



Key Staff

AnnaLisa Gellerman, Health Care Cost Transparency Board Manager, Washington State Health Care Authority, hcahcctboard@hca.wa.gov
AnnaLisa Gellerman has enjoyed a 20-year career in Washington government, serving as a public lawyer, regulator, and executive manager in the field of insurance and health policy. She began her state service as an assistant attorney general and was later awarded the Attorney General Rob McKenna’s first excellence in service award. She then joined the Department of Labor and Industries, where she managed several programs including the self-insurance program. She joined the Office of the Insurance Commissioner in 2013 as the Deputy Director for Legal Affairs, and then assumed leadership of the Policy and Legislative Affairs division as well. In 2018, she was appointed by Commissioner Mike Kreider to be Chief Deputy Insurance Commissioner, the first woman in Washington to hold that role. She joined the Health Care Authority in 2021 as manager of the newly established Health Care Cost Transparency Board and is delighted at the opportunity to work with stakeholders and citizens to take on the rising cost of health care. Gellerman currently serves as a Board member for Kids’ Chance Washington, which provides educational scholarships to children and spouses of Washington workers permanently or fatally injured in a workplace accident. She lives in in Olympia with her partner and her terrier, Rosie.

Tamarra Henshaw, Board Administrative Manager, hcahcctboard@hca.wa.gov

Sue Birch, Director, Washington State Health Care Authority, Health Care Cost Transparency Board Chair, hcahcctboard@hca.wa.gov

Mich’l Needham, Chief Policy Officer, Washington State Health Care Authority hcahcctboard@hca.wa.gov

Executive Order and/or Statute

Bipartisan legislation passed in 2020, [Second Substitute House Bill 2457](#), directs the creation of the Health Care Cost Transparency Board with responsibilities to:

- 1 Develop a statewide health care cost growth benchmark
- 2 Calculate and analyze statewide health care cost growth
- 3 Analyze drivers of health care cost growth
- 4 Submit annual reports to the governor and legislature

The Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) will lead the administration of this program and support the board and the two required advisory committees, one composed of health care providers and carriers, and the other of data experts, that will be established by the board.

“I’m very excited about the relief we can provide businesses and families, and the room we can make for other social investments in the state. It wouldn’t be possible without the support of Peterson, Milbank, and other innovative state leaders.”

Sue Birch

Website



[Health Care Cost Transparency Board](#)

Additional Policy Initiatives

- A new multipayer purchasing group including public and private payers is beginning work to broadly align purchasing opportunities across programs and insurance markets with a primary care initiative.
- A coordinating team with members from across our health and human service public programs is aligning public services to reduce silos, with focused discussions targeting our aging information systems and opportunities to connect services for clients.
- HCA is the lead for the state’s all-payer claims database and clinical data repository and is implementing Cascade Care (the state’s public option health insurance program) in partnership with the Office of the Insurance Commissioner and the Washington Health Benefit Exchange.
- HCA is implementing value-based purchasing (VBP) and works closely with contracted health plans and providers to implement new payment models and align purchasing standards with the Health Care Payment Learning & Action Network’s Alternative Payment Model Framework. HCA issues annual surveys to providers and health plans to track progress and gain insights on stakeholder experience with VBP.
- HCA has led multiple large-scale projects and initiatives that center on multi-stakeholder engagement, including a \$65 million State Innovation Models Test Grant from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and a five-year \$1.5 billion 1115 Medicaid demonstration waiver aimed at delivery system transformation.
- HCA has supported the establishment of nine Accountable Communities of Health and continues to partner closely with each region on health system transformation activities.