Wellness Programs and Services Coming Your Way

hat's the No. 1 challenge facing many Indiana organizations and their employees? While the overall economy and finding workers with skill sets to meet today's demands are at or near the top of the list, so is health care costs. And the uncertainty in this area will continue as health care reform implementation begins to take effect.

We have a series of interesting stories and discussions on changes in the health care landscape in this issue. In addition, the news that I have the pleasure to share – and which you will be hearing much more about in the coming



months – is that the Indiana Chamber will be providing you with tools to help manage your health care expenses. The Chamber is the new home for the Wellness Council of Indiana's (WCI) outstanding services and programs.

WCI has been serving the state since 1988. It has offered, among other benefits, personal coaches and strategic initiatives for participants in the Well Business Certification process for employers. The results are, most importantly, healthier employees and, in many cases, significant cost savings.

Volunteers with WCI have done an outstanding job assisting Indiana businesses and their employees. The Indiana Chamber will continue to utilize that expertise, bring a full-time project coordinator on board and reach out across the state to allow more Hoosiers to benefit from the gift of wellness.

Wellness is not a new venture for the Chamber. The Indiana Employee Health and Wellness Summit, presented in partnership with WCI and Gov. Daniels' INShape Indiana program, has experienced tremendous growth – with more than 300 attendees in 2010. And *BizVoice*® has featured numerous wellness guest columns and stories over the past five years.

Chamber membership reaches nearly 5,000 companies that employ 800,000 Hoosier workers. We look forward to working with many of you to increase individual health and well-being and overall business productivity.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Brinegar President

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Biz Voice

www.bizvoicemagazine.com

January/February 2011 Volume 14. Number 1

BizVoice®

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BizVoice* (ISSN 1521-0146) is published bimonthly by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, 115 W. Washington, Suite 850S, P.O. Box 44926, Indianapolis, IN 46244-0926. BizVoice* magazine is provided as a benefit of membership in the Indiana Chamber of Commerce. Non-member subscriptions: \$25.20 per year (includes sales tax). Periodicals postage paid at Indianapolis, IN and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to BizVoice*, 115 W. Washington, Suite 850S, P.O. Box 44926, Indianapolis, IN 46244-0926.

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