

Introduction to First Choice Health

Employers are making determined efforts to control their healthcare costs yet still ensure that employees and their families have access to quality care through a wide variety of providers. First Choice Health, Inc., based in Seattle, Washington, offers a solution that more and more employers find attractive. By providing access to care at a reduced cost through select credentialed networks of healthcare providers, First Choice Health helps its clients and their employees to significantly lower health care costs without sacrificing quality. First Choice Health is the Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) network for over 7,000 employer groups in Washington, Idaho, Oregon and Alaska.

Standard of Quality

Patient health care is important to us. Therefore, selecting and retaining quality providers and facilities is one of our primary concerns. First Choice Health credentials all providers with whom we sign contracts, and we recredential them every three years to ensure ongoing compliance with our standards of performance. Our Credentialing Committee meets monthly to provide peer-review oversight of our credentialing process. First Choice Health's provider selection and credentialing process reflects our commitment to promoting quality health care.

Who is FCH?

First Choice Health Network is a regional Preferred Provider Organization (PPO). We organize and manage networks of providers and facilities who contractually agree to provide care at reduced cost. Some of our clients access our network only, while others additionally benefit from our EAP, Medical Management, and TPA products. Our PPO Network currently consists of more than 180 hospitals and over 35,000 healthcare providers.

First Choice Health is not an insurance company. Insurance functions, such as creating benefit plans, collecting premiums, processing and paying claims, and answering questions regarding benefits and eligibility, are handled by the insurers, third party administrators (TPAs), union trusts, self-insured employer groups and other health care 'payors' with whom we do business. Most First Choice Health payors support direct claim submission and provider payment, which helps keep the paperwork for almost 1 million enrollees to a minimum.

Governed by Community Business Leaders

Incorporated in 1984 as a for-profit corporation, First Choice Health is governed by an eleven member board of directors with representatives from both the health care and business communities. Ken Hamm is President and CEO, and Jeff Robertson, is Chief Medical Officer.