



News Notes

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VOLUME 16 | ISSUE 1 | SPRING/SUMMER 2020 | RECENT EVENTS

Healthcare Policy: Medicare-for-All and More (March 10 & 11, 2020)



LVBCH Educates Employers on Medicare-for-All and Other Options

On March 10, 2020 at DeSales University and on March 11, 2020 at Penn State University – Berks Campus, the Lehigh Valley Business Coalition on Healthcare (LVBCH) educated area employers on national health system plans proposed by presidential candidates, including universal healthcare coverage, more commonly known as “Medicare for All.”

LVBCH’s employer members attended the programs, entitled, “Health Policy: Medicare-for-All and More,” and featuring Colleen Bruce, Health Care Policy Advisor, National Association of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions. Bruce provided an overview of the different types of total and partial universal health coverage plans currently being discussed. The reaction panel discussed how the plans might affect employers and the health and insurance industries.



Serving on the panel in the Lehigh Valley were:

- Tony DaRe, CEO at BSI Corporate Benefits
- Douglass Furness, Director of Government Affairs at Capital BlueCross
- Scott Fair, Vice President of Consulting Services at USI Insurance Services

Furness also participated on the Reading program panel. Joining him were:

- Robert Glus, Partner and Consulting Actuary at Conrad Siegel
- John Morahan, President at Penn State Health St. Joseph’s
- Kevin Schopf, Underwriting Consultant at Tompkins Insurance



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This set of lectures was the first in a year-long series of educational programs covering healthcare policy topics. Additional educational programs in the series are planned to cover healthcare policy related to pharmacy, opioids, and marijuana, as well as what to expect from healthcare policy as we approach the 2020 election.

ABOUT COLLEEN BRUCE



Colleen Bruce, Policy Advisor at the National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions, is an experienced health care policy expert, with extensive knowledge of the Affordable Care Act of 2010, federal health care program payment policy, and employer-sponsored health insurance. She has specialized knowledge of value-based purchasing policy and strategies, both from the health plan and employer perspectives, as well as the federal government, including issues related to provider performance measurement and innovative payment reforms. From 2012-2013, she was the Director of Value-Based Purchasing and Public Policy at the then-National Business Coalition on Health, where she was responsible for leading the development of the organization’s strategic focus and integration of value-based purchasing and policy, with a special focus on helping employer coalitions and their members understand the Affordable Care Act’s implications for employer-sponsored health care, including financial implications imposed by requirements in the Act, and policy-related decisions employers faced.

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