



January 2026

NAWHC NOW! provides information on organizational and market developments, as well as surveys, programs and resources offered by the **National Association for Workplace Health Care** (formerly the Nat. Assn. of Worksite Health Centers), as well as from other sources related to onsite, nearsite, and virtual worksite clinics and direct contracting. Learn more at www.nawhc.org.

Story Categories:

EDUCATION AND NETWORKING

BENCHMARKING RESULTS

WORKSITE CENTER OPENINGS

RESOURCES

EDUCATION AND NETWORKING ACTIVITIES

Upcoming Programs: View descriptions of the programs below and register [at this link](#):

Leveraging a Cloud Native EHR to Drive Value in a Worksite Primacy Care Clinic

January 28, 2026 - Webinar

Driving Ongoing Engagement with Employer-Sponsored Health Centers

February 18, 2026 – Webinar

2026 Workplace Health Centers Summit

February 26-27, 2026 – Hyatt Regency Austin, Austin, TX

NAWHC 14th Annual Forum: Employer Strategies for Direct Contracting and Worksite Clinics

April 8-9, 2026 – The Westin Downtown, St. Louis, MO

As a benefit of NAWHC Membership, all programs, other than the Annual Forum, are **FREE for NAWHC members**. Most programs are recorded or have materials for later viewing. To get the free registration or access recordings of past webinars, including the most recent one on **“How Bass Pro Shops is Reeling in Medication Costs,”** Members need to login to the nawhc.org website and go to the [NAWHC Webinar Recording Library](#).



January 2026

[Back to top](#)

BENCHMARKING

American Hospital Association 2026 Health Care Environmental Scan

The American Hospital Association's 2026 Environmental Scan is a resource designed to help health care executives and others involved in offering and delivering medical services navigate the increasingly complex and challenging health care landscape. It is based on surveys of hospital systems, physicians and medical groups, insurance plans, medical websites, independent medical authorities and government officials.

Key findings of the report that are of importance to employers and vendors involved with direct contracting for clinics and other medical services:

- Cancer outpatient volumes are expected to grow 18% while inpatient volumes remain flat. While the aging population continues to drive utilization and complexity, there is an increasing incidence of cancer in younger adults.
- Evaluation and management visits for diabetes are expected to grow 26%, reflecting intensive care management needed for diabetic patients on GLP-1s.
- Hospitals are increasingly interested in and adopting value-based payment contracts, with 23% getting into shared-risk contracts, while over 60% have contracts with commercial payers tied to quality/safety performance.
- Over 50% of pharmacy professionals, advanced practice professionals, nurses and physicians report being burned out in the past month.
- Top reasons nurses are leaving the workforce (aside from retirement)
 - Stress and burnout
 - Workload
 - Understaffing
 - Inadequate salary
 - Workplace violence
- Top factors that would make RNs consider staying in nursing as retirement approaches:
 - Financial incentives
 - Flexible work hours
 - Fully remote positions
 - Part-time opportunities
- Where AI is currently most effective in the workplace:
 - Transcribing business meeting notes



January 2026

- Transcribing patient notes
- Reviewing and analyzing relevant medical literature and data
- Analyzing X-rays, CT scans and other images
- Creating routine patient communications
- Almost 60% of health care employees are NOT provided training in using AI
- Digital use by patients vary with their age:
 - Less than half of baby boomers and the Silent Generation use mobile devices to access health care information, while 72% of millennials do.
 - 1 in 5 consumers are ready to use gen AI as a doctor's assistant.
 - 80% of 18- to 34-year-olds are willing to use gen AI for routine health care activities.
 - Patients younger than 45 are twice as likely to be optimistic that AI can improve health care (66%) than those 45 and older (33%).

Employer Direct Contracting

The 2025 *Kaiser Family Foundation* survey of employer benefit programs provides insights into the direction of small, (10-24 employees) medium (25-200 employees) and large (<200 employees) benefit plans. (NOTE: Only 0.08% of survey respondents had over 1000 employees.)

Key findings:

- 5% of firms with 200 to 999 workers, 10% of firms with 1,000 to 4,999 workers, and 18% of firms with 5,000 or more workers have direct contracts with hospitals or health systems to provide services to enrollees separate from their health plan contracts.
- A larger percentage of firms with 5,000 or more workers have direct contracts in 2025 compared to 2019
- 4% of firms with 500 to 999 workers, 8% of firms with 1,000 to 4,999 workers, and 19% of firms with 5,000 or more workers have vendor contracts to provide specialty care for their employees outside of their health plan network
- Among firms with 50 or more workers that offer health benefits, 30% have a contract to provide virtual primary care services, including telehealth primary care.
- Firms with 1,000 or more workers are more likely than smaller firms to have a contract for virtual primary care services (45% vs. 29%).
- Among firms with 50 or more workers that offer health benefits, 7% contract directly with an organization to provide primary care services to their workers in addition to the primary care providers offered through their health plan networks. The percentage is similar for smaller and larger firms.

10260 N Central Expy, Suite 285 Dallas, TX 75231 / 214-665-8893

info@nawhc.org / www.nawhc.org



January 2026

[Back to top](#)

WORKSITE HEALTH CENTER OPENINGS AND DEVELOPMENTS

Cabinetworks Group Celebrated the One-Year Anniversary of Its Clinic

Cabinetworks Group, the country's largest privately owned cabinet manufacturer, recently celebrated the one year anniversary of opening its on-site medical clinic and wellness center for its employees at its Middlefield, Ohio manufacturing plant — the company's largest plant.

The program has proven successful, saving team members time by provided access to on-site care and helping to alleviate the financial burden of acute care amidst rising healthcare costs. Medcor opened its doors at the Cabinetworks manufacturing plant in November 2024. Since its opening, it has treated more than 900 team members, spouses and dependents—all at no cost to the team members.

CareATC Opens Shared Employer Clinic in Port St. Lucie, FL

CareATC, a national provider of employer-sponsored primary care solutions, now offers a new shared-site clinic designed to give employers of all sizes access to high-quality, low-cost primary care for their workforces in the Port St. Lucie, Fl. area. In a shared-site model, multiple employers come together and eliminates traditional barriers-such as staff size, budget constraints, and facility costs-making high-quality healthcare accessible for organizations with as few as 100 participating employees.

Hankook Tire Opens New Health and Well-Being Clinic in Clarksville, TN

Hankook Tire announced the opening of the Hankook Tire Clinic a new onsite health center at its Clarksville, Tenn. manufacturing plant that will provide convenient, affordable care to employees and their families. The Hankook Tire Clinic offers a broad range of services, from routine preventive care and primary care to acute care for common illnesses and injuries, chronic condition management and select occupational health services. Services at the clinic are provided by Evernorth Direct Health, LLC, part of Evernorth Health Services, the health services business of The Cigna Group.

[Back to top](#)



January 2026

RESOURCES

Legal Issues in Value-Based Contracts for Self-Insured Employers

A new article focuses on the key legal issues for employers and other self-insured plans need to understand and address in contracting for worksite clinics and other medical and ancillary services. The article addresses the Employment Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) privacy restrictions under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), and antitrust oversight. To be effective in this area, standardized data definitions and performance metrics are essential for successful value-based contracting, with CMS data sets offering a viable framework.

Obtain a copy of the article [at this link.](#)

NAWHC Resources

The NAWHC website [Resources Tab](#) includes reports, benchmarking surveys, research studies, toolkits, sample documents and other resources related to worksite occupational and primary care centers. If you have non-branded materials and resources, you'd like to share in NAWHC NOW! please send them to larry@nawhc.org.

[Back to top](#)