

November is here, and the countdown to 2027 is officially on.

As we head into the season of giving thanks, we want to recognize the members, sponsors, partners, and volunteers who make HCAA's work possible.

As a nonprofit association, we rely on your continued involvement and support to provide education, resources, and advocacy for the self-funded community, and we're grateful for everything you contribute throughout the year.

Before the holiday rush takes over, catch up on the latest from HCAA and see what's on the horizon as we close out 2026.



The pressure is on, and we're bringing the conversation to San Antonio! Join us February 22–24, 2027, for **HCAA's Executive Forum 2027**, featuring industry insights, fresh perspectives, and plenty of opportunities to connect.

We've already announced two standout speakers: keynote **Stephanie Chung**, who will share what great leaders do differently under pressure, and **John Quiñones**, ABC News veteran and host of What Would You Do?, who will explore the power of everyday decisions.

The agenda is packed with sessions tackling stop-loss challenges, GLP-1 costs, emerging claims risks, and more. Plus, don't miss the Hill Country-themed Welcome Reception and networking opportunities throughout the event!

Early bird pricing ends **November 23**! Register now to secure your spot and save.

Interested in earning Continuing Education Units (CEUs) at the event? Help us identify which states to prioritize by completing a **brief survey by Friday, November 13.**

Register Today

Sponsor the Event



In case you missed it, a recent episode of ***Voices of Self-Funding*** features **Tom Stein, CEO of American Trust Administrators and author of The Noble Agent's Guide to Level Funding**, discussing how brokers and TPAs can help smaller employers transition to level funding.

The conversation explores cost-containment strategies, plan design, and how a more consultative approach can help brokers look beyond a lower rate and deliver greater long-term value for their clients.

Haven't had a chance to listen? Catch up on the conversation and hear Tom's perspective on helping employers make more informed decisions about level funding.

Listen to the Latest Episode



CSFS®
The Credential That Sets Self-Funding Leaders Apart

Congratulations to our newest group of dedicated professionals recognized for their commitment to serving self-funded health plans! We celebrate this group as the largest ever graduating class of CSFS® designees.

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The Certified Self-Funding Specialist® (CSFS®) designation is built for advanced professionals who are ready to deepen their expertise and stand out as trusted, strategic leaders in the field. With a newly updated curriculum and a **modern, online learning platform**, the CSFS program equips you with the knowledge and credibility to operate at the **highest levels of the industry.**

Enroll Today!



Learn More About Becoming a Member



Join **HCAA's B2B Marketplace**, an interactive platform connecting buyers and sellers across the self-funding sector. Established in 2021, this free online listing allows HCAA member companies to promote their products and services through branded storefronts — both to the HCAA community and the general public browsing the HCAA website. Our growing roster includes TPAs and related vendors.

For more information or to begin settling up your HCAA B2B marketplace profile, Contact Jordan Lacer at **Jlacer@hcaa.org.**

Visit the HCAA B2B Marketplace



SIIA's 2026 Captive Industry Report Highlights Growing Demand
SIIA has released its 2026 Captive Industry Survey & Trend Report, offering a closer look at the trends shaping captive insurance. Among the findings, 90.6% of surveyed brokers expect captive demand to grow over the next five years, while 67.6% of respondents to a separate survey question reported increased interest in gap or medical stop-loss coverage.

The report also examines pricing predictability, claims management, broker education, and the growing role of AI in underwriting. For TPAs and other self-funded industry professionals, the findings offer valuable insight into where captive opportunities and challenges are emerging.

Access to SIIA industry research and regulatory updates is another benefit of HCAA membership.

Read the full 2026 report to explore the findings.

Final Transparency in Coverage Regulations Released
On October 5, the Federal Departments released long-awaited final Transparency in Coverage (TiC) regulations aimed at making publicly disclosed healthcare pricing data more accurate, accessible, and useful.

The changes address oversized machine-readable files, improve standardization of in-network rates, expand out-of-network payment disclosures, and introduce additional contextual data. The regulations also establish a new attestation requirement for the completeness and accuracy of TiC files.

For TPAs supporting self-insured plans, these changes warrant a closer look at pricing data management, reporting responsibilities, and compliance processes.

Read SIIA's detailed analysis for additional details on the final requirements.

DOL Finalizes New PBM Compensation Disclosure Requirements
The Department of Labor released final regulations on October 29 expanding compensation disclosure requirements for entities providing pharmacy benefit management services to self-insured group health plans.

Importantly, the requirements extend beyond traditional PBMs to include TPAs, brokers, consultants, and other service providers that offer pharmacy benefit management services, even when those services are subcontracted. The regulations also establish annual audit rights for plans, including access to claims and transaction-level data, and clarify how disclosed compensation information may be shared with other service providers.

These requirements are separate from ERISA's existing general compensation disclosure obligations, which apply more broadly to plan service providers. With additional guidance on TPA compensation disclosures expected, HCAA members should review their service arrangements and assess potential compliance responsibilities.

Read SIIA's analysis of the proposed regulations for additional background as SIIA prepares a more detailed summary of the final rules.

Stay connected with HCAA by following us on social!

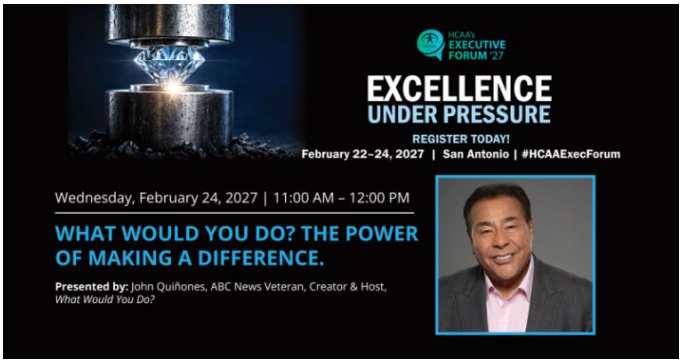
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Eight-time Emmy Award-winning journalist and What Would You Do? host John Quiñones is bringing his powerful storytelling to HCAA's Executive Forum 2027!

In his session, What Would You Do? The Power of Making a Difference, he'll share unforgettable moments from his career and explore how everyday choices can make a lasting impact on others.

Watch him in action: https://lnkd.in/eDXaDwzp

Register today and take advantage of early bird pricing! https://lnkd.in/e-iSeXj



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HCAA is excited to welcome Stephanie Chung, an advisory board member for XTI Aerospace and the former Chief Growth Officer for Wheels Up, as a keynote speaker at Executive Forum 2027!

In her keynote, "Pressure Creates Opportunity: What Great Leaders Do Differently," Stephanie will share insights on leading through change, building strong teams, and finding opportunities when the stakes are high.

Join us in San Antonio, February 22–24! Take advantage of early bird pricing and register today: https://lnkd.in/ePgupC96



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Registration is now open for HCAA's Executive Forum 2027, Excellence Under Pressure, happening February 22–24.

Save your spot and take advantage of early registration savings for one of HCAA's biggest events of the year. https://lnkd.in/eyeAj6hz



Get Social with HCAA!