vice president.



- Long-time collaborative partner, [MN Community Measurement](#) (MNCM), will hold its Annual Seminar: *Innovating Together*, on September 12, 2019. Take advantage of [early bird discounts](#) for a short time!



- The National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions will host its [Annual Forum](#) in Washington, D.C., November 11-13. The call for speakers is underway! Contact [Maria Cornejo](#) to learn more.



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.



Action Group Member Meetings:

- **August 9, 2019:** [Managing Your Pharmacy Costs: Now What?](#)
- **September 5, 2019:** [Meeting the Needs of Caregivers in the Workplace](#)
- **December 6:** Year in Review; New Year Preview (details to follow)

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 want to view the presentations may log into the Member Center from the [homepage](#) and select Member Meeting Presentations.

Public Meetings and Events:

- **September 12, 2019:** [MN Community Measurement Annual Seminar: Innovating Together](#)
- **October 15-16, 2019:** [NRHI National Affordability Summit \(In Minneapolis\)](#)
- **November 11-13, 2019:** [National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions Annual Forum](#)



THOUGHT for the Week

"While there is so much wrong with the U.S. health care picture, employers can help make it right by using their unique sphere of influence to drive crucial change at their organizations, in their communities, across Minnesota, and throughout the country."

Carolyn Pare, Action Group President and CEO
From the blog: [What's Wrong with this Picture? Health Care System Waste and How Employers Can Take Action](#)



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