Minnesota has long been recognized for innovation and leadership in health care delivery, quality and measurement. This has been particularly evident in mental health where the Minnesota Health Action Group has been one of the leading employer coalitions in the country on this topic. Your work here demonstrates yet again, your unique leadership of the purchaser and healthcare community in Minnesota to leverage the collective knowledge of stakeholders and foster collaboration on real solutions to intractable issues.”

Michael Thompson, President and CEO, National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions

2019 Accomplishments:
Convening Guiding Coalition including 20 participating Minnesota organizations and national expert advisors*; quarterly meetings plus five Advocacy Team meetings; rollout of employer tools and resources (including supporting communications); identification of gaps and multi-stakeholder collaboration opportunities; conducting and publishing the eValue8 Mental Health Deep Dive for Minnesota Health Plans; engaging with NAMI to support successful new parity legislation in Minnesota; co-hosting Collaborative Care Code training for MN providers; and attending and presenting at various events nationwide to inform and inspire others.

2020 Priorities:
Continued multi-stakeholder collaboration to drive actions and accountability to close gaps in care (quarterly meetings and Advocacy Team meetings, as appropriate); conducting PCORI outcomes-focused research; holding three Community Dialogues; and alignment of related activities for optimal leverage, including The Action Group’s Annual Employer Benefits Survey, Annual Employer Leadership Summit, and more!

OUR WORK IS:
- **Important.** The Action Group’s 2019 Annual Employer Benefit Survey shows: “Mental health is an important part of the health management strategy over the next two years” (83% agreed), and “The mental health of our employees is directly related to the overall performance of our organization (99% agreed).
- **Organized.** Agendas are provided in advance, feedback is collected after each meeting, and summaries are provided to ensure your time is used efficiently and respectfully.
- **Collaborative.** We create a powerful “common table” where every voice matters and is heard. Guiding Coalition members have the opportunity to influence the strategy and tactics. We are better together.
- **Leveraged.** The cost of the work is shared by all participants, so your investment is magnified. Where appropriate, we leverage outside grants and funding such as the CDC grant for the Collaborative Care Code Training in Minnesota and the PCORI Award.
- **Outcomes-focused.** We don’t just “admire the problem.” We gather data, seek to understand, identify alternatives, move to action, and measure results.

*Participating Employers: Best Buy Company, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota, City of Minneapolis, City of Saint Paul, Emerson, HealthPartners, Hennepin County, League of Minnesota Cities, MN State Employee Group Insurance Program, Mortenson, United Natural Foods, University of Minnesota, University of Minnesota Physicians; Multi-stakeholder Participants: Entira Family Clinics, Fairview Health Services, MN Community Measurement, Minnesota Department of Health, Minnesota Medical Association, Minnesota Psychiatric Society; NAMI Minnesota, Stratis Health; Expert Advisors: Darcy Gruttadaro, Director, Center for Workplace Health, APA Foundation, Henry Harbin, M.D., Psychiatrist, Health Care Consultant, Michael Thompson, President and CEO, National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions
**OUR VISION**

*Everyone who needs care can seek it, without discrimination.*

*Individuals have access to high-quality, affordable, integrated, and measurement-based care, when and where they need it.*

*Providers are paid fairly, and payments incent and reward providers for high-value care.*

*So that, patients with depression and anxiety get better.*

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**OUR FOCUS AND GOAL**

**FOCUS:**
Integrated mental health care for depression and anxiety — as a stand-alone condition or as a comorbidity.

**GOAL:**
Improve the statewide rate of depression remission at six months from 8% to 50%.

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**Q&A**

Can others join the Mental Health Guiding Coalition, or is it a “closed group?”

Others are welcome to join for 2020. Please contact Deb Krause (dkrause@mnhealthactiongroup.org).

Are stakeholders being asked to provide financial support for this work in 2020? If so, how much?

Yes. The request for support is at the same level as 2019. Support varies by size and type of organization. Larger organizations provide more funding; nonprofit partners provide less funding.

Is financial support necessary, given that The Action Group received the PCORI Award?

Yes. The PCORI Award builds on the foundation of the Guiding Coalition, adding to, not replacing our core work. Your funding supports the core work in 2020.

How is the financial support used?

As a nonprofit organization, we do not seek to make a profit, only cover our expenses, and we work as efficiently as possible. The financial support covers the cost of staff and consultants for the project (project management, communication, operations, and PR) as well as direct out-of-pocket costs for meetings (space, food, printing, materials, etc.).

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**WHY INTEGRATED MENTAL HEALTH?**

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**About the Minnesota Health Action Group**

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, Minn., 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