

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local Healthcare Transformation Professionals Attend National Affordability Summit in Washington, D.C.

Leaders from across the country gathered to discuss healthcare affordability issues and solutions

OCT. 10, 2018 – [LOUISVILLE, KY] – On October 4, leaders from every segment of the U.S. healthcare system gathered at the Ronald Reagan Building for a day-long summit addressing our country’s healthcare affordability crisis, and several Louisville-area healthcare transformation professions attended the event.

The Annual National Affordability Summit was hosted by the Network for Regional Healthcare Improvement (NRHI), a national network of Regional Health Improvement Collaboratives (RHICs) from across the U.S. that work to transform healthcare and achieve high-quality, affordable care.

Several members and partners of Kentuckiana Health Collaborative (KHC) attended the event, to bring back lessons and ideas about the country’s healthcare affordability crisis and put them to use. The KHC will host a community health forum on December 4 called [“The Path to Affordable Healthcare.”](#) The half-day event will bring together key healthcare stakeholders and like-minded local change agents, who will help develop a community action plan to address healthcare affordability in our community.

At this year’s Affordability Summit, speakers built upon topics explored at first Annual National Affordability Summit in 2017: why healthcare costs so much and what we can do about it. This year’s conversation went deeper, exploring how three key issues – health, price, & waste – influence the affordability of healthcare.

“Our current political and economic landscape makes this the perfect time to continue to push important conversations around healthcare affordability for people in every corner of the United States, and to discuss what changes, actions, and political will are needed to challenge the nation’s status quo,” Ellen Gagnon, interim CEO of NRHI said of the event. “Today we heard firsthand about solutions that have been implemented in regions across the country. These stories give us hope that if everyone is willing to come to the table and act together we can make a difference. Healthcare is local, and therefore solutions will vary across the country; this was an opportunity for regions to learn from one another to bring new ideas back to their community.”

At the event, NRHI launched its solution to addressing the affordability crisis by calling on everyone to take an active part in solving the problems we’ve collectively created. Affordable Care Together is an approach that puts communities at the center of the solution; the movement is led by neutral, non-profit conveners who build on existing, multi-stakeholder efforts to improve health, reduce price, eliminate waste, and collectively create greater awareness and solutions. NRHI has created a brief video available via its [website](#) giving facts on the United States’ healthcare crisis and ideas and solutions on the path to affordability. Additionally, full National Affordability Summit details and agenda can be found [here](#).

For more information, please contact Kelsey Matheson at kmatheson@nrhi.com or Michele Ganote at mganote@khcollaborative.org.

About NRHI

The Network for Regional Healthcare Improvement (NRHI) is a national organization representing more than 30 regional health improvement collaboratives (RHICs) and state-affiliated partners working to achieve better health, better care, and reduced costs through continuous improvement. NRHI and its member RHICs are non-profit organizations working directly with physicians, hospitals, employers, health plans, and patients. For more information, visit us on the web at www.nrhi.org, or follow us on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

About Kentuckiana Health Collaborative

The Kentuckiana Health Collaborative (KHC) is a non-profit organization comprised of representatives who have a major stake in improving the health status and the healthcare delivery system in Greater Louisville and Kentucky. The KHC creates a space for multiple stakeholders to work collaboratively toward the Triple Aim goals of Better Health, Better Care, and Better Value. For more information on the KHC, visit www.KHCCollaborative.org.

###