MAHP 2026 Annual Conference

Health Care Affordability: From Challenge to Action

Friday, December 11, 2026
8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Conference Agenda

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
Registration, Breakfast and Networking

8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.
Introduction and Welcome
Lora Pellegrini, *President & CEO, Massachusetts Association of Health Plans*

8:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.
Greetings from the Commonwealth
Governor Maura Healey *(Invited)*

9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.
Solutions for Health Care Affordability
Ashish Jha, MD, *Senior Fellow, Belfer Center, Harvard Kennedy School*

10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
What Works: Evidence on Health Care Spending and Price Regulation
Michael Bailit, *President, Bailit Health*
Anna Sinaiko, Ph.D., *Associate Professor of Health Economics and Policy, Department of Health Policy and Management, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health*
Christopher Whaley, Ph.D., *Associate Director, Center for Advancing Health Policy through Research; Associate Professor of Health Services, Policy and Practice; Brown University School of Public Health*
Moderator: ***John McDonough, DrPH, MPA,*** *Professor of Public Health Practice, Department of Health Policy & Management, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health*

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Affordability and Cost Containment – State Strategies for Success
Michael Caljouw, *Commissioner, Division of Insurance*
Representative John Lawn, *House Chair, Joint Committee on Health Care Financing*
Amy Rosenthal, *Undersecretary of Health, Executive Office of Health and Human Services*
David Seltz, *Executive Director, Massachusetts Health Policy Commission*
Moderator: ***Jessica Bartlett,*** *Medical Reporter, Boston Globe*

12:15 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.
Lunch & Networking

12:45 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. State and Private Health Care Purchasers Respond
Eileen McAnneny, *President, Employer Coalition on Health*
Matthew Veno, *Executive Director, Massachusetts Group Insurance Commission*
Moderator: ***Patrick Tigue,*** *Senior Vice President, Health Management Associates*

1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
A View from the State – How the Executive Office of Health and Human Services is Responding to Change
Fireside Chat with the Assistant Secretary for MassHealth
Ryan Schwarz, MD, *Medicaid Director & Assistant Secretary for MassHealth, Executive Office of Health and Human Services*
with ***John McDonough, DrPH, MPA,*** *Professor of Public Health Practice, Department of Health Policy & Management, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health*

2:00 p.m.
Wrap Up
Lora Pellegrini, *President & CEO, Massachusetts Association of Health Plans*