

# Mental Health: The Other Pandemic

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February 23, 2022





# Welcome!

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Cheryl Larson  
President and CEO  
MBGH

# Catalysts for Change in Health Care & Benefits



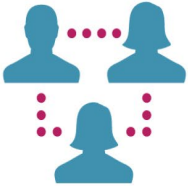
Since 1980 – One of the nation's leading and largest non-profit coalitions of HR/health benefits professionals



4M+ Lives – Represent more than 145 mid, large & jumbo self-insured public & private companies



15B+ – Annual employer member spend on health care



Community of Your Peers – A sharing and friendly environment to help you collaborate, benchmark and learn



Trusted Source – Helping benefits professionals find solutions to better manage the cost of benefits and the health of employees and families

# Upcoming 2022 Educational Events

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- **March 23:** Back to Basics: Driving Preventive Care Utilization
- **May 4-5:** 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference: Beyond the Pandemic – Employers Uniting to Accelerate Change in Health Care & Benefits
- **June 22:** Employer Forum On Pharmacy Benefits & Specialty Drugs
- **September 14:** Future of Digital Health Technologies: Innovations in Patient Care to Treat and Manage Serious Diseases

Register at [www.mbgh.org/events](http://www.mbgh.org/events)



## Keynote Speakers



Rebuilding Health Care & Benefits  
While Navigating Disruption,  
Consolidation & Cost Pressures

Ford Koles, Jr.  
Vice President & National Spokesperson  
Advisory Board



Rebuilding Trust to Drive  
Health Care Value & Improve  
Employee Engagement

Jan Berger, MD, MJ  
MBGH Medical Director & CEO  
Health Intelligence Partners

MBGH 42ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**BEYOND THE PANDEMIC**  
Employers Uniting to *Accelerate Change*  
in Health Care & Benefits

MAY 4-5, 2022 • CHICAGO



### Not an MBGH Member?

Join by March 1<sup>st</sup> and get two  
complimentary passes to this  
conference

# Today's Program

## Attending in person...

- Please silence your devices
- Ask questions!



**Wifi: Uclub**

**Password: 3127262840**

## Participating virtually...

- Use the Q&A function to ask questions of the speakers
- Use the chat function to communicate with other virtual attendees and to notify staff of any technical issues

# HR Certification Institute® (HRCI®) has pre-approved this activity

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- Activity/Program ID: 583388
- Title: Mental Health: The Other Pandemic
- Credit Hours Awarded: 5.5
- Credit Type: HR (General)

For questions, contact Allison Larsen at [alarsen@mbgh.org](mailto:alarsen@mbgh.org)



# Keeping us safe!



=



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No hugs or  
handshakes



# Thank You Sponsors!

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## FORUM

**Big Health**

 **vida**



**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEMS**

Behavioral Healthcare Programs for Business & Industry Since 1989



# Thank You Sponsors!

## EXHIBITOR

eden  
health

newtopia



## RESOURCE



Quit Genius

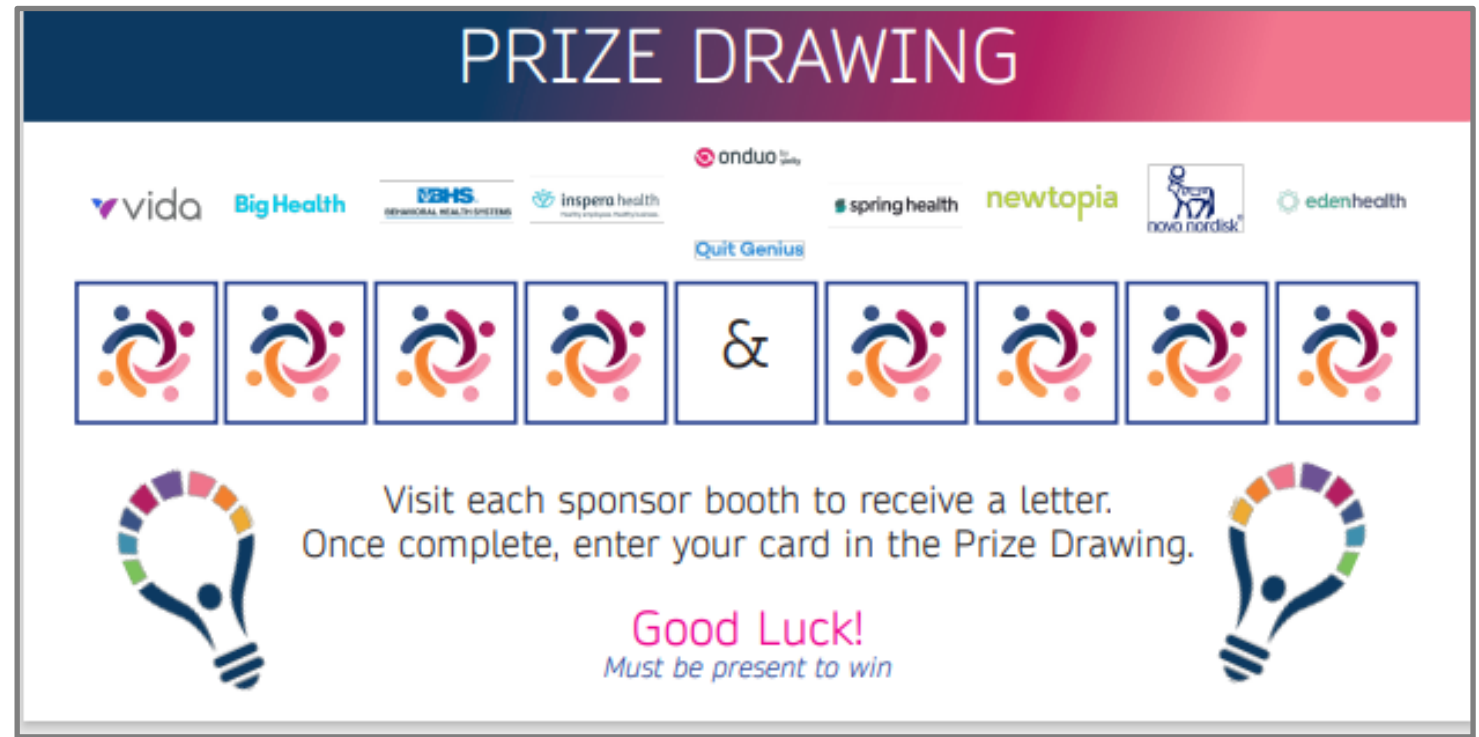
# Prize Drawing

Behavioral Health Systems	GoPro
Big Health	Yeti Coffee Mug & \$50 Donation to BEAM
Eden Health	Fitbit
Inspera	Fitbit Inspire 2 & Fitbit Aria Air Connected Scale
Newtopia	Bluetooth Smart Scale
Onduo	Fitbit Inspire 2
Spring Health	Apple AirPods
Vida Health	Apple Watch SE
MBGH	(2) One-Year Employer MBGH Membership
MBGH	(2) Complimentary Passes to Annual Conference

Prize Drawing  
will be held at  
close of program

Must be present  
to win!

Turn in your  
completed card  
by 2:30 PM



## In-Person Participants

Return prize card to the registration table at end of afternoon break.

## Virtual Participants

Use chat and Q&A functions to interact with other participants and ask questions of speakers.

Must interact least twice – once in morning and once in afternoon.

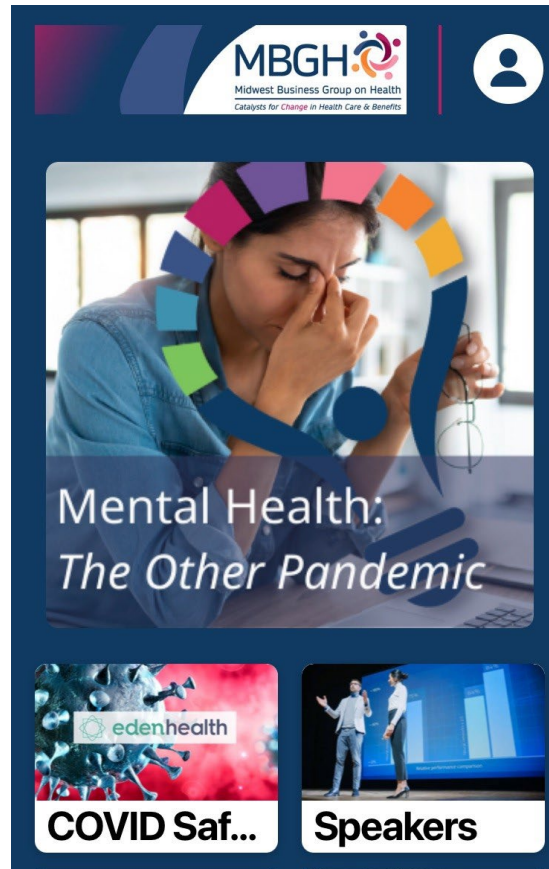
# Download our Event Mobile App!

Search “MBGH Events” in your App Store or scan a QR code below.  
Login with the email address you used to register for the event.

Android:



Apple:



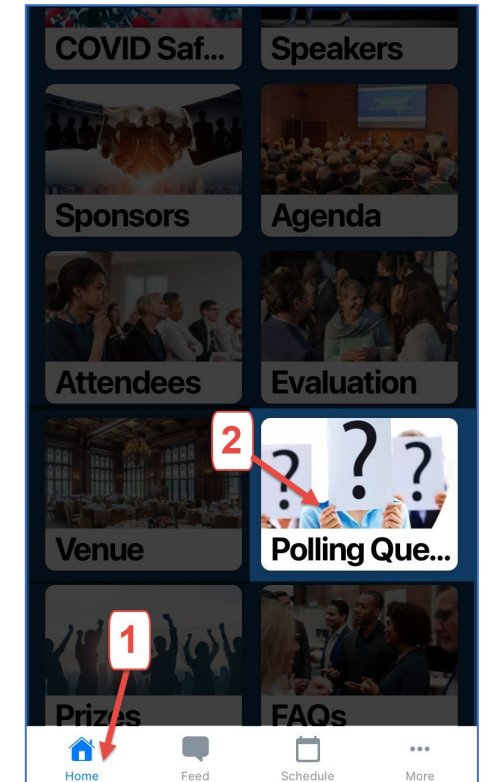
App includes:

- Agenda
- Speaker bios & presentations
- Sponsor information
- Attendee list
- Evaluation form
- Participate in audience polling questions
- Link to MBGH COVID Safety Partner



# Polling Questions

- We'll be asking for your input throughout today's event.
- All can participate – those attending in-person as well as virtually by using the MBGH Events Mobile App
- How to participate...
  1. Click on home icon at bottom of MBGH Events App
  2. Scroll down and click on the "Polling Questions" card
  3. Answer the poll, scroll down & click "send"
- First question!





What would you like to do more of  
to manage your stress?  
(choose your top 2)

- ☐ Prioritize exercise
- ☐ Choose healthy foods
- ☐ Listen to music/podcasts
- ☐ Practice deep breathing
- ☐ Set limits
- ☐ Ask for help
- ☐ Less social media
- ☐ Practice positive self talk
- ☐ Seek professional help
- ☐ Schedule more unstructured time
- ☐ More time with family/friends
- ☐ Get outside more





**What would you like to do more of to manage your stress? (Choose your top 2)**

Prioritize exercise



Practice deep breathing



Less social media



Get outside more



Choose healthy foods



# What's Your Happy Place?



Virtual  
Participants  
Share your happy  
place with other  
virtual attendees  
using the chat  
function!





# Mental Health Benefits: Employer Best Practices & Measuring Impact

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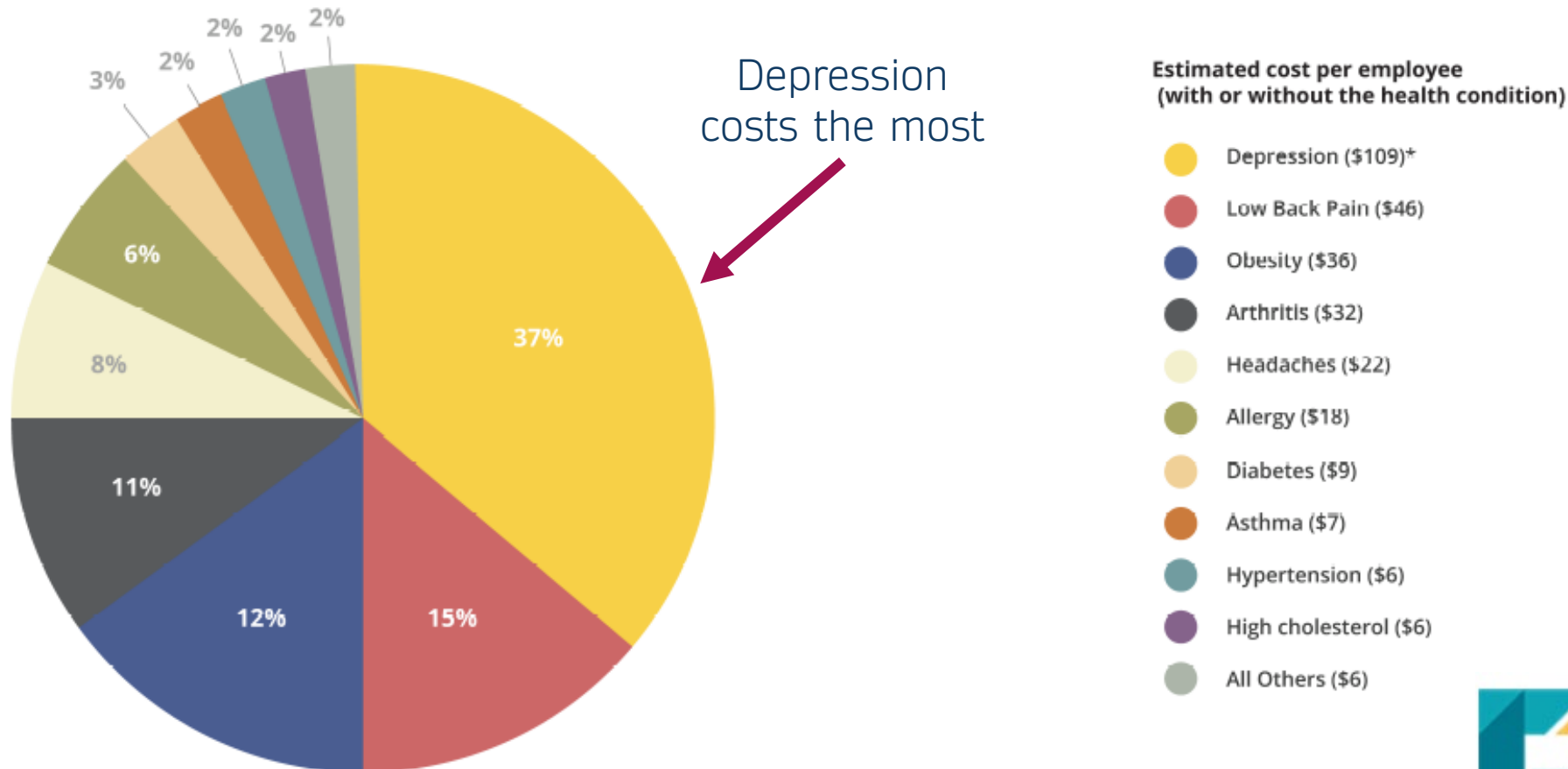
Sam Hanna, PhD, MBA

Fellow, Thought Leadership & Innovation  
Foundation

Executive in Residence, American University

Founder & CEO – Potomac Strategies LLC

# Productivity Loss Due to Presenteeism



\*Costs per employee and percentages are based on an assumed annual salary of \$50,000.

Data source: This data comes from seven different web-based health risk assessments conducted between 2003 and 2011.



# Key Themes from October

Awareness

Employee Resources

Leadership Engagement

Modeling the way

Addressing Stigma Directly

Repetition

# Whole Person Health: Three Categories

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Mental Wellness

Sleep Wellness

Nutrition

# Driving Adoption

Consistent Training

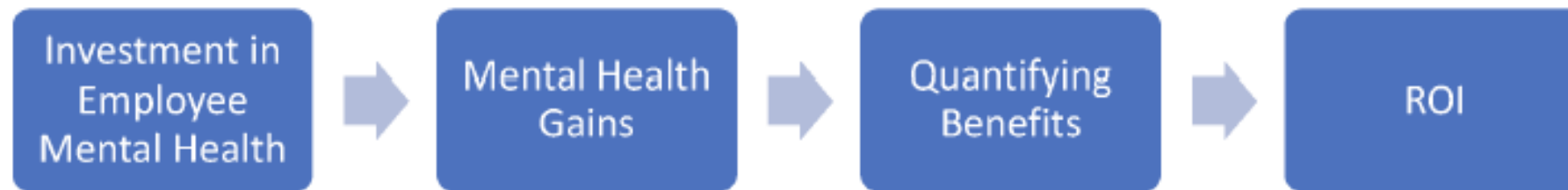
Branding

Messaging in Forums, Meetings and Newsletters

It's OK not to be OK!

Measuring Utilization

According to Johns Hopkins University, there are tremendous benefits to employer's investment in employee mental health and wellness



$$\text{ROI} = \frac{\$Benefits - \$Costs}{\$Costs}$$

# How do we Quantify Benefits?

Improvements in mental health have been shown to affect:

## 1. Soft Metrics

- Absenteeism
- Presenteeism

## 2. Health Care Expenditures

## 3. Other Metrics

- Workplace Accidents
- Retention Rates
- Talent Attraction
- Shareholder Priorities

Key is to tie metrics and ROI to approach so that benefits are realized, measured and used to drive further support and adoption.



# Measuring Impact

Agree on outcomes definitions

Agree on targets and timeframes

Establish baseline metrics

Determine frequency of ongoing measurement & reporting

Require transparent metrics

Require auditable process

Agree on how financial impact is measured

# Mental Health & Well-Being Challenges in Measurement

Clinical Services Utilization

Pharmacology Adherence

Engagement/Participation Measures

Short-term Outcomes: Change 'Initiation'

Opaque Proprietary Impact Measures (Well-being)

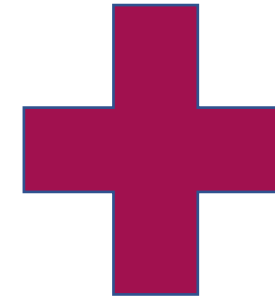
Push Based Points of Contact:

- Materials sent
- Texts/E-mails sent

# Measuring Impact

- Agree on outcomes definitions
- Agree on targets and timeframes
  - Short-term
  - Mid-term
  - Long-term
- Establish baseline metrics

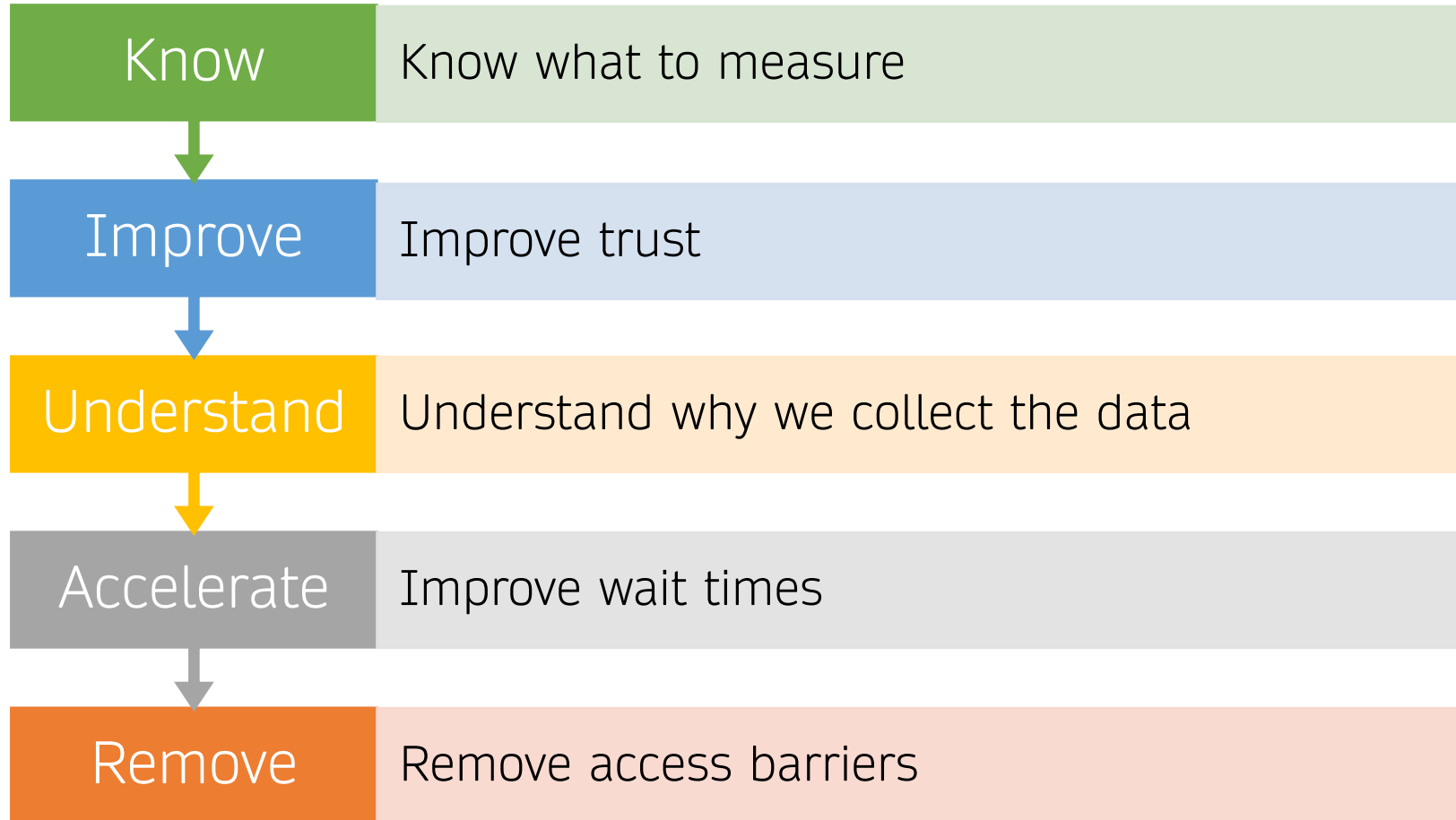
Mental Health  
Sleep Wellness  
Nutrition



Activity Level  
Social Needs (SDOH)  
Readiness for Change  
Pain Level  
Trust Level



# A Call to Action!



## Next Steps:

For us to realize the promise of improved mental health outcomes, we need to create a roadmap to success via:

A journey map and a tool to help provide guidance and proven tactics

- Accelerates rollout and adoption
- Provides best practices
- Generates engagement and goodwill
- Provides key metrics and supporting tools to drive success

An assessment tool to validate existing practices and to benchmark against best practices



# Thank you

Sam Hanna, PhD MBA

Email: [samhanna4476@gmail.com](mailto:samhanna4476@gmail.com)

Mobile: 617-794-0320









Questions?



# Big Health

[Click Here to View Video](#)



## Employer Stories from the Real World

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Mohannad Kusti, MD, MPH

Regional Medical Director

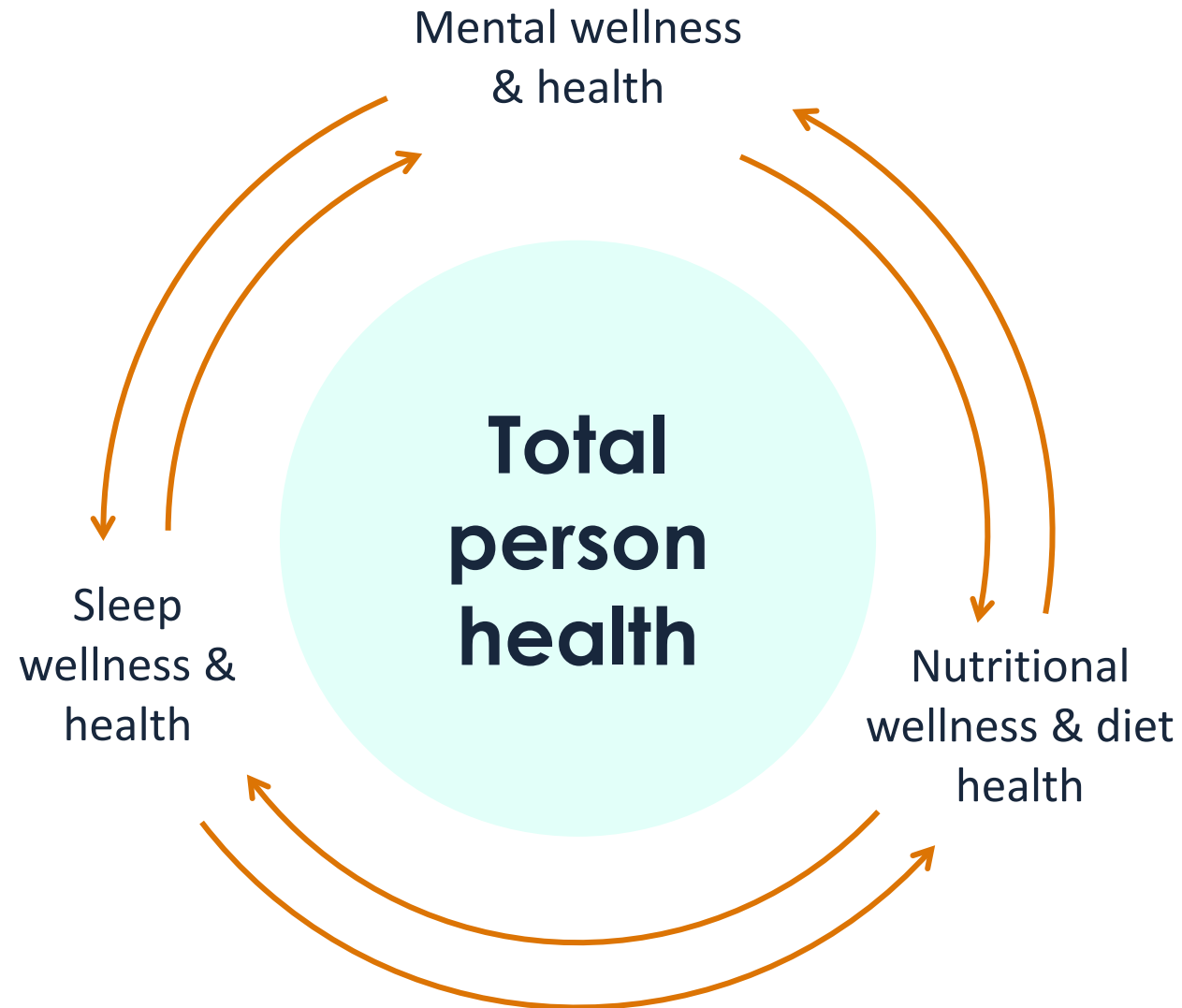
Pivot Onsite Innovations

Medical Director

Pittsburg Business Group on Health

# Total person health

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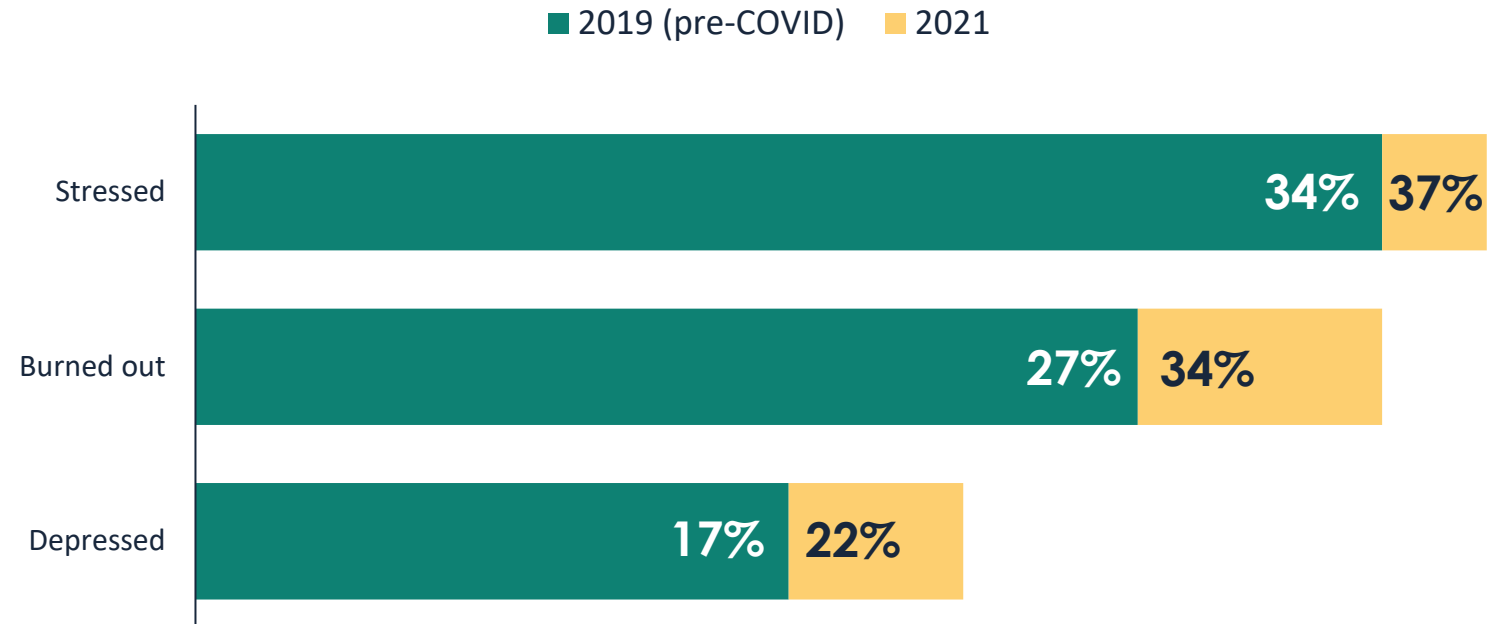


# Employee trends

Employees were asked

## How are you feeling?

more than half the time at work.



Heavier workloads, kids at home, elder care, a volatile political environment, COVID-19: stress, burnout and depression are on the rise.

## Pivot Ahead to Better Behavioral Health

Pivot Onsite Innovations offers behavioral health programs that address environmental and population needs and include an array of resources, trainings and tools to assist clients in creating a culture of care and resilience.

Through our program, employees feel like they are in a safe, welcoming environment and are empowered to care for their own emotional health and wellbeing.

### Behavioral Health Resources



#### Mental Health Resource Library

- Break the Stigma
- Stress Management
- Resilience
- Mindfulness
- Mind – Body – Safety Connections
- Common Mental Health Conditions
- Meditation & Deep Breathing
- Therapy Resources
- Overcoming Financial Stress
- Managing Workplace Conflict
- Coping Mechanisms



#### Mental Health Ambassadors

Training Pivot clinicians to handle crisis situations and behavioral interventions.



#### Care Connections

Partnering with HR to promote existing mental health resources. Connecting employees to the right resources at the right time.



**24/7** Access to trusted clinicians for emergencies.

## Pivot + Talkspace *(additional fees apply)*

Pivot Onsite Innovations has entered into a partnership with Talkspace who is a leading virtual counseling, therapy, and psychiatry service provider. The new partnership aims to offer Pivot clients increased access to virtual care for employees and their dependents. Using 24 clinical scaling methods, Talkspace helps members learn about their conditions and track progress overtime. Offering client reports that can help organizations benchmark their populations, analyze shifts, and inform internal wellness strategy development.



### Therapy

Dedicated behavior health and emotional well-being support from a licensed clinician via unlimited messaging (text, voice, video) and video equipment



### Psychiatry

Dedicated evaluation, prescription, and medication services from a licensed prescriber via video appointment only



### Self-Guided Exercises

Exercises, such as meditation and journaling, are available to use anytime, whether or not members engage with a therapist



### Relationship Tools

"Lasting" is a self-guided relationship counseling tool to improvement relationship satisfaction – featuring topical sessions, discussion guides, live workshops, and more



## Real World Examples

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- IT Tech Industry Company: Employee sending pictures of self-cutting, notifying HR that they feel depressed and want to end their life.
  - We partnered with a software tech vendor “Flairz Health” who partners with a major healthcare system psychiatry practice.
  - Created a four tier approach that includes proactive preventative screening and coaching, active management via the App using video telemedicine or algorithmic CBT, active chronic mental health disease management, and mental rehabilitation.
- Transportation/DOT regulated company: Employee having years of family issues in addition to stress at work, having undiagnosed clinical depression and now self medicating with Alcohol developing AUD.
- Employee at a major federal agency during COVID, committed suicide at work by hanging themselves.



Amanda Gebert

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Benefits Manager  
Sargento Foods

# Supporting Employee Mental Health at Sargento Foods, Inc.



- **Mandatory Manager Training (ICU and B4Stage4)**
- **Optional Education/Training for Employees**
- **Company Communication and Resources**
- **Community Resources**
- **Care Coordination and Support Line**
- **EAP On-Site Pilot – Work Life Mentor On-Site**
- **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Training**



Amy Katzoff

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Senior Director, Benefits, HRIS,  
Mobility

Huron Consulting Group








# Huron's Support for our Employees

- Living our values
- iMatters ERG circles of support
- Leadership encouragement for using Flexible PTO
- Fully remote work and flexible schedules
- Pets and kids on Zoom
- Virtual social events
- Leveraging our Six-visit EAP
- Addition of Behavioral Health Telemedicine at \$0 copay (even in HDHP while allowed by regs.)
- Twelve-week customized mindfulness and stress reduction series
- Eight-week yoga and stress reduction series
- Calm app no-cost for one year
- Expanded family supports for virtual tutors, camps, etc.
- Back up childcare expanded to include paid-family/community support



## Values

Our people are the heart and our culture is the foundation of our success. We are grounded by our values in every client and team interaction.

 <b>Collaboration</b> We commit to working with respect and transparency and recognize we are better together than apart.	 <b>Excellence</b> We strive to excel and continually exceed the expectations of our clients and our people, holding each other accountable for our actions and outcomes.	 <b>Humility</b> While confident in our abilities, we realize that our current knowledge is but a fraction of what we have yet to learn, discover and create.	 <b>Impact</b> We are passionate about making a difference and take initiative to have a lasting impact on the organizations and communities we serve.
 <b>Inclusion</b> We embrace different perspectives and draw on the strength of our diversity.	 <b>Integrity</b> We value authenticity and honesty. We do the right thing regardless of the consequences.	 <b>Intellectual Curiosity</b> As lifelong learners, we explore and encourage new ideas, and challenge the status quo.	

- Ongoing engagement surveys
- Manager touch base check-ins
- No meeting and summer Fridays
- Employee empowerment

**Next step: Add additional virtual support programs to best address our younger population**



# Wendy McLaurin

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Deputy Director of Human Resources  
City of Gary





- How we Moved the EAP Needle
- Reducing the Stigma of Mental Health
- Signs and Symptoms of Employees in Crisis
- Employees Real Life Pandemic Stories
- Advantage/Disadvantage Working from Home



Questions?





[Click Here to View Video](#)



## Break and Exhibits

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## **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEMS**

Behavioral Healthcare Programs for Business & Industry Since 1989

[Click Here to View Video](#)

How many point solution vendors and other partners are you working with to address the mental health of your workforce?

- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5
- ☐ 6
- ☐ 7
- ☐ 8+





## How many point solution vendors and other partners are you working with to address the mental health of your workforce?





## Mental Health Redesign: Cultivating a Mind/Body Connection

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Cheryl Irmiter, PhD, LCSW  
One Priority, LLC &  
Meridian Psychiatric Partners LLC

# Overview

1. Define and describe **nature and nurture** and how it supports the **integration of mind and body**, including the social determinants that enhance their relationship.
2. Compose a fundamental **understanding of the resources and approaches** that psychological experts recognize as preferred for long-term wellbeing (i.e., mind and body) from an employee's perspective.
3. Consider how employers integrate **employee benefits to nurture the mental and physical health in this diversity and inclusion era**.

Define and  
describe  
nature and  
nurture

" **Nature** *is all that a man brings with himself into the world*

**Nurture** *is every influence from without that affects him [before] after his birth.*

*Francis Galton, cousin of Charles Darwin, (1874)*

# How mind and body are integrated

*Every person has an innate motive to take care of oneself...*

*Every person has a starter supply of wanting to be cared for...*

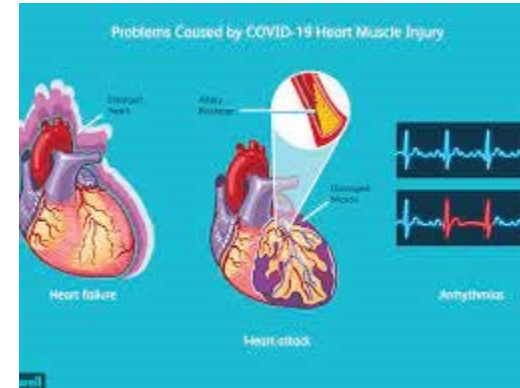


Heineman Pieper, M, and Pieper, W, 1990



Employee = (individual + family) X (biological + psychological + social)

How mind and  
body are  
integrated

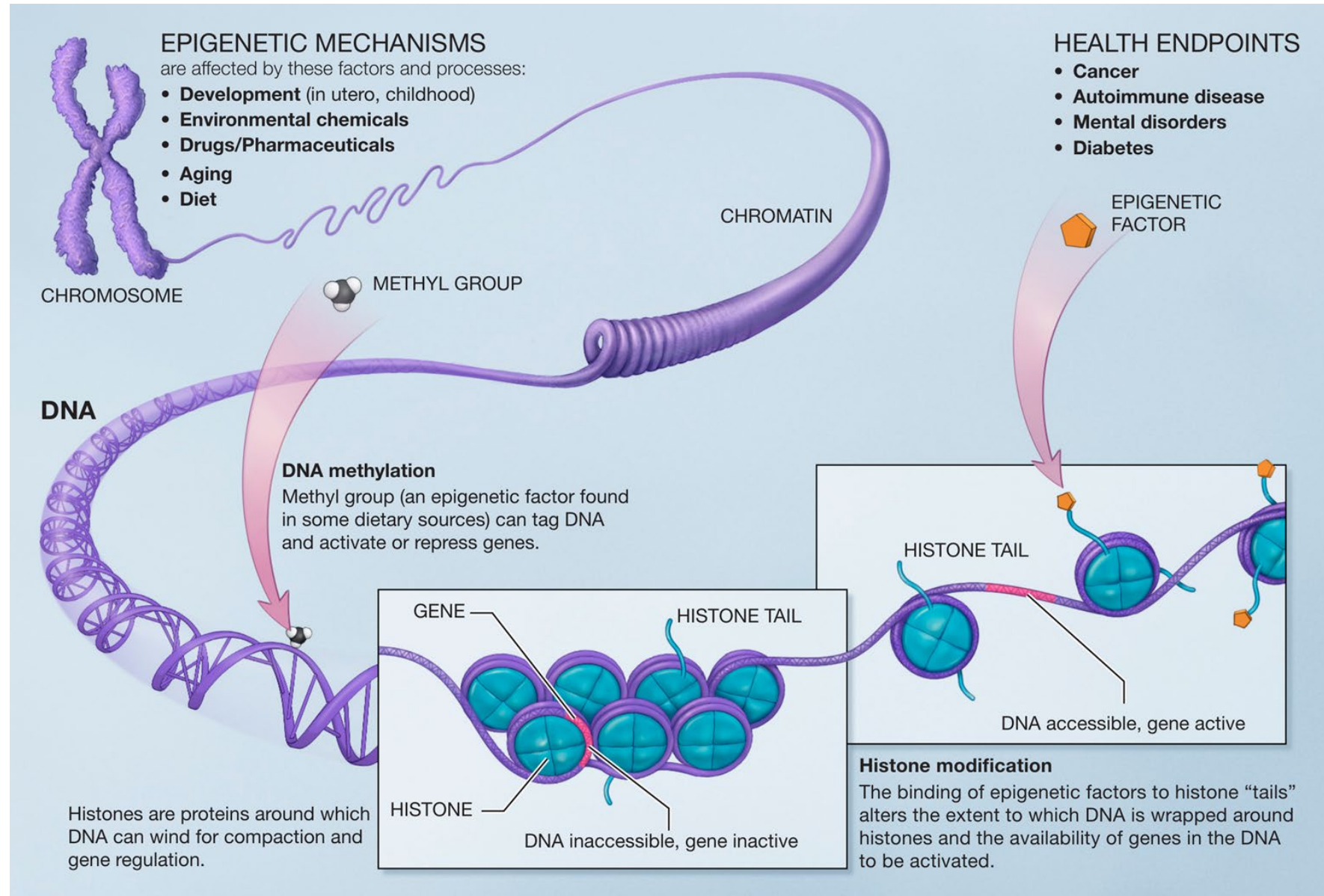




# Epigenetics

study of heritable  
phenotype changes

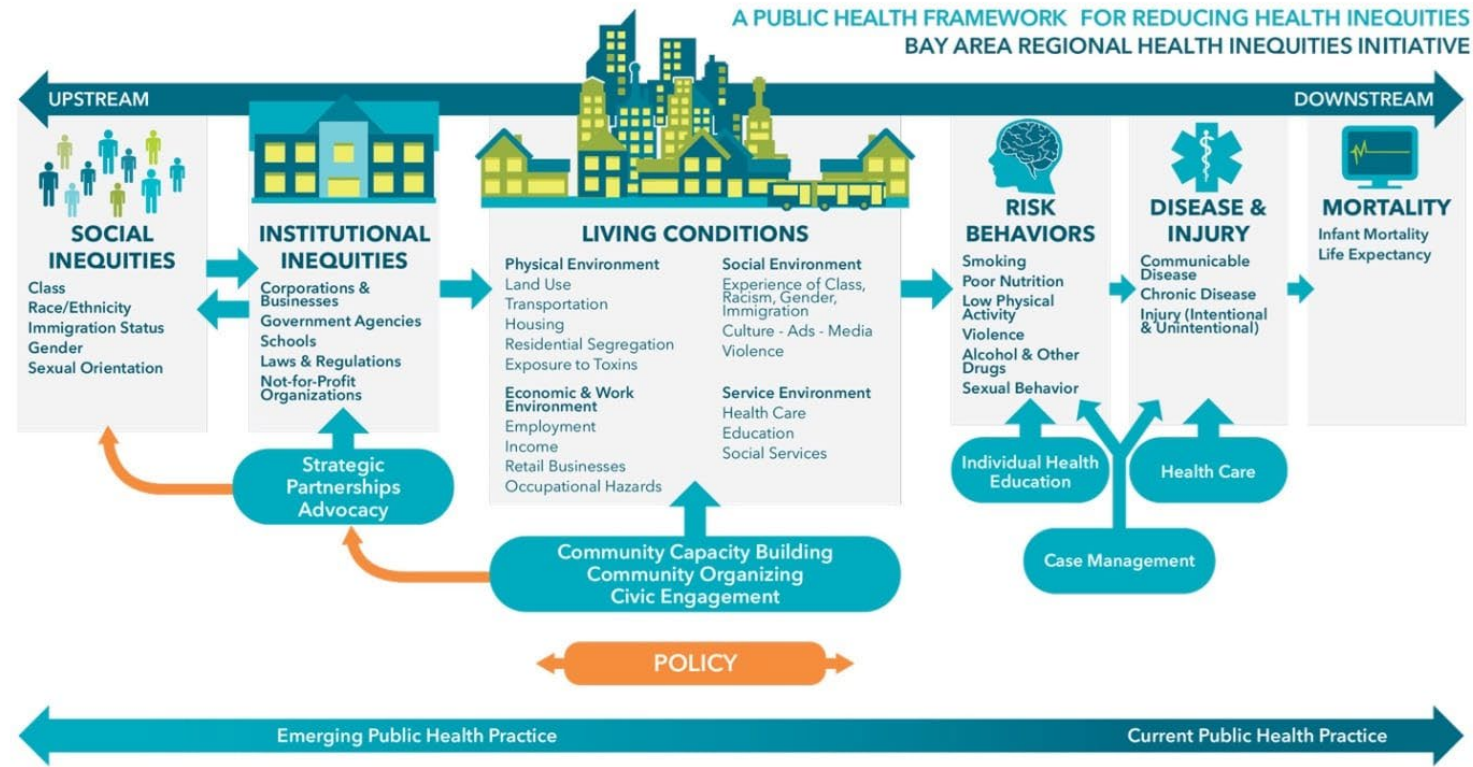
bi-directional interchange  
between heredity and the  
environment



# How nature and nurture supports the integration of mind and body



# National movement for wellbeing



Resources and approaches that psychological experts recognize as preferred wellbeing (i.e., mind and body)

## Reality of Treatment

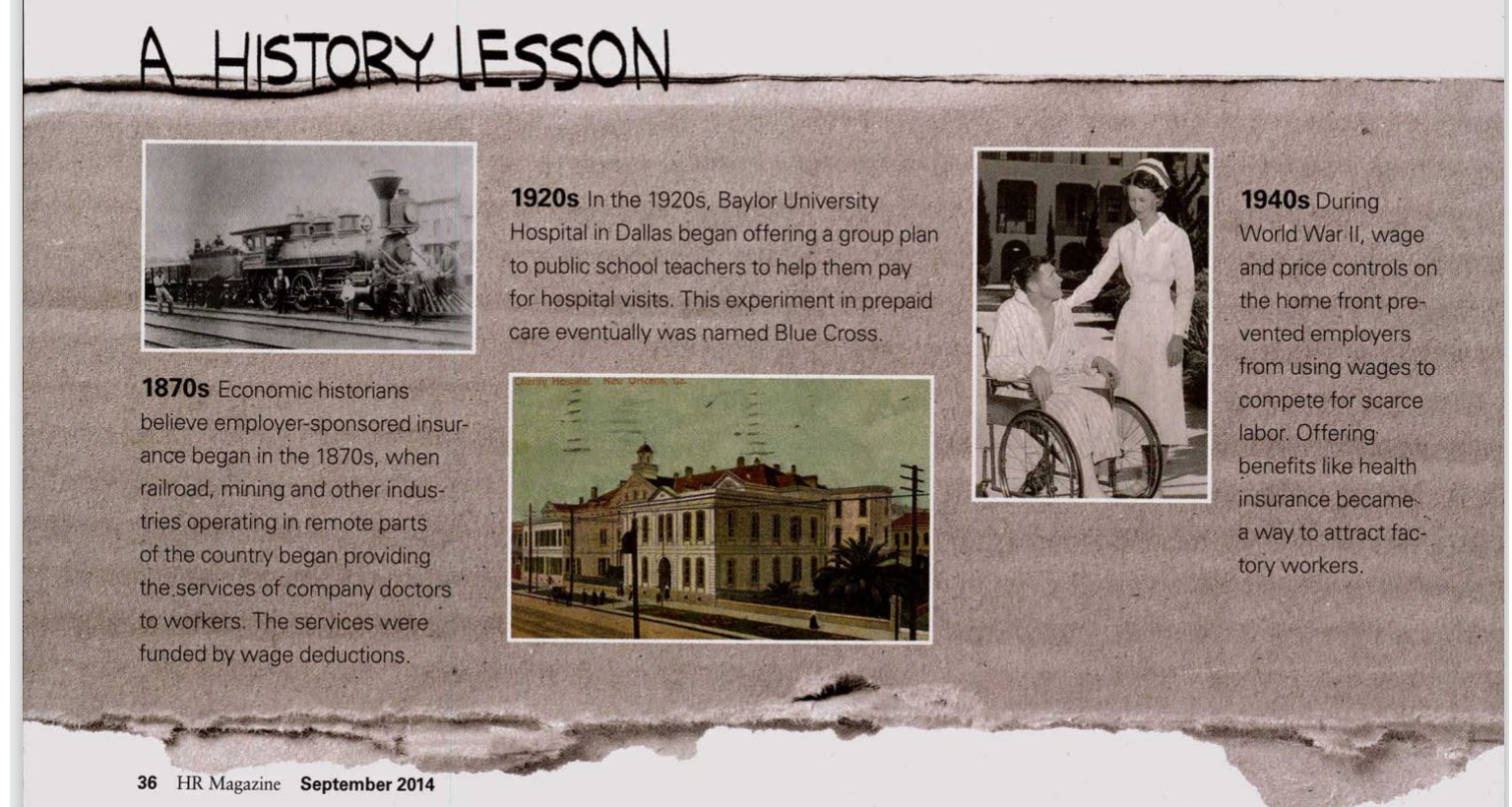
### Medical Treatment vs Psychological Treatment

- Research vs Outcomes
- Quality Improvement
- Reimbursement
- Treatment Options (medication vs therapy)
  - Depth Psychology
    - Development - biological, psychological, social (relationships)
    - Pathology - the causes and effects of the issues/symptoms
    - Treatment - theoretical principles, concepts, assumptions to address nature and nurture (**strengthen and enhance**)
  - Non-Depth Psychology
    - Pathology - the causes and effects of the issues/symptoms
    - Treatment - theoretical principles, concepts, assumptions to address nature and nurture (**meta cognition**)
- Disease Model vs Wellbeing Model

Palombo, J., (1996)



Employee  
benefits  
nurture the  
mental and  
physical health  
in this diversity  
and inclusion  
era.



Wells, S.  
(2014)

**1870** History of Employers Driving Employee Benefits to Nurture  
Individuals + Families

**1990-2020** (Pre-Covid) Insurers Driving Employee Benefits

- ACA was driven by 5/6 bankruptcies due to chronic health conditions (policy-insurers)
- Disease Model –Cardiac/Obesity/Maternal (failed health care system)

Employee  
benefits **nurture**  
the mental and  
physical health  
in **this diversity**  
**and inclusion**  
**era.**

(2021)

## Covid and Post-Covid

All individuals baseline is wellbeing

- Mental
- Physical
- Social

All demand equity, inclusion, and diversity

All will benefit from financial wellbeing  
(Employers/Insurance)

*Employers Nurture Employee Wellness/Diversity/Inclusion*



# Audacious Goal - Flip the Model

## Problem

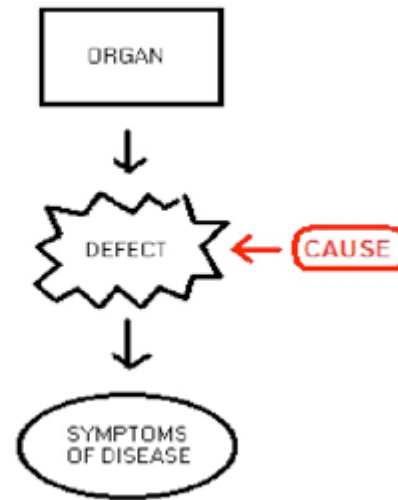
- Individual and Family Members
  - Lives are shortened on average 1 year (2 for people of color)
  - Chronic diseases are on the rise due to delayed care and COVID's long-term impact
  - Social and Psychological are part of health care
- Costs
  - Individuals—co-pays/deductibles too costly
  - Insurers use yearly claims which is incommensurate with recovery/prevention
  - Employers' yearly savings require long-term vision and costs for yearly returns
  - Data can save money

## Opportunity/Solution

- Employers
  - Nurture the nature of your employees by including mental health
  - Integrate data from all sources/vendors
  - Flip the disease model to a wellness model

Which would  
you prefer?

**The  
Disease  
Model**  
(a CAUSAL model)

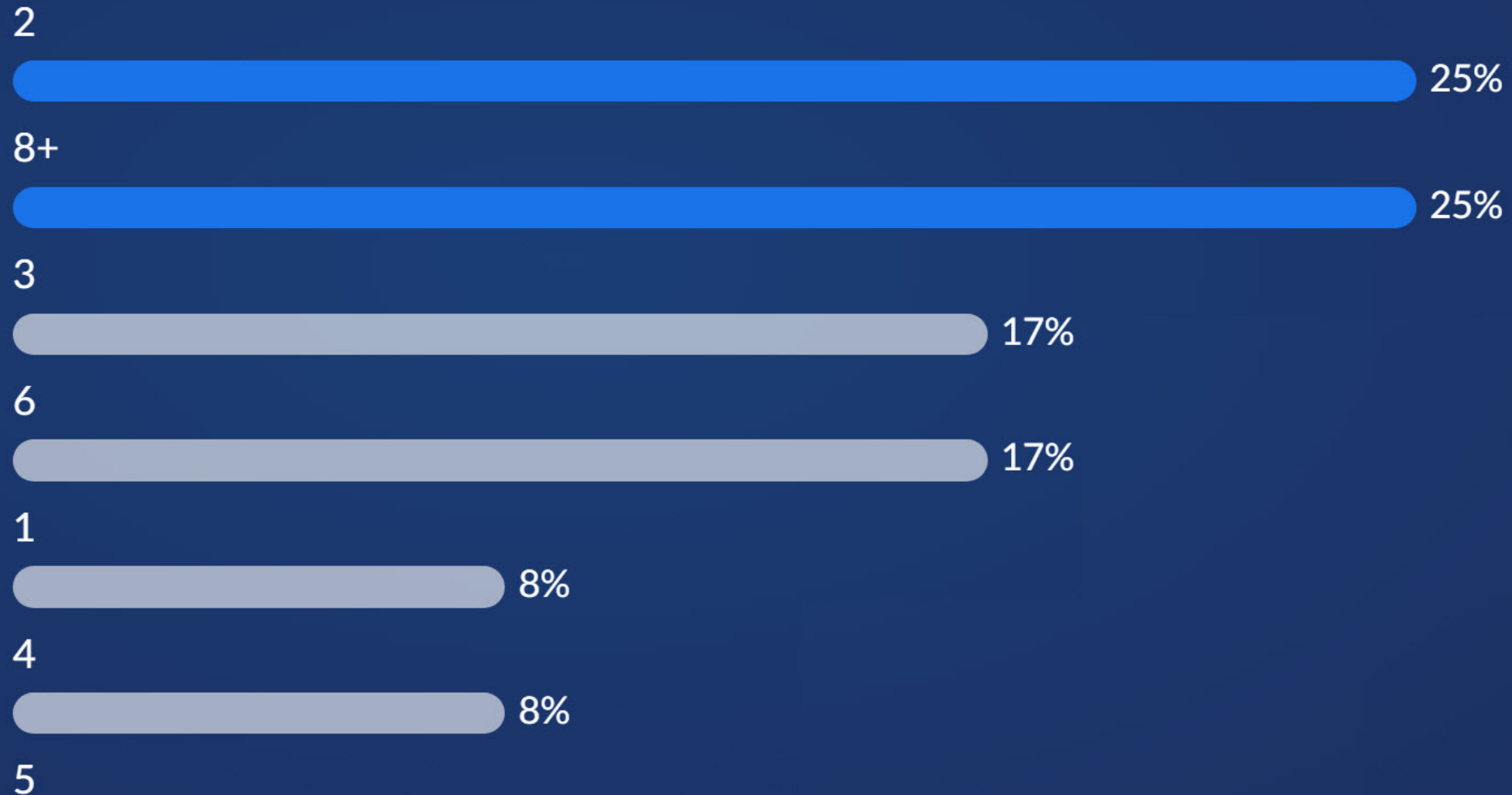


How many point solution vendors and other partners are you working with to address the mental health of your workforce?

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- ☐ 8+



## How many point solution vendors and other partners are you working with to address the mental health of your workforce?



Thank You!!!

Cheryl Irmiter, PhD, LCSW

[Cherylirmiter@gmail.com](mailto:Cherylirmiter@gmail.com)

773.677.6410

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Questions?





**inspera health**

Healthy employees. Healthy business.

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## MBGH Update

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Cheryl Larson

President and CEO

MBGH

## 2021 in Review

- Over 20 educational programs
- 6 action briefs
- 3 toolkits
- 4 benchmarking surveys
- 16 employer-directed research projects
- 20 new members
- All new branding strategy and updated website

## Employer Members Benefits

- Monthly programs
- Employer only roundtables
- Advisory board meetings
- Employer benchmarking surveys
- Free Membership in WELCOA
- All materials archived at [www.mbgh.org](http://www.mbgh.org)
- Online platform to network with peers, share best practices, benchmark with others





## EMPLOYER ACTION BRIEF



Midwest Business Group on Health

### Chronic Low Back Pain

#### Why is Chronic Low Back Pain (CLBP) Important to Employers?

Treatments for CLBP are one of the fastest growing and evolving sectors of health care today. The race to support people with this debilitating condition is driven not only by advancements in science and the deeper understanding of human physiology, but also the pursuit to curb, if not eliminate, the use of opioids, where CLBP is the leading cause of their use.

However, many carriers and/or TPAs have been slow to adopt, approve and cover newer treatments for CLBP with some opting to only reimburse for traditional treatments such as lumbar spine fusion surgery (one of the most expensive treatments available today).

Health care professionals are working diligently to keep up with evolving technologies, new techniques and related literature that support their adoption.

*"It goes back to if we don't know how to really treat CLBP, we're not getting at a resolution - we're just putting band aid approaches in place to help relieve some pain."*

### Use of Opioids for CLBP

CLBP is one of the most common reasons patients are treated with opioids. There is growing evidence they are not superior to non-opioid treatment strategies for low back pain. Approximately 20% of individuals receiving long-term opioid therapy develop an opioid use disorder. Given the

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### A Rare Disease Snapshot: Hemophilia

Hemophilia is a bleeding disorder that affects over 30,000 people in the US. There are two types of Hemophilia, A and B. Hemophilia A affects about 20,000 people in the US. People with hemophilia are lacking one or more



## EMPLOYER ACTION BRIEF



Midwest Business Group on Health

### Hemophilia & Bleeding Disorders: Engaging Vendor Partners in Solutions that Effectively Support Patients & Manage Costs

#### Understanding Rare Diseases

A rare disease is a condition that affects fewer than 200,000 people at any given time. An estimated 25-30 million people in the US are affected by one of the more than 6,800 rare diseases identified today.

The high price tag these drugs often carry can be a significant burden for both the patient and employer. More employers are showing increased levels of concern over providing coverage for orphan drugs and other costly therapies in the pipeline, including gene therapies. With few having strategies in place to impact the rising costs of treatment, scrutiny is expected to intensify.

[Read more](#) about rare diseases from the National Human Genome Research Institute.

#### A Rare Disease Snapshot: Hemophilia

Hemophilia is a bleeding disorder that affects over 30,000 people in the US. There are two types of Hemophilia, A and B. Hemophilia A affects about 20,000 people in the US. People with hemophilia are lacking one or more

important proteins called clotting factors. Without these proteins, blood cannot clot normally so excess bleeding can occur after an injury or surgery; internal bleeding may damage organs and tissues and even be life-threatening. [Read more](#) about hemophilia from the CDC.

Currently there is no cure for hemophilia, but very effective treatments are available including prophylactic medications to prevent bleeds and on-demand medications for acute care of bleeds when they occur. Generally, the goal of treatment is to decrease the frequency and severity of bleeding episodes and prevent complications related to bleeding.


#### EMPLOYERS:

If you have a CLBP problem, you most likely have a productivity problem!

This Action Brief provides an overview of the various approaches and available treatments for CLBP along with recommended action steps an employer should consider to ensure members have access to the most effective treatments available today.

[Read more about CLBP](#)

## EMPLOYER ACTION BRIEF



Midwest Business Group on Health

### Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease

Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) is the **most prevalent liver disease in human history** with estimates indicating it affects almost two billion people globally. It is expected to grow in the coming decades, compromising individual health, burdening health care systems, and causing substantial economic and well-being losses.

#### EMPLOYERS:

If you have a diabetes problem, you most likely have a NAFLD problem!

This Action Brief includes recommendations on ways purchasers can combat this silent epidemic.

**Direct medical costs of NAFLD in the U.S. are estimated at \$103 billion annually.** Because of the close correlation with diabetes and pre-diabetes, employer costs related to NAFLD are expected to increase proportionately with the growing diabetes epidemic.

**The Silent Epidemic: Why Employers Should Care**

Liver disease is a silent epidemic that comorbidities are more likely

#### At-a-Glance

Up of fat in the liver that lead to inflammation and cirrhosis in severe cases can lead to cirrhosis and liver cancer.


Early stages, there are no symptoms, pain or discomfort.

A common cause of chronic disease in the U.S., estimated 100 million Americans are affected.

Affects large portion of U.S. population and growing with obesity and diabetes epidemics.

Many risk factors include being over the age of 50 and/or

## EMPLOYER ACTION BRIEF



Midwest Business Group on Health

### State Legislative Impact on the Cost of Insulin

The average list price of insulin has skyrocketed in recent years, nearly tripling between 2002 and 2013 and doubling between 2012 and 2016, making this essential medicine unaffordable for many. This can greatly impact the health and well-being for persons with type 2 diabetes, and those with type 1 diabetes requiring insulin, causing significant anxiety and distress. A study published in *JAMA Internal Medicine* has found the practice of insulin rationing, taking smaller doses or skipping a dose altogether, is more common than the health care system wants to admit.

Across the country, state legislatures reacted by setting maximums on monthly insulin copays, looking to resolve the affordability issue facing many who require insulin every day. Expecting signs of relief and gratitude, confusion reigned with consumers expecting lower costs at the pharmacy. What these consumers learned, is the law did not apply to everyone, including those without any insurance. In addition, employer-offered self-insured plans are not subject to state legislation. States regulate fully insured insurance plans as well as Medicaid.

#### Insulin Copay Cap Laws

These states have passed an insulin copay cap law, per the American Diabetes Association (ADA), as of March 22, 2021. Employers offering coverage in more than one state may find this information of value. A "collective cap" refers to the total costs a patient would pay per month (not per insulin product per month). Collective caps enable patients who take multiple insulins to pay no more than the stated cap for a 30-day supply.

- Colorado (\$100 cap for 30-day supply)
- Connecticut (\$25 cap for 30-day supply of insulin or other diabetes medications, \$100 cap for 30-days' worth of devices and supplies)
- Delaware (\$100 collective cap for 30-day supply)
- District of Columbia (\$30 cap for 30-day and "collective" family cap of \$100)
- Illinois (\$100 collective cap for 30-day supply)
- Kentucky (\$30 copay, no matter the quantity or insulin type)
- Maine (\$35 cap for 30-day supply)
- Minnesota (\$35 cap for 1x per year emergency 30-day supply; \$50 cap for 90-day supply)
- New Hampshire (\$30 cap for 30-day supply)
- New Mexico (\$25 cap for 30-day supply)
- New York (\$100 cap for 30-day supply)
- Utah (\$30 cap for 30-day supply)
- Vermont (\$100 collective cap for 30-day supply)
- Virginia (\$50 cap for 30-day supply)
- Washington (\$100 cap for 30-day supply)
- West Virginia (\$100 collective cap for 30-day supply)

The ADA has compiled information for all states with an insulin copay cap including, the specifics of individual state laws, copay cap amounts, enactment dates and the scope of those impacted by the law. Contact your state agency for more information and clarification by emailing [askADA@diabetes.org](mailto:askADA@diabetes.org) or calling 800-DIABETES.

## EMPLOYER ACTION BRIEF



Midwest Business Group on Health

### Tackling Obesity in the Workplace: Understanding the Challenges and Opportunities

Common thinking suggests obesity is a lifestyle choice involving a lack of will power and poor discipline. This is not true. **Obesity is recognized by the CDC, the AMA and the FDA as a multi-faceted chronic disease requiring long-term management.** It is a complex condition with genetic, physiological, psychological and environmental factors. The most prevalent chronic condition in the United States today.

Second only to cigarette smoking, obesity is the leading cause of preventable death in the U.S. rarely occurs independent of chronic conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease and stroke. It also a strong correlation between obesity and poor mental health outcomes and diminished quality of life.

#### Majority of Americans are Overweight or Have Obesity

Percentage of American Adults with BMI ≥ 30 (Percentage of Americans Who Have Obesity)<sup>1</sup>

Percentage of Americans Over Age 20 Who Are Overweight or Have Obesity<sup>2</sup>

13.4% 22.9% 36.4% 73.6%

### Supporting Your Weight Loss Journey

It is common thinking that to effectively manage your weight all you need to do is eat less and exercise more.

The truth is, being overweight or having obesity isn't just about lifestyle choices, discipline or willpower. Leading research has proven that it is a complex chronic disease like diabetes and heart disease. On average, people living with excess weight make up to seven serious attempts to lose weight in their lifetime.

#### The GOOD News

Weight loss as little as 5% of a person's total body weight can have a clinically meaningful impact on many obesity-related comorbidity complications, leading to better health care cost savings and improved health.

© Copyright MBGH 2022

#### Losing weight is hard. The question is, why?

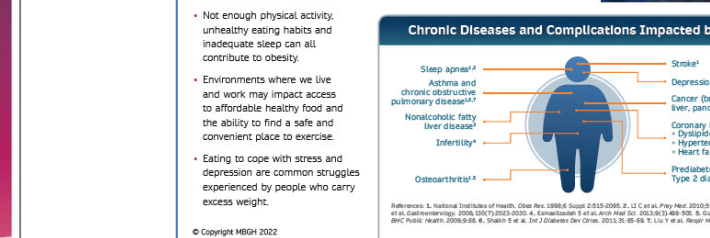
Many complicated factors influence the choices we make every day and can make changing behaviors and losing weight challenging. For example:

- Hormones, appetite signals and metabolic responses impact how much we eat and why we eat.
- Genetics can play a role in how much weight is gained and cause us to respond differently to elements in our environment.
- Not enough physical activity, unhealthy eating habits and inadequate sleep can all contribute to obesity.
- Environments where we live and work may impact access to affordable healthy food and the ability to find a safe and convenient place to exercise.
- Eating to cope with stress and depression are common struggles experienced by people who carry excess weight.

#### Weight Management: The Tug-of-War

Even after losing weight, many struggle to keep the pounds off. The challenge is the body typically reacts to weight loss by trying to regain the weight, making maintaining weight loss like a tug-of-war. Here's why:

- When weight is lost, your metabolism tends to slow down.
- Appetite hormones increase and encourage more calories to be consumed.
- The "I feel full" hormones decrease.





# 2021 Employer Toolkits



## Obesity

Obesity is an epidemic, impacting more than 4 out of 10 American adults nationwide, and is the most prevalent chronic condition in the U.S. As a metabolic disease with genetic, environmental and psychological factors, it is associated with poorer mental health outcomes and reduced quality of life. The economic burden for employers is significant and this toolkit offers tools and resources to help address this costly, multi-faceted chronic disease.



## Fertility

The World Health Organization and the American Medical Association recognize infertility as a disease that impacts one in eight Americans. Many employers are now moving toward a more comprehensive fertility and family building benefit that supports an increasingly diverse employee population and offers a more holistic approach. In fact, a recent Willis Towers Watson survey showed that 63% of employers are expected to cover fertility services beyond the diagnosis of infertility by 2022.



## Hemophilia

By taking a closer look at specialty drug spend related to bleeding disorders, employers may uncover significant cost savings. The Pharmacy Benefit Management Institute (PBMI) recognized this toolkit with an Excellence Award and applauded MBGH for our efforts to provide employers with education, awareness and turn-key resources to help manage the high cost of hemophilia and improve the lives of those impacted by this rare but serious disease.

## Other Toolkit Topics Include:

- Addressing Pain Management & Opioid Use/Abuse
- Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease
- Diabetes Management in the Workplace
- Eye Care Benefits
- Managing Specialty Drugs
- Migraine Management
- Osteoarthritis Management



# Business Partnerships

*Providing value-added resources for members*



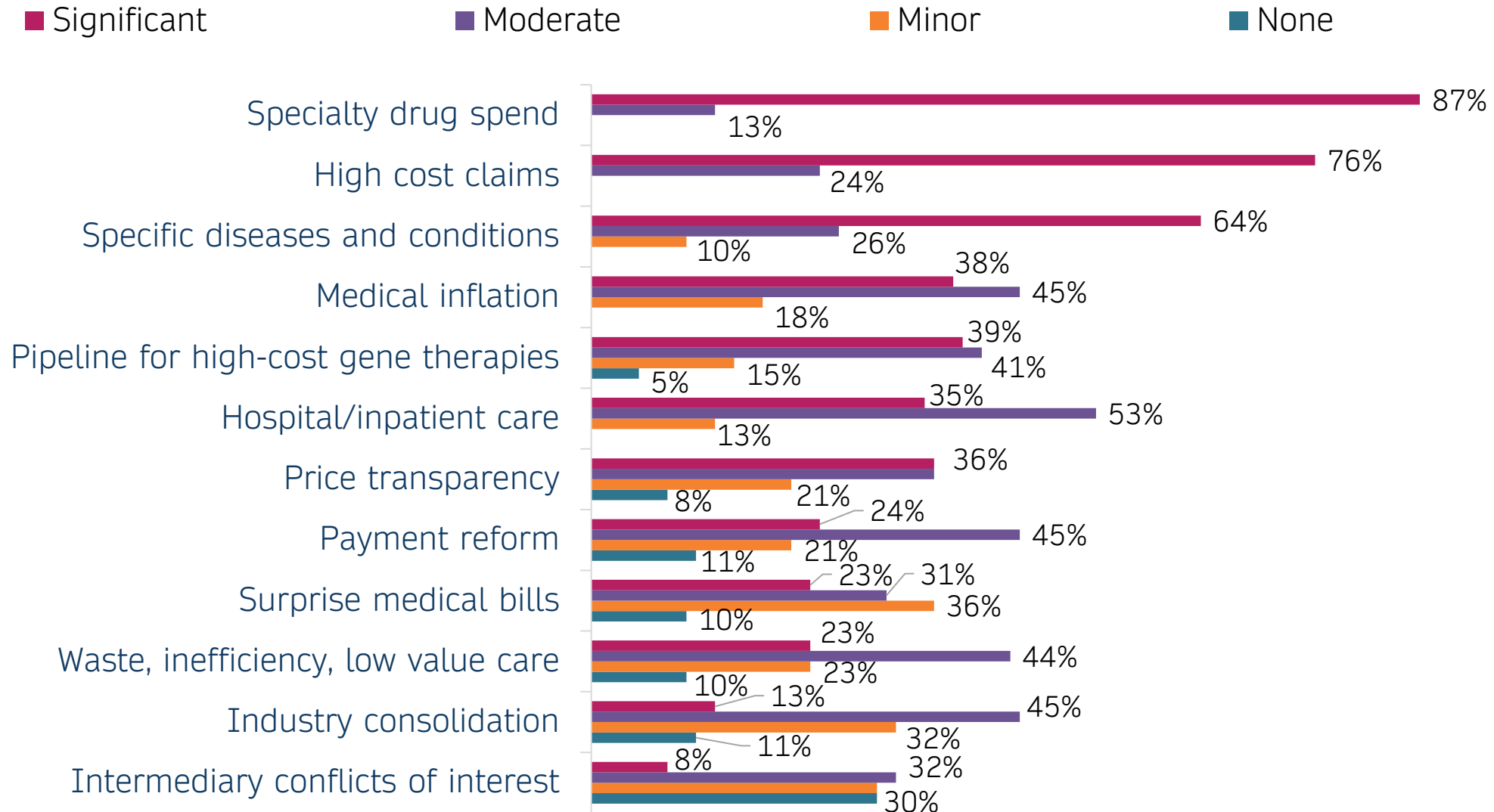


# MBGH Annual Employer Health Benefit Directions Survey 2021-2022

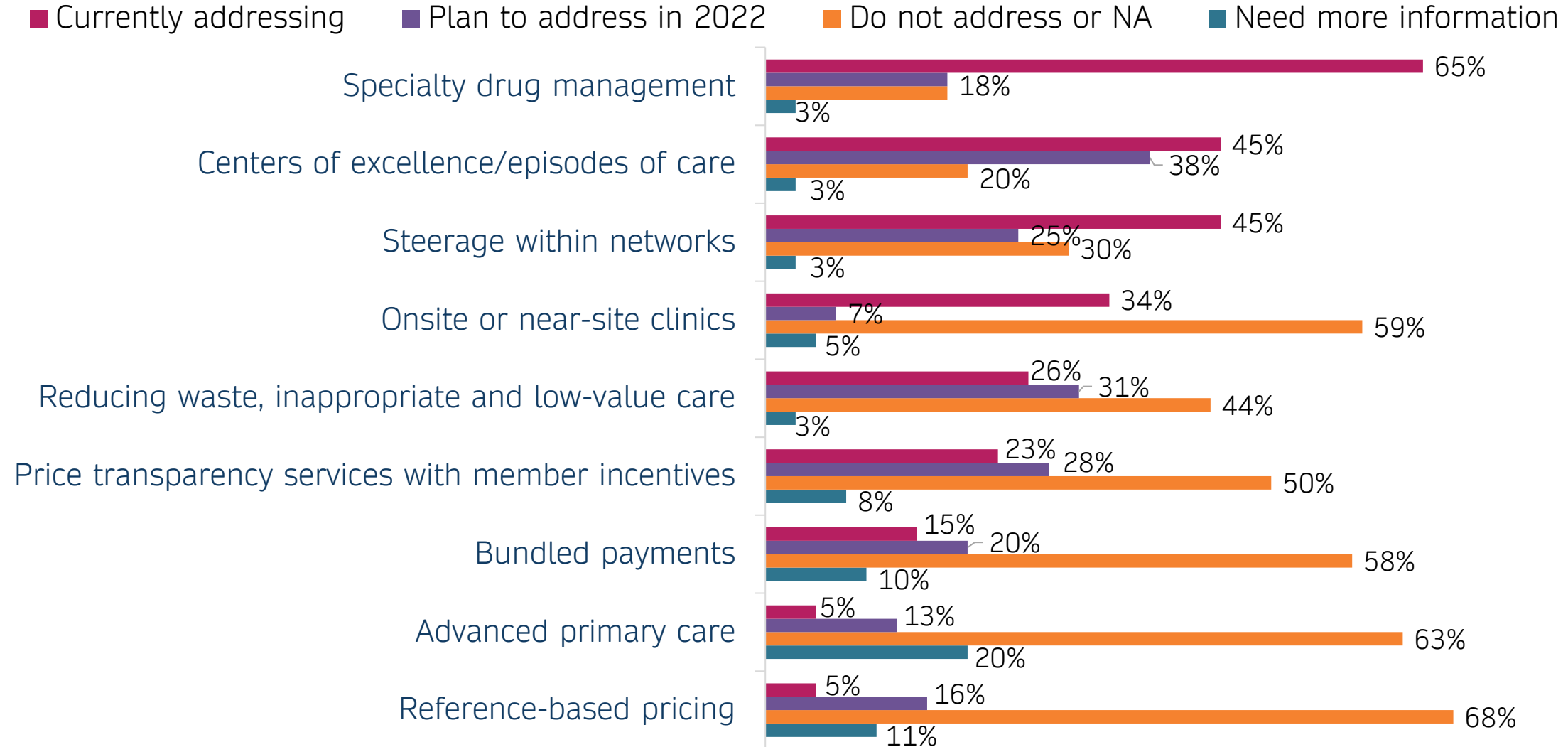
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November 2021

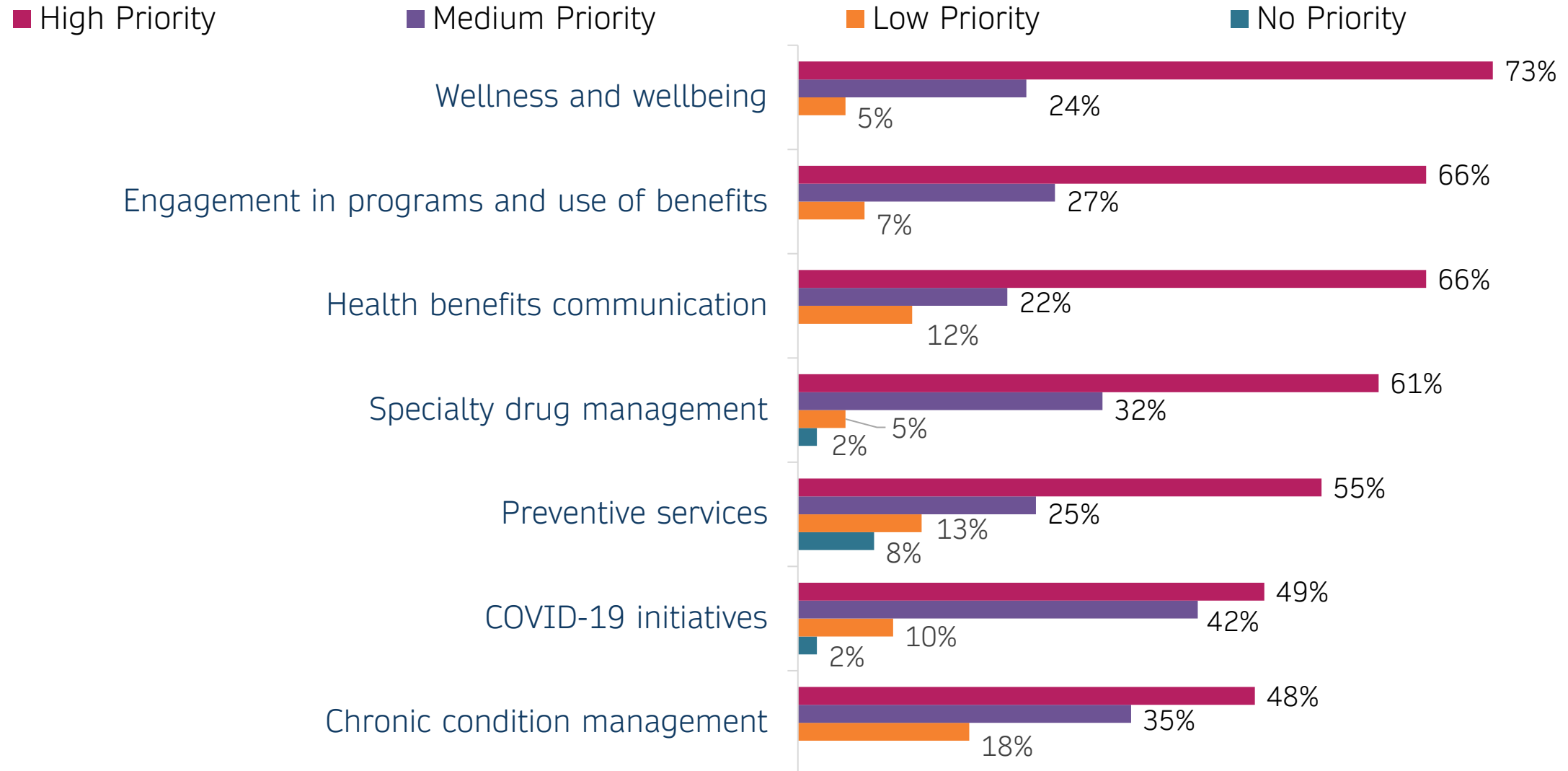
# Top Threats to Affordability of Employer Provided Coverage



# Payment Reform Strategies



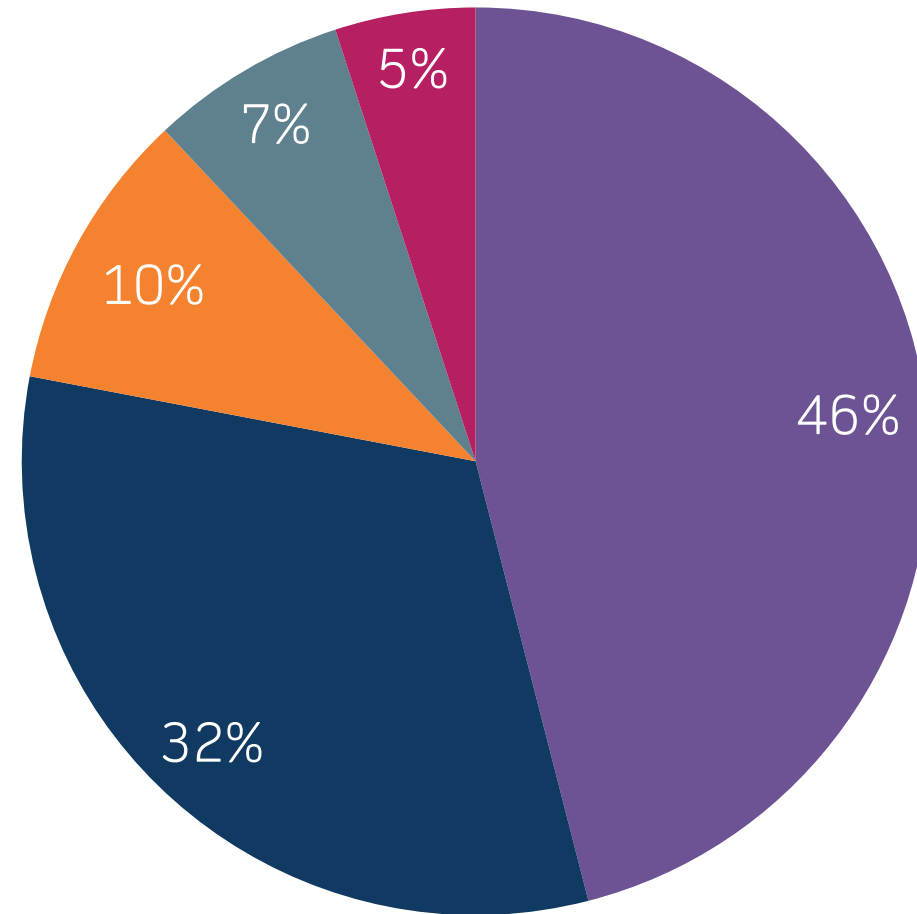
# 2022 Health Benefit Priorities





# Employer Role as Purchaser of Health Care

- Follow the Leader
- Early Adopter
- Status Quo
- Wait and See
- Catalyst for Change



# MBGH Team



**Cheryl Larson**  
President & CEO



**Dawn Weddle**  
Director of Member  
Engagement



**Kathy Foulser**  
Director of Membership  
Development



**Lori Hurtt**  
Director of Finance  
& Operations



**Mindy McBee**  
Sr. Manager of Marketing  
& Programs



**Allison Larsen**  
Manager, Events & Marketing



**Jan Berger, MD**  
Medical Director



**Cary Conway**  
Media Consultant



**Kathleen Thompson**  
Writer & Researcher



# newtopia

[Click Here to View Video](#)



## Lunch and Exhibits

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# Bruce Henry

Vocalist, composer,  
educator

[www.bruceahenry.com](http://www.bruceahenry.com)



Congratulations on your Retirement!

Judy Hearn, Director of Member Initiatives

---

MBGH – January 2017 to February 2022

Thank you for your hard work, years of dedication as a member, board member and part of the MBGH team!





[Click Here to View Video](#)



# Employer Panel: Ways to Effectively Approach Mental Health in the Workplace

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Dawn Weddle

Director of Member Engagement

MBGH



## Ben Davidson

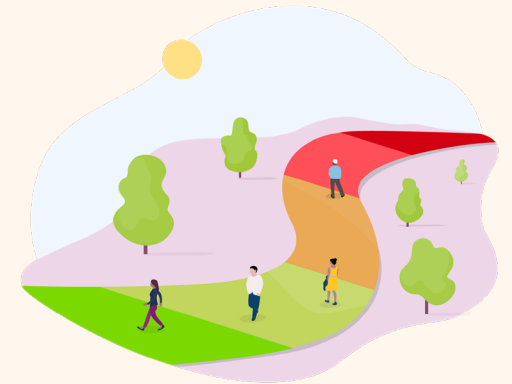
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Sr. VP of HR & Training  
Idaho Central Credit Union

# Our Goals



- 1) Engage our people with a solution that delivers sustainable weight loss results
- 2) Find a solution that focuses on improving both mental and physical health
- 3) Provide a virtual-first offering that is accessible to employees across all of our locations
- 4) Drive better employee retention with more attractive benefits



# Our Solution

Virtual-first, human-led, and AI-enabled healthcare for the mind and body through Vida



# ICCU employees are more engaged in their health than ever before



**24%**

of eligible  
employees  
are enrolled

**16%**

of members began  
in a physical health  
program and started  
a mental health one  
after

**25%**

of members  
are super  
users\*

**65%**

member  
retention  
at six  
months

**82**

NPS

\*engages 7+ times per week

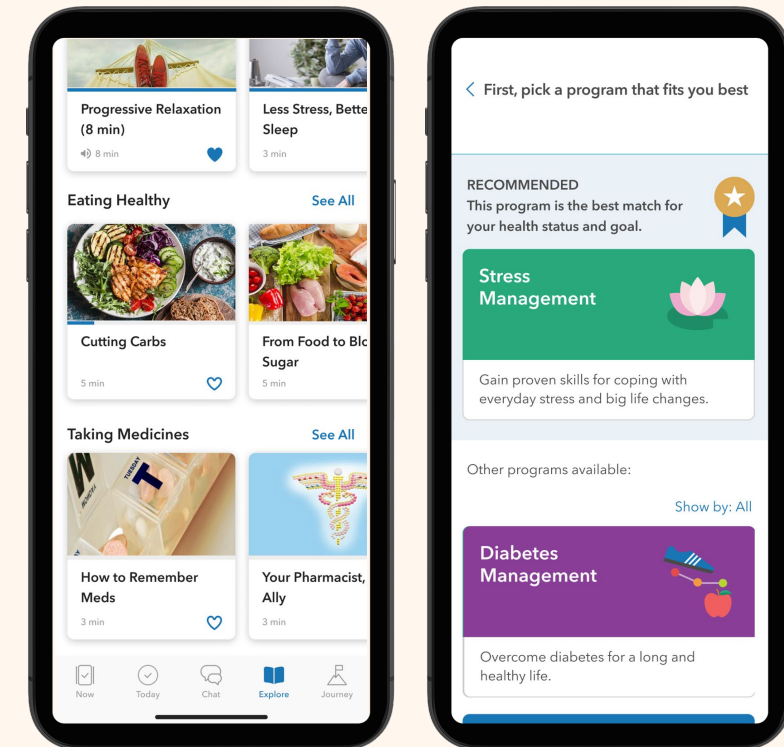




# Comprehensive benefits make it easy for us to attract and retain top talent



- 1) The quality of the benefits offered to your people directly impacts your retention and employee experience
- 2) Virtual care solutions can help break down the mental health stigma
- 3) Untreated mental health fatigue can lead to serious and chronic physical health conditions





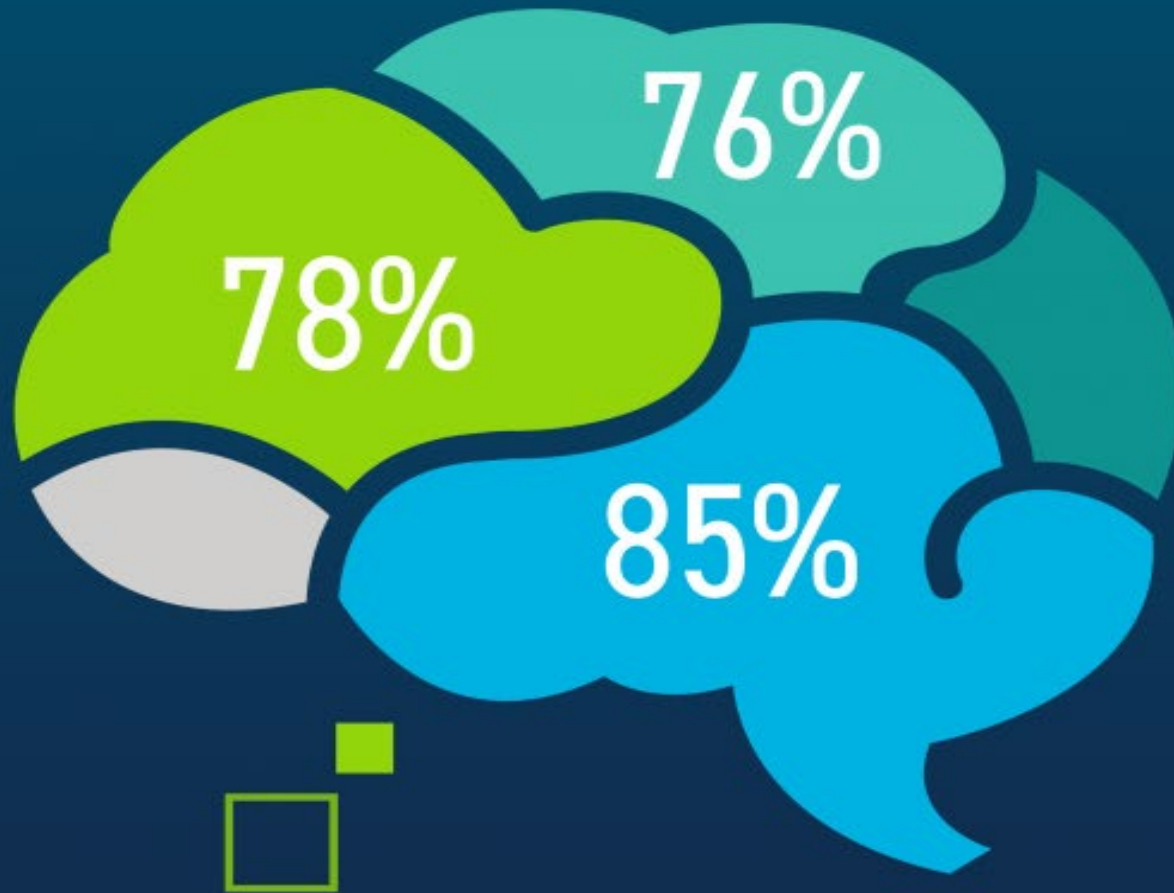
## Rick Finch

---

Industry Consultant

Director of HR (retired), Drummond  
Company

# Mental Health in the Workplace



76% of workers believe their company should be doing more to support the mental health of their workforce



78% of the workforce say the pandemic has negatively affected their mental health



85% of people say their mental health issues are causing sleep deprivation, poor physical health, reduced happiness at home, suffering family relationships or isolation from friends

# Meet Employees Where They Are

---

## DIGITAL

Apps and other technology platforms to replace face-to-face interaction

## IN-PERSON

Traditional model involving face-to-face therapy/med management and onsite involvement with nurses

## VIRTUAL

Telehealth therapy via web-based platforms



# Drummond: Problems & Solutions

## Problem

- A global pandemic
- An in-person health model
- A lack of digital options
- A fear of claims increases
- An aging population
- A lack of digital education
- A desire to speak with “real people”
- A long-standing EAP with in-person care only

## Solutions

- ▶ Integrating in-person and virtual care options within mental health/substance abuse
- ▶ Connecting our nurses digitally as well as face-to-face with employees
- ▶ Managing acute conditions (bipolar, substance abuse, child/adolescent)
- ▶ Keeping the designated clinician with our EAP



# Drummond: Actions & Results

## The Bottom Line: ROI & Employee Engagement

- ▶ **Established** digital options and saw measurable results on effectiveness of these practices in certain areas (aging population / retirees)
- ▶ **Recognized** that promoting digital options lead to virtual options that provided a “real person” contact
- ▶ **Realized** a significant increase in calls to the dedicated Clinical Care Coordinator (within our EAP model) as a result of proactive benefit communication efforts

**In 2021, virtual health represented 54% of outpatient claims**

*Note: this is the first year of telehealth being available through the EAP/behavioral health carve-out*

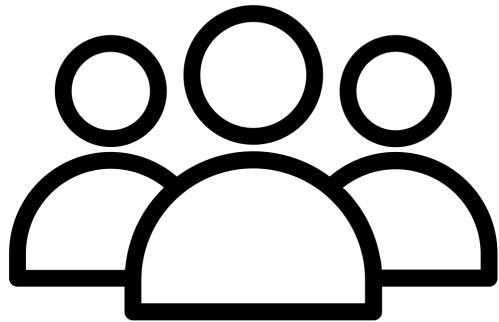


Jen Paisley

---

VP Total Rewards & Operations  
Valmont Industries

# About Us



**10,000+ Employees**



**Global Population**



**Field Workers  
Manufacturers**



# Our Challenge

## Challenges

- Low EAP utilization
- Global population
- Stigma
- No access to evidence/clinical based solutions
- Sleep & safety

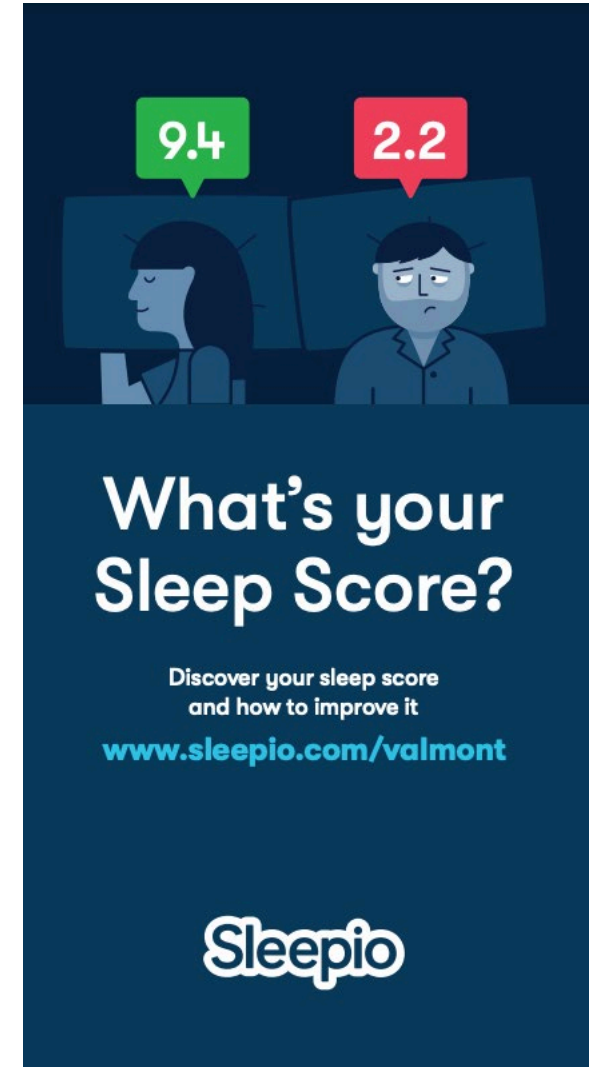
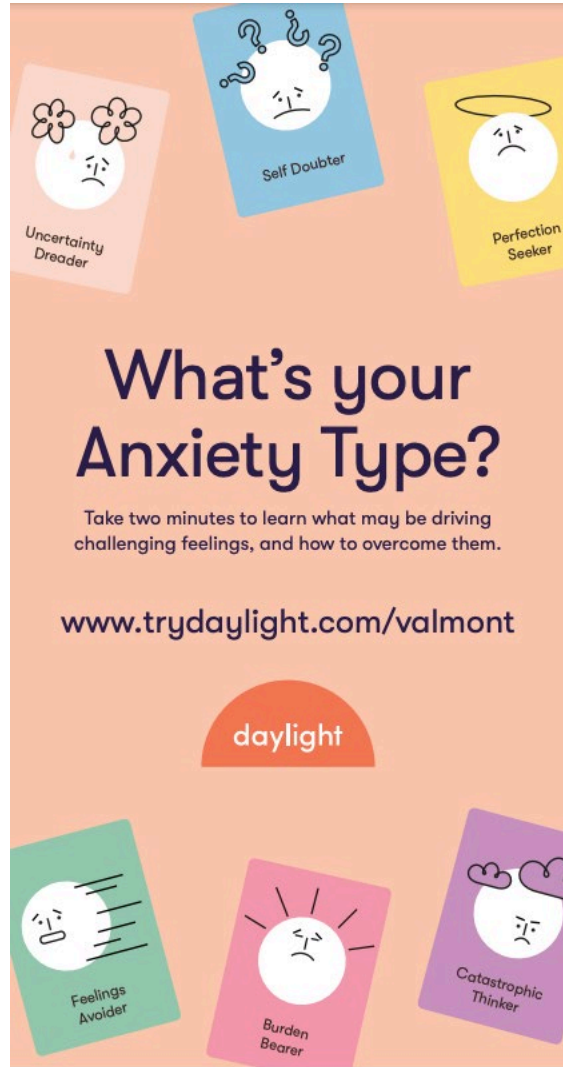
## Goal

Identify a safe and effective mental health solution that was destigmatized to maintain a high level of workplace safety

# Our Solution

## Partner with Big Health to Launch Sleepio & Daylight

- Destigmatized approach to mental health care
- Multi- channel communications strategy to drive engagement
- Programs are easily accessible





# Expanding to a Global Population

- Piloted digital solutions in US & Malaysia
- Message and address unique stigmas across different populations
- Multichannel communication approach- we know not everyone is at a computer
- Share factual statistics to bring health care into new light
- Get safety message across



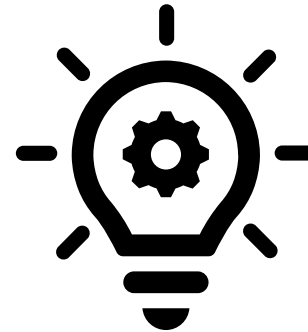
# Lessons Learned & Key Take Aways



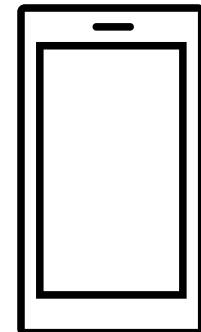
Stigma still exists.



Get creative with  
communications.



Continue to learn  
from your  
employees.



Low-lift digital  
solution

Questions?





[Click Here to View Video](#)



# Employer Strategies for the Ongoing Mental Health Crisis

---

Kelly McDevitt

President

Integrated Benefits Institute



INTEGRATED  
BENEFITS  
INSTITUTE

# The Mental Health Crisis

Research and Guidance from IBI



Kelly McDevitt  
President, Integrated Benefits Institute



# Polling Question

Have you or a family member experienced stress, anxiety, depression or burnout in the last 12 months?

- 1) Most days
- 2) Some days
- 3) Not sure
- 4) Very few days
- 5) Not at all



## Have you or a family member experienced stress, anxiety, depression or burnout in the last 12 months?

Some days



Most days



Not sure



Very few days



Not at all



## Perspective:

The mental health crisis is real, and it came to my home...



# Background & Context

- Mental health was challenging prior to the pandemic as employers and employees alike struggled with stigma and access
- The effect of COVID-19 on the mental health and productivity of the workforce was the highest ranked priority project from our member surveys
  - Poor mental health is related to absenteeism and presenteeism
- The CDC reported a 3-fold increase in depression and anxiety after the pandemic began: from 10.8% to 33.9%
- Our aim is to look at how challenges due to the pandemic, such as work disruptions and health care, have affected employee mental health
  - Employer guidance to determine how employers assess and mitigate mental health issues and address challenges

# Data & Sample

- Household Pulse Survey
  - US Census Bureau
  - Sample size = 1,032,730
- Ongoing weekly survey that began April 2020 to determine how the COVID-19 pandemic affected US households.
- Sample:
  - Adults under 65 years of age
  - Responded that they have worked over the past 7 days or that they are on leave for a potentially temporary reason
  - Completing the survey across 3 phases totaling 27 weeks (April 23, 2020 - March 29, 2021)
- Modeled sociodemographic, state, week, workplace disruptions, mental health and medical health care

# Impact of COVID-19 on Employee Mental Health

## Demographic Differences, Work Disruptions, and Access to Care

### EMPLOYEE MENTAL HEALTH DURING THE PANDEMIC

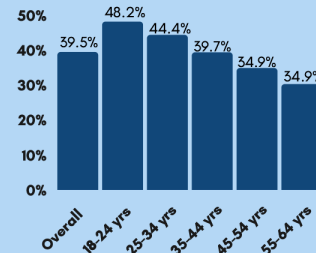
Percent of US employees who reported symptoms of depression or anxiety



Women were more likely to have anxiety and depression.

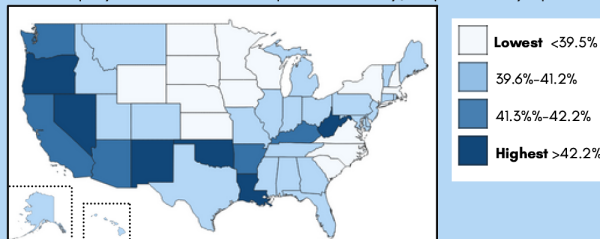


Young adults (18-24 yrs) had the highest likelihood of experiencing mental health issues.



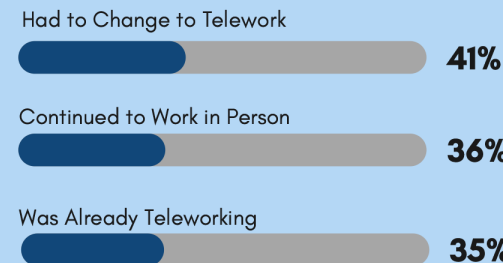
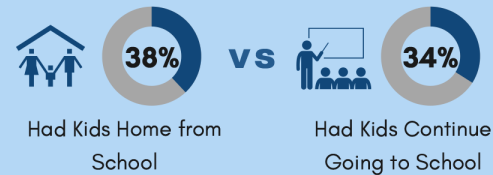
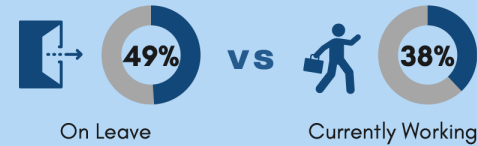
Employees residing in southern and western states reported worse mental health outcomes.

% of employees in state who reported anxiety/depression symptoms



### WORK DISRUPTIONS

Employees with work disruptions were more likely to report anxiety and depression.



Transitioning to telework AND having kids at home had negative compounding effects on mental health - particularly for women.

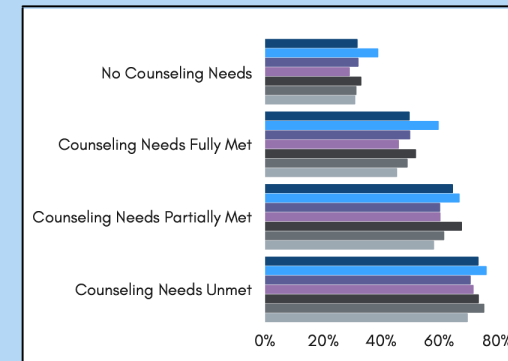


### ACCESS TO CARE

A higher proportion of employees, especially those on leave or working in person, reported mental health issues when their counseling needs were unmet.

Ensuring employees receive counseling when needed reduces the likelihood of experiencing anxiety and depression symptoms by 8%-36% depending on how well counseling needs are met.

% of employees who reported anxiety/depression symptoms



### LEARN MORE

Details on this analysis as well as employer guidance to address mental health needs can be found [HERE](#).

# Employer Guidance

## Measuring and assessing mental health status and employee needs:

- Analytics (Claims and EAP utilization)
- Employee survey (pulse to HRA)
- Screening surveys (Perceived Stress Scale)

## Varying mitigation strategies to improve mental health:

- Changing behavioral health plan design
- Improving communications and resources
- Increasing awareness

## Most orgs made changes to their mental health strategies during the pandemic and measured impact via:

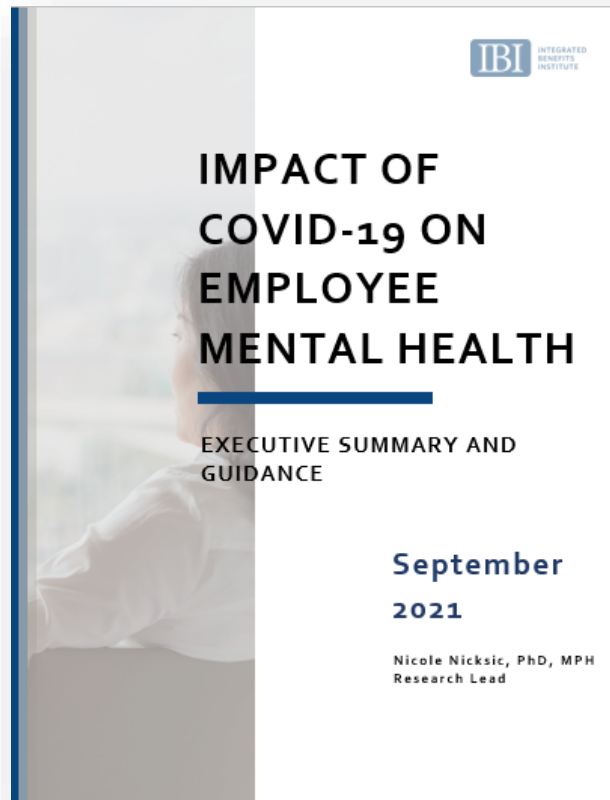
- Employee feedback mechanisms
- Available claims data
- Vendor reported outcomes data



# Employer Guidance Continued

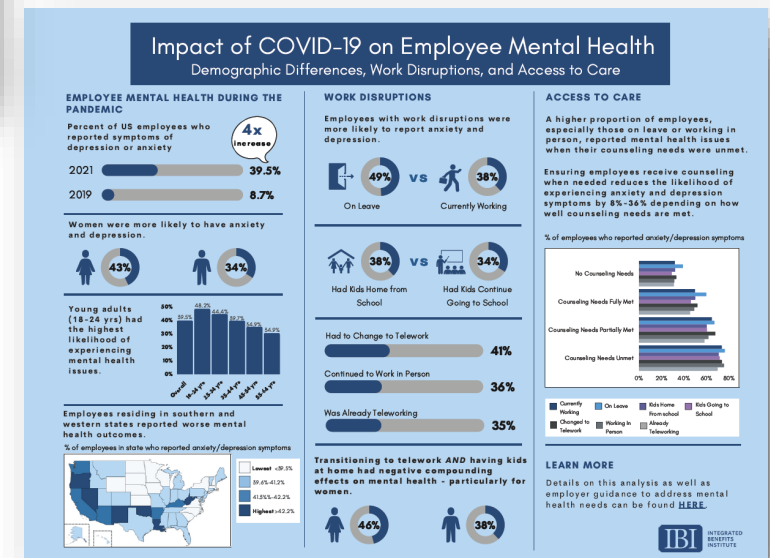
- Challenges:
  - Access
  - Employee engagement
  - Stigma reduction
  - Communication effectiveness
- General Considerations
  - Ensure all your mental health resources are easy to find and in one place
  - Remove all barriers to care – physically and financially
  - Now is the time to use the momentum from the pandemic to bring actual change

# Learn More



Visit

<https://www.ibiweb.org/resource/impact-of-covid-19-on-employee-mental-health-report/>



# Appendix

## Additional Data

# Summary of Findings

- Reported anxiety and depression have skyrocketed for employees during the pandemic.
- There are statistically significant characteristics of employees who are worse off than the national average:
  - Regional differences exist with the hardest hit locations in the west and south
  - Those who shifted to telework or were on leave
  - Those who are female, younger, less educated, White or another race/multiracial, and not married
  - Those with unmet mental health counseling needs and taking a mental health Rx

# Anxiety or Depression Increased More for Employed Adults



**Before the Pandemic<sup>1</sup>**

**8.7%**



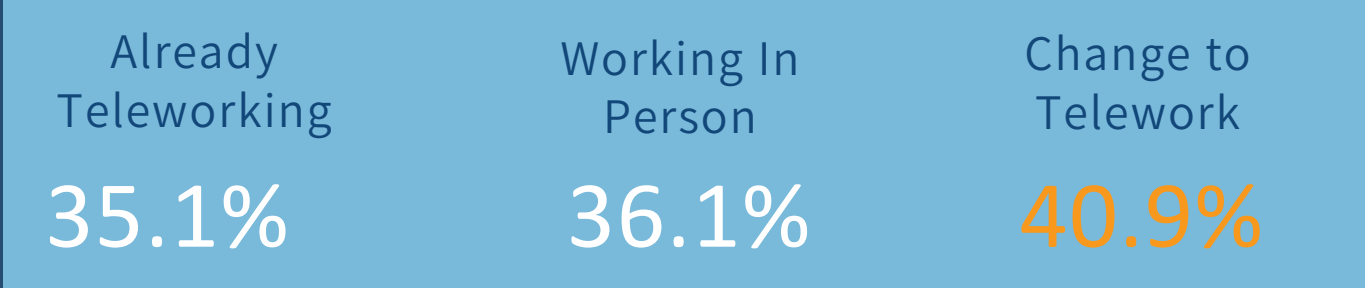
**During Pandemic<sup>2</sup>**

**39.5%**

More than 4x  
as many  
employed  
adults have  
anxiety or  
depression  
compared to  
before the  
pandemic

Percentage of employed adults reporting feelings of anxiety or depression during the pandemic

Overall  
39.5%



Employees with work disruptions were more likely to report anxiety and depression.



# Employees more likely to report anxiety or depression were:

- Women
- Younger
- White or Other/Multi-Racial
- Some College Education
- Never Married or Widowed, Divorced, or Separated

Percentage of employed adults reporting feelings of anxiety or depression during the pandemic

Overall  
**39.5%**

Female	<b>42.9%</b>	High school or less	37.4%
Male	34%	Some college	<b>40.8%</b>
18-24 yrs	<b>48.2%</b>	Associate's	38.3%
25-34 yrs	44.4%	Bachelor's	37.9%
34-44 yrs	39.7%	Graduate's	38%
45-54 yrs	34.9%		
55-64 yrs	30.3%		
White	<b>40.5%</b>	Married	35.4%
Black	32.5%	Widowed, divorced, separated	<b>42.1%</b>
Asian	30.9%		
Other/Multiracial	<b>41.1%</b>	Never Married	<b>43.0%</b>
Hispanic	36.1%		

Those who transitioned to telework AND had children at home from school had the highest likelihood of anxiety or depression; AND women were more impacted than men





eden  
health

[Click Here to View Video](#)



## Break and Exhibits

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Turn in your completed prize card by end of break!



# The State of Mental Health and Addiction Services in IL

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Teresa Garate, Ph.D.

Interim Executive Director

The Kennedy Forum Illinois

*the state of*

# **MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION SERVICES IN ILLINOIS**

**DR. TERESA GARATE**

INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | THE KENNEDY FORUM ILLINOIS  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT | GATEWAY FOUNDATION

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MBGH | MENTAL HEALTH: THE OTHER PANDEMIC  
FEBRUARY 23, 2022





## OUR MISSION

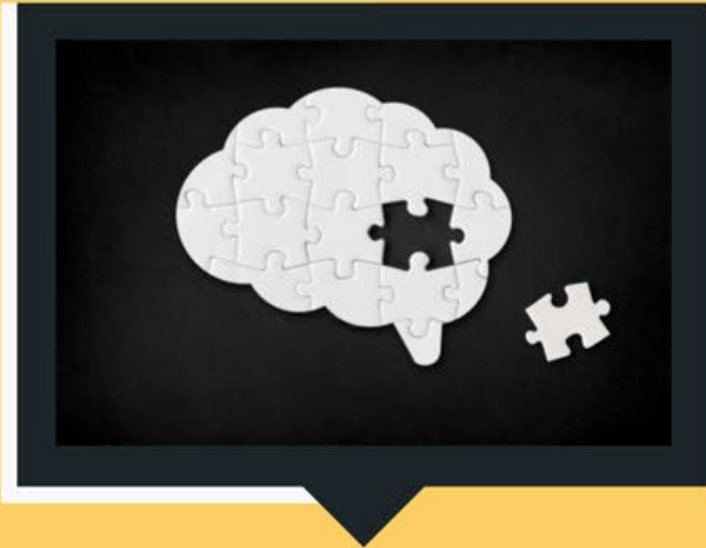
END STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS. OUR AIM IS NOT JUST TO CHANGE THE CONVERSATION - BUT TO ALSO CHANGE THE SYSTEM.

## OUR VISION

A FUTURE WHERE ALL PERSONS ARE TREATED WITH DIGNITY AND RECEIVE THE PERSON-CENTERED MENTAL AND PHYSICAL CARE AND SUPPORT THEY NEED TO THRIVE AND ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS; WITH A HEALTH SYSTEM THAT FULLY RECOGNIZES THAT THE BRAIN IS PART OF THE BODY.



# SESSION OBJECTIVES



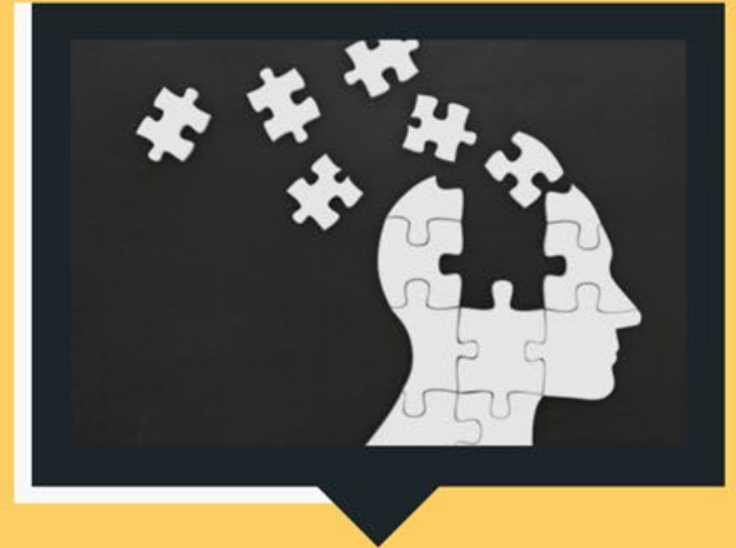
## UNDERSTAND

MENTAL HEALTH PARITY AND  
ITS IMPORTANCE TO THE  
POLICY LANDSCAPE



## REVIEW

RECENT CHANGES IN ILLINOIS  
LEGISLATION REGARDING  
MENTAL HEALTH AND  
SUBSTANCE USE POLICY



## LEARN

ABOUT PENDING LEGISLATION  
IN ILLINOIS LEGISLATION THAT  
MAY FURTHER MENTAL HEALTH  
AND SUBSTANCE USE POLICY  
PARITY

# MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION PARITY

---

- ENSURING EQUAL ACCESS TO TREATMENT SERVICES UNDER BOTH THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL BENEFITS OFFERED BY A HEALTH PLAN
- HEALTH PLAN POLICIES AND PRACTICES CANNOT BE MORE RESTRICTIVE FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES THAN FOR MEDICAL OR SURGICAL SERVICES



# LEGAL FOUNDATIONS FOR PARITY

## MHPA | MENTAL HEALTH PARITY ACT OF 1996

APPLIED TO LARGE  
EMPLOYER-SPONSORED  
HEALTH PLANS, BOTH  
FULLY AND  
SELF-INSURED

PROHIBITED HIGHER  
ANNUAL OR LIFETIME  
DOLLAR LIMITS ON  
MENTAL HEALTH  
BENEFITS THAN MEDICAL

MANY GAPS: DID NOT  
APPLY TO SUBSTANCE  
USE DISORDER  
TREATMENT SERVICES  
AND DID NOT ADDRESS  
TREATMENT LIMITS,  
TYPES OF FACILITIES  
COVERED, OR  
COSTS-SHARING  
DIFFERENCES

# LEGAL FOUNDATIONS FOR PARITY

## MHPAEA | MENTAL HEALTH PARITY AND ADDICTION EQUITY ACT OF 2008

Increased parity requirements for substance use disorder treatment

- Parity must occur within each of six separate classifications of care and generally applies to:
  - Commercial health insurance plans (individual and group)
  - Medicaid managed care / Medicaid Alternative Benefit Plans / CHIP
  - Self-funded non-federal government plans (unless opt out)
- Does NOT apply to:
  - Medicare; Traditional Medicaid; TRICARE

Plans generally CANNOT:

- Charge higher co-payments or other out-of-pocket expenses for behavioral health than for physical health. (Financial Requirements)
- Limit more stringently the number of visits or days for behavioral health services than they do for physical health. (Quantitative Limitations)
- Use more restrictive managed care practices for behavioral health than for physical health. (Non-Quantitative Treatment Limitations)

# THE ROLE OF THE STATES

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## **STATES HAVE ENFORCEMENT RESPONSIBILITY OVER MANY PLANS:**

- Group health insurance and marketplace/individual plans
  - If state insurance departments refuse to, or claim they cannot, enforce, federal government can step in
  - In Illinois, the Dept. of Insurance has authority to enforce
- Medicaid MCOs, Alternative Benefit Plans, and CHIP
  - States have unambiguous enforcement responsibility (IHFS)



# PARITY IN ILLINOIS

## TRANSPARENCY

- IL SB1707 (2018) is the foundation for parity law in Illinois. It requires:
  - Health plans to submit parity compliance analyses to Illinois Department of Insurance (IDOI) and Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS)
  - Health plans to identify and describe MH/SUD benefits compared to medical / surgical benefits regarding:
    - Medical necessity determinations
    - Lifetime and annual limits
    - Financial requirements and Quantitative Treatment Limits
    - Non-Quantitative Treatment Limits (NQTLs)
- Health plans to make their parity analyses available to beneficiaries via website

# PARITY IN ILLINOIS

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## ENFORCEMENT

IL SB1707 (2018) requires regulators to take enforcement action:

- Proactively ensure compliance of each plan before sale/offering
- Requires IDOI and HFS to conduct market examinations and parity compliance audits
- Evaluate and investigate all MH/SUD consumer and provider complaints for potential parity violations

# PARITY IN ILLINOIS

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## PROVISIONS

IL SB1707 (2018) also:

- Prohibited prior authorization and step-therapy requirements for FDA-approved medications for substance use disorders
- Requires generic medications for substance use disorders to be on lowest tier of prescription formularies
- Prohibits exclusions for court ordered substance use disorder prescription coverage and support services



# IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

KFI has supported the implementation of IL SBI707 (2018)

- Led the Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder (MH/SUD) Parity Workgroup
- MH/SUD Parity Data Workgroup (“Data Workgroup”) has completed 2 of 3 phases for health plan parity compliance reporting

## PHASE I

NQTLS EXPLICITLY  
DEFINED IN ILLINOIS  
PARITY STATUTE

## PHASE II

ADDITIONAL  
UTILIZATION  
MANAGEMENT, MEDICAL  
POLICIES, & COVERAGE

## PHASE III

PROVIDER NETWORKS  
AND CONTRACTING

# LANDMARK DECISION

## WIT V. UNITED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (UBH)

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- Federal court ruled that UBH's coverage practices and medical necessity criteria were inconsistent with Generally Accepted Standards of Behavioral Health Care.
- The court ruled that the criteria were improperly focused on limiting coverage to "acute" episodes rather than ongoing care needed to treat oftentimes chronic conditions.
- Ordered UBH to reprocess 67,000 claims for 50,000 members nationwide (half of whom were children / adolescents).
- Ordered UBH to use criteria from non-profit professional associations (e.g., The ASAM Criteria)

# GENERALLY ACCEPTED STANDARDS

THE WIT COURT IDENTIFIED 8 STANDARDS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE

## ONE

TREAT UNDERLYING  
CONDITION, NOT ONLY  
CURRENT SYMPTOMS

## TWO

TREAT  
CO-OCCURRING  
CONDITIONS

## THREE

TREAT AT THE LEAST  
INTENSIVE LEVEL OF CARE  
THAT IS SAFE AND JUST AS  
EFFECTIVE AS HIGHER LEVEL  
OF CARE [CANNOT SACRIFICE  
EFFECTIVENESS B/C A  
TREATMENT IS EQUALLY SAFE]

## FOUR

ERR ON THE SIDE OF  
CAUTION BY USING A  
HIGHER LEVEL OF CARE  
WHEN THERE IS  
AMBIGUITY

## FIVE

EFFECTIVE TREATMENT  
INCLUDES SERVICES TO  
MAINTAIN FUNCTION

## SIX

DETERMINE DURATION  
BASED ON THE  
INDIVIDUAL'S NEEDS,  
WITHOUT ARBITRARY  
LIMITS

## SEVEN

ADDRESS UNIQUE NEEDS OF  
CHILDREN/ADOLESCENTS

## EIGHT

USE A MULTIDIMENSIONAL  
ASSESSMENT TO DETERMINE  
LEVEL OF CARE (E.G., LEVEL  
OF CARE UTILIZATION  
SYSTEM [LOCUS], ASAM  
CRITERIA)



# RECENT PROGRESS

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## ILLINOIS HB2595

- Passed Illinois House in 2021 on 114-0 vote
- Requires Illinois health plans to follow generally accepted standards of care when making medical necessity determinations
- Requires use of transparent, publicly available guidelines from nonprofit clinical societies for these determinations (e.g., LOCUS)
- Similar legislation has passed in California (SB855) and Oregon (HB3046)

# RECENT PROGRESS

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## 988 IMPLEMENTATION

- Transitioning 10-digit National Suicide Prevention Lifeline to a 3-digit code, 988
- Investments from SAMSHA, American Rescue Plan, and national budget
- To be nationally available for call, text, or chat in July 2022
- Illinois Department of Mental Health (DMH) leading implementation planning efforts



# PENDING LEGISLATION

REBUILD ILLINOIS' BEHAVIORAL HEALTH WORKFORCE | HB4238

**\$130M**

**COMMUNITY  
MENTAL HEALTH**

VIA RATE ADD-ON AND  
DIRECTED PAYMENTS

**\$41M**

**SUBSTANCE USE  
SERVICES**

VIA 47% INCREASE WITH  
ANNUAL INFLATION  
ADJUSTMENT



# PENDING LEGISLATION

## ILLINOIS

### **SB1623**

- AIMS TO END PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS AND UTILIZATION CONTROLS ON FDA- APPROVED MEDICATIONS FOR SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS IN ILLINOIS MEDICAID PLANS
- WITH ILLINOIS SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE AS OF JANUARY 2022

### **HB4317**

- WOULD CREATE THE COMMISSION ON MENTAL HEALTH REFORM
- WOULD ESTABLISH MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS AND DUTIES FOR THE COMMISSION
- COMMISSION WOULD PRODUCE AN ANNUAL REPORT ABOUT MH SERVICES IN THE STATE, INCLUDING CHALLENGES, DEFICIENCIES, AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

# PENDING LEGISLATION

## ILLINOIS

### SB2910

- WOULD CREATE A MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER OVERSIGHT OFFICER WITHIN DHS IN THE STATE
- CALLS FOR THE COLLECTION OF DATA ON MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AVAILABLE IN ILLINOIS

### HB3438

- CREATES MENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT REFORM ACT
- ILLINOIS MEDICAID MENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT (IM+CANS) CREATES A MAJOR BARRIER TO CARE
  - LENGTH (2+ HOURS, WITH 800 FIELDS IN THE ELECTRONIC RECORD); NOT STRENGTHS-BASED; MAY RE-TRAUMATIZE INDIVIDUALS
- MANY BELIEVE THAT IM+CANS VIOLATES MHPAEA, AS NO COMPARABLE ASSESSMENT EXISTS FOR MEDICAL / SURGICAL CARE
- CALLS FOR CLEAR DELINEATIONS OF FIELD REQUIRED TO MAKE MEDICAL NECESSITY DETERMINATIONS

# IN CONCLUSION...

FEDERAL PARITY LAWS REQUIRE STATE ENFORCEMENT

ILLINOIS IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF PARITY RULES AND ENFORCEMENT THANKS TO THE WORK OF MANY ADVOCATES

MUCH WORK REMAINS AT BOTH THE FEDERAL AND STATE LEVEL TO ENSURE PARITY COMPLIANCE AND FAIR ACCESS TO MH/SUD SERVICES



*questions?*

*thank you.*

**CONNECT WITH ME**

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# Mental Health: In and Out of the Office

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Cheryl Potts

Executive Director

Community Mental Health Board  
of Oak Park Township

# Brief Snapshot

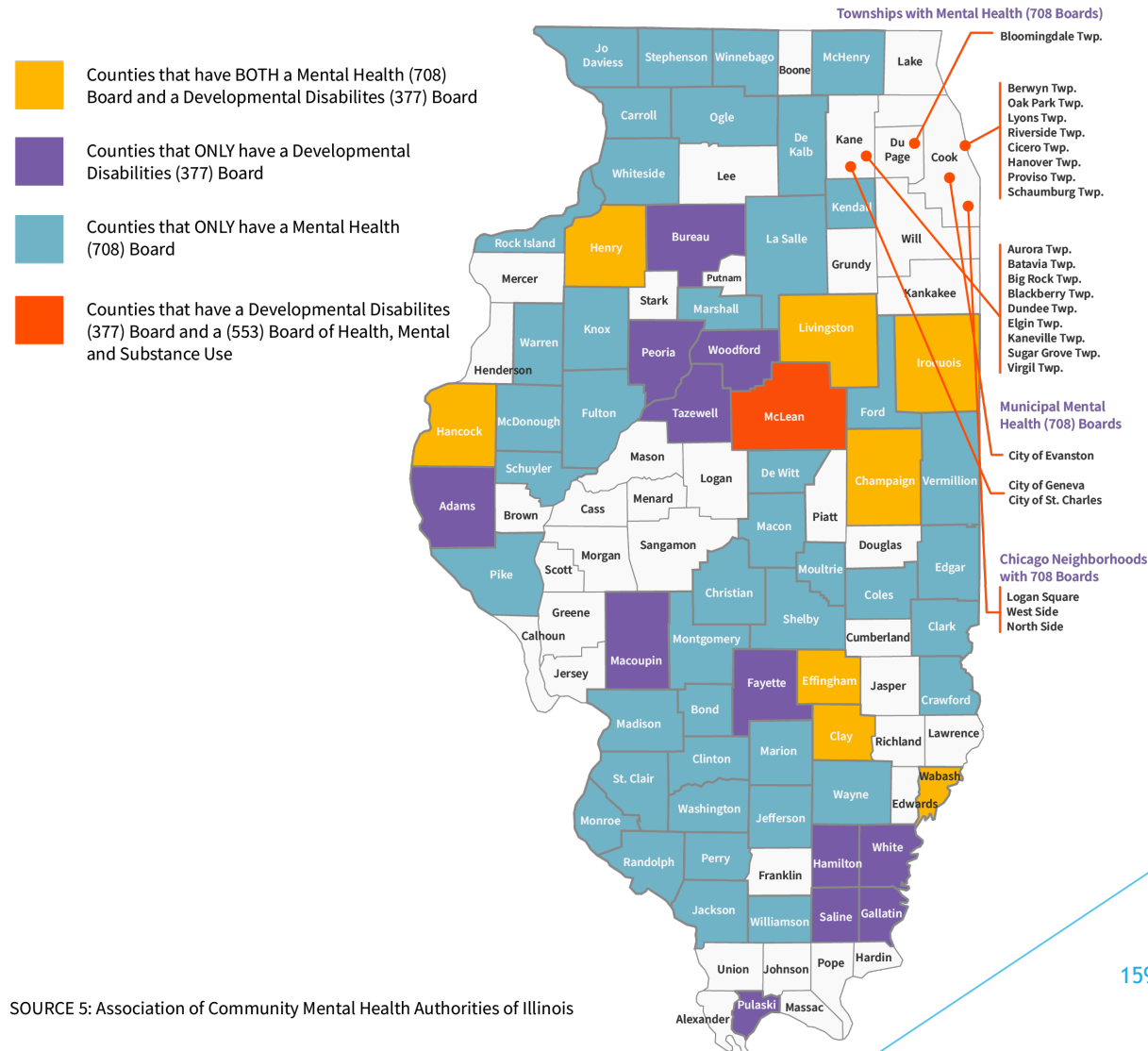
- ▶ What is a Community Mental Health Board?
- ▶ What trends are we seeing in the community related to mental health?
- ▶ Why should employers care?
- ▶ What can employers do?





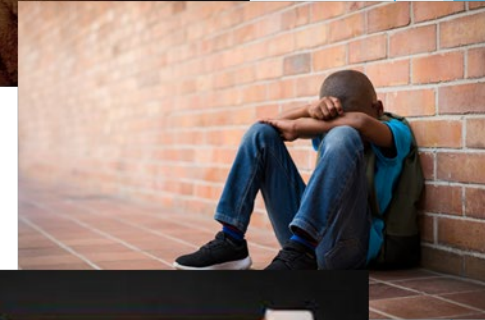
# Community Mental Health Board

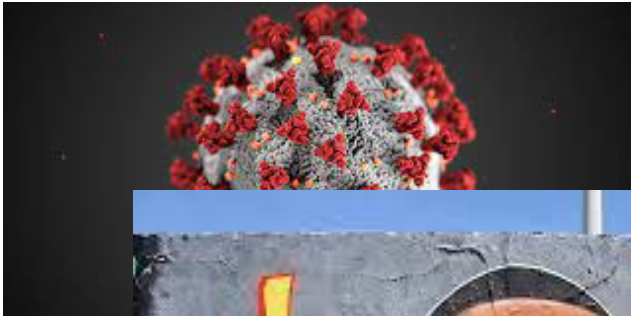
- ▶ 708 Act
- ▶ Local Municipality
- ▶ Established by Referendum
- ▶ Property Tax Levy
- ▶ Planning and Funding Local Service



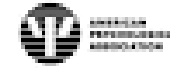
# The Before Times

- ▶ 1 in 5 adults have a mental health disorder
- ▶ Suicide rates increased by 35% between 1999-2020
- ▶ Drug overdose deaths more than tripled since 1990
- ▶ 90% of people with a substance use disorder do not receive treatment
- ▶ 55% of adults with mental illness do not receive treatment





## Americans More Likely To Say Upcoming Presidential Election a Significant Source of Stress



2020 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

68%

2016 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

52%

Majority Report  
Stress About Election,  
Regardless of  
Party Affiliation



STRESS IN AMERICA™

© American Psychological Association



# The Now Times



**Drinking alcohol**

**Depression and anxiety**

**Difficulty sleeping**

**Irregular eating**

**Domestic violence**

**Interruption in care**

**Drug overdose deaths**

**Women leaving workforce**

**Distrust of systems**

**Learning loss of students**





# Understand the Mental Health Continuum



# Look Inward

- ▶ Culture change
- ▶ Flexible work environments
- ▶ Reward and recognition
- ▶ Autonomy and control
- ▶ Mental health ambassadors
- ▶ Adequate health insurance coverage - a family affair



# Ask Questions

- ▶ Out-of-Network Use
- ▶ In-Network Reimbursement Rates for Providers
- ▶ Denial Rates for Services
- ▶ Network Adequacy and Participation for Psychiatrists







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# Mental Health: The Other Pandemic

Thanks for attending!

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# Let's give out some prizes!

Behavioral Health Systems	GoPro
Big Health	Yeti Coffee Mug & \$50 Donation to BEAM
Eden Health	Fitbit
Inspera	Fitbit Inspire 2 & Fitbit Aria Air Connected Scale
Newtopia	Bluetooth Smart Scale
Onduo	Fitbit Inspire 2
Spring Health	Apple AirPods
Vida Health	Apple Watch SE
MBGH	(2) One-Year Employer MBGH Membership
MBGH	(2) Complimentary Passes to Annual Conference



# Mental Health: The Other Pandemic

Thanks for attending!

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