

MBGH 44<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**BUCKLE UP!**

EMPLOYERS DRIVING

**REAL CHANGE**

THROUGH TRANSPARENCY & INNOVATION

**MAY 7-8, 2024 • CHICAGO**

It's an exciting time to be an employer, given the constantly changing legislative environment and semi-transparent landscape. It's also a challenging time, as our responsibilities under the CAA require us to mitigate risk while our role as fiduciary requires vendor partners to abide by the transparency laws set forth – yet are they doing this? How can we use our voice as health care purchasers to continue to drive needed innovation and price transparency? Join leading health benefits professionals and national experts as we discover, prepare and continue our journey on that path together.

Network with your colleagues and friends at one of the most progressive health benefits conferences in the country. You will be energized by leading employers and industry experts, who will share important up-to-date information and tools to help you meet your organizational goals.

### Key Topics

- Drive market change and policy reforms to protect employers under the CAA and their rights under ERISA
- Accelerate change by paying fair prices for services and care to key stakeholders: hospitals/providers, insurance carriers, TPAs, benefits consultants/brokers, PBMs and other intermediaries
- Enhance price transparency regulations and accountability to execute fiduciary duties
- Understand current and new legislation that will impact employers and the health benefits we provide
- Challenge the status quo and identify ways to work with vendors for more productive and transparent relationships

**On May 6th, join fellow employers for this popular and free pre-conference event\***

Health benefits professionals registered for the conference are invited to this interactive networking event.

Monday, May 6, 2024 • JW Marriott, 151 W. Adams

- 4 to 6 PM – Interactive Roundtables
- 6 to 7 PM – Networking Reception
- 7 to 8:30 PM – Dinner

\* Learn more when you register for the conference.; we will sell out so register ASAP



Midwest Business Group on Health

*"Great presentations showcasing highly innovative models, challenging the status quo in a transparent setting."*

*"Outstanding speakers, good legal updates and some controversial ideas. That kind of abrasion is good for the conference!"*

**REGISTER HERE**

# TUESDAY, MAY 7

“

*Best conference  
ever – every session  
was amazing!*

”

7:00 AM  
to 3:00 PM

**Tuneup: Health Screenings**

7:30 AM

**Registration, Breakfast & Exhibits**

8:15 AM

**Welcome & Opening**

- Pam Hannon, Retirement & Healthcare Leader, GE Healthcare & MBGH Board Chair
- Cheryl Larson, President & CEO, MBGH

8:30 AM

**Keynote: Driving the Future of Health Care & Benefits – The Critical Role of Employers**

- Ford Koles, Vice President & National Spokesperson, The Advisory Board

9:30 AM

**Fixing Washington's Faulty GPS – Employers' Focus on Transparency & Affordability**

- Moderator: Shawn Gremminger, President & CEO, National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions
- Marilyn Bartlett, Senior Policy Fellow, Center for Health Systems Costs, National Academy for State Health Policy & MBGH Board of Directors
- Adam Buckalew, Founder, alb solutions
- Margaret Faso, Executive Director, American Health Policy Institute & Senior Director, Public Policy, HR Policy Association

10:45 AM

**Pit Stop: Networking Break & Exhibits**

11:20 AM

**“Breakout” Sessions**

- Straight Talk about Obesity: Striking a Balance Between Unmet Needs & Cost
  - Justin Ryder Vice Chair of Research, Department of Surgery, Associate Professor, Lurie Children's Hospital, Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine
  - Barb Flitsch, Principal, AMP LLC
  - Carole Mendoza, Vice President of Benefits, Voya Financial & MBGH Board Treasurer
- Bringing Transparency to the Changing Landscape of Pharmacy Benefits - One Employer's Journey to Goal Alignment
  - Bob Zakrajsek, Senior Vice President, Navitus Health Solutions
  - Heather Harmon, Vice President of Human Resources & Organizational Development, University Hospitals
- The Road to Healing: Ketamine-Assisted Therapy for Treatment-Resistant Depression
  - Marcus Capone, Co-founder & CEO, TARA Mind
  - Nicole Martel, Vice President, Benefits, Well-being, & Associate Health, Bon Secours Mercy Health & MBGH Board of Directors
  - Tara Sherman, Mental Health & Well Being Strategy Leader, The Boeing Company & MBGH Board Secretary

12:10 PM

**Time to Refuel: Networking Lunch**

12:50 PM

**Roadmap: MBGH Updates**

1:10 PM

**Employer Keynote – Buckle Up Employers: You're in the Driver's Seat!**

- Carole Mendoza, Vice President of Benefits, Voya Financial & MBGH Board Treasurer

2:00 PM

**Start Your Engines: Energy Break**

- Ryan Whiteleather, Healthcare Warrior & Navigation Evangelist, Quantum Health

2:10 PM

**Eyes on the Road – Employer Insights on Accelerating Change: Employer Case Studies**

- New Roads: How Netjets is Driving Down Healthcare Costs by Implementing Innovative MSK Care
  - Jackson Sarver, Benefits Specialist, Netjets

3:00 PM

**Pit Stop: Networking Break & Exhibits**

3:30 PM

**Successfully Navigating the Route - Important Issues for Employers**

- Moderator: Jan Berger MD, MBGH Medical Director
- David Keene, Senior Director Product & Platform Engineering Lead Digital Health, Medicines & AI, Pfizer
- Brian Kehan, Director of Benefits & Well-being, Merck & Co.
- Monica Ward, Director, Health & Welfare Design & Engagement, United Airlines

“

*So many take-aways  
to share and the real stories  
are so valuable.*

”

4:20 PM

**Achieving Hospital Fair Price: The Rocky Road Ahead**

- Moderator: Cheryl Larson, President & CEO, MBGH
- Marilyn Bartlett, Senior Policy Fellow, Center for Health Systems Costs, National Academy for State Health Policy & MBGH Board of Directors
- Russell DuBose, Vice President, Human Resources, Phifer Inc. & Chair, Alabama Employer Healthcare Consortium
- Jason Duhon, Senior Manager, Total Rewards, Caterpillar Inc.
- Shawn Gremminger, President & CEO, National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions

5:00 PM  
to 6:30 PM

**Networking Reception**

**REGISTER HERE**

# WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

“

*I will be back for sure!  
I am always energized  
with 100+ new ideas!*

”

7:00 AM  
to 3:00 PM

## Tuneup: Health Screenings

8:15 AM

## Annual Member Meeting

- Cheryl Larson, President & CEO, MBGH
- Sherri Samuels-Fuest, Vice President, Total Rewards, Sargento Foods & MBGH Board Vice Chair

8:30 AM

## Welcome & Opening

- Cheryl Larson, President & CEO, MBGH
- Sherri Samuels-Fuerst, Vice President, Total Rewards, Sargento Foods & MBGH Board Vice Chair

8:45 AM

## Keynote: The Road Less Traveled – High Impact Wellness Initiatives

- Ryan Picarella, CEO, WELCOA

9:35 AM

## Eyes on the Road – Employer Insights on Accelerating Change: Employer Case Studies

- Driving Towards Engagement: A Multi-generational Approach to Building Wellness Culture
  - Emily Kral, Senior Health Strategist, Hylant
  - Jennifer Szymanski, Benefits & Operations Manager, Hylant
- Tight Cornering GLP-1s To Drive Real Change
  - Michele Proscia, Director of Benefits, Pfizer Inc.
- A Repeatable Roadmap for Overcoming Pain, Cutting Costs and Selecting the Right MSK Solution
  - Robin Loos, Benefits Lead, Wood

10:25 AM

## Pit Stop: Networking Break & Exhibits

11:00 AM

## Successfully Navigating the Route – Important Issues for Employers

- Moderator: Tom Sondergeld, Senior Advisor, McKinsey & Co. & MBGH Board Ex-Officio
- Greg Daniel, Vice President, Global Public Policy, Lilly
- Tammy Mason, HR Manager, Pinnacle Financial Partners
- Janice Trey, Vice President, Global Total Rewards, CNH Industrial

11:55 AM

## “Brakeout” Sessions

- Fertility, Perimenopause & Beyond: Essential Insights for Women’s Health Benefits 2.0
  - Janet Choi MD, Chief Medical Officer, Progyny
  - McCain Johnson, Director of Employee Benefits, Allina Health System
- Honk if You Agree: We Need Transparency for Affordable, Accessible Benefits
  - Snezana Mahon PharmD, Chief Operating Officer, Transcarent
  - Lisa Wagamon, President, Rush Health
  - Drenard Bullock, Senior Director, Global Benefits Strategy, AbbVie Inc. & MBGH Board of Directors
- Looking Under the Hood: A Strategic Approach to Improving Benefits Engagement
  - Catharine Hamrick, Vice President, Senior Consultant, Segal Benz
  - Christopher J. Rukus, Benefits Director, Honeywell
  - Steven Sfikas, Benefits Manager, Americas, Morningstar Inc.

12:45 PM

## Time to Refuel: Networking Lunch & Prizes

1:25 PM

## Meditation Break

- Dora Kamau, Meditation & Mindfulness Teacher, Headspace

1:40 PM

## Employer Keynote – The Secret Sauce: Driving Innovation and Transparency in Partner Relationships

- Russell DuBose, Vice President of Human Resources, Phifer Inc.

2:30 PM

## Buckle Up! We’re on a Wild Ride

- Moderator: Cheryl Larson, President & CEO, MBGH
- Pamela Hannon, Retirement & Healthcare Leader, GE Healthcare & MBGH Board Chair
- Carole Mendoza, Vice President of Benefits, Voya Financial & MBGH Board Treasurer
- Sherri Samuels-Fuerst, Vice President of Total Rewards, Sargento Foods & MBGH Board Vice Chair
- Tara Sherman, Mental Health & Wellbeing Strategy Leader, The Boeing Company & MBGH Board Secretary

3:15 PM

## Closing Remarks

3:30 PM

## Adjournment

“

*Take-aways from this conference  
are going to help me greatly!  
Employers have the power  
to initiate change.*

”

[REGISTER HERE](#)



# BUCKLE UP!

EMPLOYERS DRIVING

# REAL CHANGE

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## Registration Fees:

	On or Before 2/1	After 2/1
• <b>Employer Members*</b>	\$299	\$399
Additional person same company	\$200	\$300
• <b>Partner Members</b>	\$399	\$499
Additional person same company	\$300	\$400
• <b>Employer Non-Members</b>	\$599	\$699
Additional person same company	\$400	\$500
• <b>All Other Non-Members</b> (limit 2 passes per company)	\$1,499	\$1,999
Additional person same company	\$1,000	\$1,299

\*Uncertain if your company is a member?

Go to [www.mbggh.org/membership/memberlist](http://www.mbggh.org/membership/memberlist)

## Conference Venue & Hotel Accommodations:

JW Marriott Chicago  
151 W. Adams Street  
Chicago, IL 60603

[Website](http://www.mbggh.org) (information only)

Phone: 312.660.8200 (information only)

The hotel reservation link will be provided in your conference registration confirmation email. **Limited number of rooms.**

- Discounted Rate: \$359 per night (single/double, plus taxes)
- Deadline for discounted rate: April 15th, 5:00pm CT

## Anticipated HRCI Accreditation:

This program is expected to be approved for 12 recertification credit hours through the HR Certification Institute (HRCI). For more information about certification or recertification, visit [www.hrci.org](http://www.hrci.org). The use of the official seal confirms this program has met HRCI's criteria for re-certification credit pre-approval.



## Conference Registration Policies:

Registration cancellations must be requested via email. Cancellations received on or before April 1, 2024 will receive a refund minus a \$50.00 administrative fee. Registrations submitted after April 1, 2024 are nonrefundable. Substitutions are acceptable. To transfer your registration, contact Allison Larsen at [alarsen@mbgh.org](mailto:alarsen@mbgh.org). Approved refunds will be issued within 30 days. MBGH reserves the right to alter this program without prior notice.



Midwest Business Group on Health

Midwest Business Group on Health (MBGH) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit supporting employers seeking solutions to better manage the high cost of health care and the health and productivity of their covered populations. Founded in 1980, MBGH offers members leading educational programs, employer-directed research projects, purchasing opportunities and community-based activities that increase the value of health care services and the health benefits they offer to members. MBGH serves over 150 companies who provide benefits to over 4 million lives, with employer members spending more than \$15 billion on health care each year.

[www.mbggh.org](http://www.mbggh.org)

## Wellness Screenings

Don't miss this opportunity to focus on your personal health and wellbeing! Screening appointments are available on May 7 & 8 – 7AM to 3PM. Registration to the conference is required. More information to come.



# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



**Tuesday, May 7**  
*Opening Keynote*

**Ford Koles**  
Vice President &  
National Spokesperson  
Advisory Board Company



**Tuesday, May 7**  
*Employer Keynote*

**Carole Mendoza**  
Vice President, Benefits  
Voya Financial



**Wednesday, May 8**  
*Keynote Address*

**Ryan Picarella**  
Executive Director  
WELCOA



**Wednesday, May 8**  
*Employer Keynote*

**Russell DuBose**  
Vice President, Human Resources  
Phifer, Inc.

## THANKS TO OUR 44<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE SPONSORS

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### Wellness Sponsors



“MBGH truly puts together a fantastic conference! Best conference I've attended.”

“Very well run and well attended!”

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