

## What is the Coalition's Mission?

*The Greater Philadelphia Business Coalition on Health (GPBCH) seeks to increase the value of health benefit spending for the region's employers. We do this by improving workforce and community health, increasing healthcare quality and safety, and reducing health care costs. The Coalition represents employer interests in working with health plans, health care providers, benefits consultants, suppliers and other system stakeholders to address population health priorities and to ensure that when health care is needed it is accessible, affordable, equitable, high-quality, and safe.*

## Why is a Business Coalition on Health Essential?

The United States continues to spend more on healthcare than any other nation and the rate of healthcare cost increase continues to dramatically outpace general inflation. Despite this commitment of resources, the U.S. ranks poorly on almost all measures of access, quality, safety, timeliness, and efficiency. Key research findings regarding the U.S. healthcare system include:

- Between 100,000 and 400,000 people die each year in hospitals due to medical errors
- When an American visits a physician there is a 50-50 chance of getting care in accordance with guidelines
- Studies have estimated that between 25% and 50% of current spending is waste (e.g. overuse, inappropriate use, treatment of complications due to medical errors, costs of administration).

As the purchasers of nearly half of the nation's healthcare, employers have the ability to hold the system more accountable for improving quality and controlling utilization and cost – *but only when they work collectively to influence care*. GPBCH works to drive change in the local market, and is one of 40 business coalitions that collaborate through the National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions ([www.nationalalliancehealth.org](http://www.nationalalliancehealth.org)) to influence national policy, and to share expertise and best practices.

## How is the Coalition Structured?

GPBCH was established in 2012 and incorporated in Pennsylvania as a non-profit corporation in July of 2013. GPBCH has IRS designation as a 501(c)(3) organization. The Coalition's service area includes the Philadelphia 5-county area of Southeastern Pennsylvania, the State of Delaware, and Southern New Jersey. Any employer that is corporately based in this region or has a significant workforce in this region is welcome to join. GPBCH also offers affiliate memberships to organizations that do not participate as employers but have an interest in supporting GPBCH's mission.

**GPBCH represents 750,000 lives in the local market and 1.5 million lives nationally**

Member



123 South Broad Street, Suite 1235  
Philadelphia, PA 19109  
[www.gpbch.org](http://www.gpbch.org)

## What are the Benefits of Membership?

By joining GPBCH, employers are showing that they recognize the need for healthcare system reform, and are willing to use their collective market power to make a difference. This in itself is important to drive health plans and provider organizations to invest more heavily in improvement. Additional benefits of Coalition membership include:

- Free attendance (two registrants) at in person educational programs, including the Coalition's Annual Conference and Annual Wellness Summit (most programs offer SHRM and CEBS credits)
- Free attendance at Coalition monthly webinars
- Free subscription to the Coalition's monthly newsletter, featuring Coalition activities, educational programming, population health tools and resources, and local and national news
- Ability to network with other employers in the region, including "Employers Only" forums
- Opportunity to participate in interest groups that track innovations and guide Coalition initiatives on benefit design, health and well-being, health equity, and transparency
- Access to GPBCH library of educational programs, speaker presentations, employer benchmarking surveys and population health management resources
- Access to networking, resources and educational programs from the National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions
- Access to group purchasing and discount pricing programs
- Opportunity to apply for GPBCH Annual Health Benefits Innovation Awards
- Representation of employer interests in local and national healthcare policy discussions

## What Are Examples of Coalition Initiatives?

GPBCH's Officers and Board of Directors set the Coalition agenda with input from work groups that are open to all members. Examples of Coalition initiatives and accomplishments include:

- **Creating transparency on hospital quality and safety**
  - Serving as the Regional Leader for the Leapfrog Group Hospital and Ambulatory Surgical Center Surveys – a national initiative for facilities to voluntarily disclose quality and safety data; since 2012 Leapfrog Hospital Survey participation in the GPBCH region increased from 5% to 80%
  - Publishing an employer guide for evaluating hospital cost, quality and safety
  - Developing the nation's first regional public report on quality of inpatient cancer care
  - Developing a joint replacement surgery provider cost and quality report
- **Developing tools to improve employee health and well-being**
  - Promoting health and wellbeing through monthly wellness observances, healthy living guides, patient safety resources, and employer advisories for specific health conditions
  - Convening a Diabetes and Obesity Interest Group to provide employers with tools and strategies for weight management and diabetes prevention and management
  - Developing a "Healthy Employer Recognition Program"
- **Promoting Value-based Benefit Design**
  - Developing recommendations for smoking cessation, lipid management, blood pressure control, and diabetes management to encourage use of high-value services and discourage use of low-value services
  - Evaluating and sharing benchmark survey findings on current benefit designs for addressing obesity, including behavioral/lifestyle, pharmacologic, and surgical benefits

---

*The Coalition's current areas of clinical focus are diabetes, obesity, hypertension, oncology care, musculoskeletal issues, specialty pharmaceuticals, and women's health.*

---

## What do members say about the Coalition?

“As a global company with a diversified workforce, our team is focused on the connection between physical, financial and emotional wellbeing in our approach to population health, and how we can deliver a healthcare experience that supports our employees and their families at the local level and from a national scope. As a founding member, Comcast has been able to directly contribute to the Coalition’s mission through innovation in our approach and by sharing best practices with other employers to help promote health improvement for individuals, their families and their communities.”

*Senior Vice President of Total Rewards, Comcast NBCUniversal*

“The City of Philadelphia has valued our membership in GPBCH for many years, and view it as a forward-thinking organization that provides us with education and strategic guidance on many of our largest challenges, such as addressing obesity and diabetes, improving care quality and safety in our region, and resources to help us reduce wasteful spending. I’m proud that GPBCH was tackling social determinants of health and health equity through its wellness programming well before these issues became widely recognized.”

*Deputy Human Resources Director, City of Philadelphia*

“The Wawa Wellbeing and Benefits team appreciate the high caliber and content of the GPBCH educational programs that support professional development and provide information on a variety of topics for critical decision making. With employees in several states, it is important for us to participate with a coalition that can offer resources not only for this region but also for the other regions where we do business.”

*Senior Wellbeing and Benefits Administrator, Wawa*

“Our members are dispersed in every zip code across the country, so it’s difficult for us to connect with them. We're very committed to improving our members’ health, and, as plan leaders, need to be exposed to the thinking of leaders in this realm, which is why we joined GPBCH. The Coalition helps us with creating messaging, our value proposition, and comparisons vs. others. We also have access into regional markets where we can learn innovative ideas from other centers of excellence.”

*Executive VP, Chief Benefits Officer, The Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

“The Coalition is a key adjunct to my organization’s consulting services. The newsletter, programs and networking offer best practices to inform my strategy. As a result, I have instituted successful smoking cessation and weight loss programs for our workforce.”

*Deputy County Administrator, Camden County, New Jersey*

“Through GPBCH, the State of Delaware engaged with Leapfrog and other initiatives to improve healthcare value and promoted the Leapfrog Hospital Survey, resulting in all Delaware hospitals participating in 2020. Delaware experienced dramatic improvements in the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grades. We commend Delaware’s hospitals for their continued commitment to improving healthcare quality and safety in our state.”

*Human Resources Manager, Delaware Statewide Benefits Office*

“As an Affiliate member of GPBCH since 2012, our long-standing membership is a testament to the value of the Coalition and the collaboration among members on advancing health in our region. Over the last 12 years, the Health Care Improvement Foundation has benefited from the many networking and educational opportunities offered through the coalition. The speakers and discussions at Coalition events never disappoint. We have forged new relationships with local businesses and have applied many of the innovations we learned about to our own programs.”

*Vice President of Clinical Improvement, Health Care Improvement Foundation*

## Who are the Coalition's Staff Members?

**Tom Belmont, President and CEO**, has over 35 years of professional experience, helping employers optimize their investment in their employees' health and wellbeing through innovative strategies. His goal is to support the health journey of employees and their dependents while enhancing an employer's ability to recruit and retain talent. Before joining the Coalition, Tom was the U.S. Health & Benefits Practice Leader at Gallagher, overseeing various specialty areas that served over 27,000 clients in the U.S. These areas included Actuarial and Underwriting, Data Analytics, Pharmacy Consulting, Health Pools, Coalitions and Trusts, Stop Loss, Absence & Productivity, Alternative Health Solutions, and Voluntary Benefits. Tom is actively involved with several health-related nonprofits focused on improving community health and increasing access and equity.

**Ray Fabius, MD, Consulting Medical Director**, is co-founder of HealthNEXT, a GPBCH Affiliate member company dedicated to the development of organizational cultures of health. Dr. Fabius' previous positions include Chief Medical Officer of Truven Health Analytics, President and Chief Medical Officer for I-trax/CHD Meridian, and Global Medical Leader for General Electric. Dr. Fabius is a faculty member of the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, the College of Population Health at Thomas Jefferson University and the American College of Physician Executives where he is recognized as a Distinguished Fellow. He is the author and editor of three books on population health.

Other key staff members include:

- Eric Croft, Chief Operating Officer
- Tanika Smith, Vice President, Member Services and Communication
- Elzbieta Dziekonski, Director, Population Health Initiatives

Current members of the GPBCH Board of Directors are:

- Marsha Greene-Jones, Deputy Human Resources Director, City of Philadelphia (Board Chair)
- Samantha Boyd, Benefits Manager, Five Below
- Sharon Castillo, Director, Plan Administration, Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
- Edgar Chou, Enterprise Medical Director, Thomas Jefferson University
- Maureen Clancy, Vice President of Human Resources, Comcast NBCUniversal
- Aileen Espiritu, Benefits Manager, Essity North America
- Michelle Denault, Senior Benefit Administrator, Wawa
- Lorna Haley, Occupational Health Nurse, SEPTA
- Jonathan Jacobs, Associate Vice President of Total Rewards, Main Line Health
- J.T. Jones, Senior Vice President, Aon
- Reetika Kumar, VP Market Clinical Solutions & Pharmacy Services, Independence Blue Cross
- James Rhodes, Deputy County Administrator, Camden County
- April Reilly, Director, Health Care Improvement Foundation
- Peggy Schubert, Area Vice President, Gallagher
- James Startare, Vice President of Benefits, Aramark

## What are the Membership Dues?

*Employer* standard annual membership dues are based on total number of employees in the GPBCH service area; at \$5 per benefits-eligible employee in the region, with minimum dues of \$1,000 ( $\leq 200$  employees) and maximum dues of \$5,000 ( $\geq 1,000$  employees). Certain non-profit and public employers may qualify for a discount on annual dues. For an additional \$2,500 dues, employers can upgrade to a Premier membership. **Coalition membership is a small investment with a potentially huge return!** *Affiliate* membership annual dues are \$5,000.

## How Can I Get More Information?

Contact Tom Belmont, President and CEO, GPBCH, 484-680-1386, [tbelmont@gpbch.org](mailto:tbelmont@gpbch.org)

## Current GPBCH Member Organizations

### Employer Members:

Alliance Cancer Specialists  
Aramark  
Ballard Spahr  
Beebe Healthcare  
Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.\*  
Bucks County Community College  
Camden County  
Cencora  
Center City District  
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
ChristianaCare  
City of Philadelphia  
City of Wilmington  
Comcast NBCUniversal\*  
Community College of Philadelphia  
Day & Zimmermann  
Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health  
Essity  
Five Below  
Independence Blue Cross  
Inframark  
J&J Snack Foods  
JEVS Human Services  
Johnson & Johnson  
Lincoln Financial Group  
Main Line Health  
MedRisk  
Merck and Co.\*  
MJH Life Sciences  
Multiple Sclerosis Association of America  
National Comprehensive Cancer Network  
PAISBOA Health Benefit Trust  
Pfizer\*  
Philadelphia Gas Works  
Public Health Management Corporation  
Resources for Human Development  
School District of Philadelphia  
Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority  
State of Delaware  
Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young  
TD Bank  
Teamsters Health & Welfare Fund of Philadelphia  
Teamsters Local 830 Employee Benefit Funds  
Thomas Jefferson University and Hospitals  
Tioga Diabetic Optical Laboratories  
Toll Brothers  
Truveris  
Utz Quality Foods  
Veolia Water Technologies & Solutions  
Virtua  
Wawa  
Woods Services  
YMCA of Delaware

### Affiliate Members:

Abett  
Abbott Diabetes Care  
Abbvie  
Accolade  
Aetna  
Alliant Insurance Services  
Aon  
Boehringer Ingelheim  
Buck  
Capital Rx  
Ciba Health  
Color Health  
Conner Strong & Buckelew  
Currax Pharmaceuticals LLC  
Eli Lilly and Company  
Gallagher  
Garner Health  
Genentech  
Grayce  
Health Advocate  
Health Care Improvement Foundation  
HealthNEXT  
Healthshare Exchange of Southeastern Pennsylvania  
Highmark Blue Shield  
Hinge Health  
Homestead Smart Health Plans  
Imagine360  
Independence Blue Cross  
Kelly Benefits Strategies  
Lockton Companies  
Marsh McLennan Agency  
MedWorks Consulting  
Meeko Health  
Mercer  
Noom  
Novo Nordisk  
Percipio Health  
Progyny  
Ramp Health  
Sanofi US  
Tandigm Health  
TFG Partners  
Tria Health  
United Concordia Dental  
Vitable Health  
WellWorks

\*Premier Employer Member