

## Katie Heitz

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**From:** Bailey and Company Benefits Group  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 03, 2017 8:52 AM  
**Subject:** BBN: UHC Network Announcement

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**bailey**benefit  
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## Important Announcement by UnitedHealthcare

### **Premier Health Network hospitals now out of network for UnitedHealthcare employer-sponsored, individual plans**

UnitedHealthcare has an important update about their negotiations with Premier Health Network and their participation in the UnitedHealthcare network. Premier has decided to not renew its participation for employer-sponsored and individual plans, which means its hospitals are no longer in-network for commercial health plans as of April 30, 2017.

As one of the most expensive health systems in Southwestern Ohio, Premier continued to make demands on commercial plans that would not allow employers to design competitive benefits that reward consumers for choosing quality, cost effective care providers and would have diminished employers' ability to manage their health care costs more effectively.

UnitedHealthcare is disappointed that Premier has not been willing to compromise and meet in the middle, and extending the current agreement means the health system will likely only repeat its same restrictive demands of employers eight months from now and put members in the middle of a negotiation once again. UnitedHealthcare's goal remains the same: reach a long-term agreement with Premier that ensures stability in people's access to their hospitals and doctors and helps local employers design competitive benefits.

UnitedHealthcare appreciates the role Premier Health plays in Southwestern Ohio as a provider of quality care and believe a solution is possible that supports Premier Health's needs while also preserving consumer choice.

As UnitedHealthcare continues their discussions with Premier, here are additional items you need to know:

- If UnitedHealthcare and Premier are unable to reach an agreement prior to May 14, Premier physicians for employer-sponsored and individual plans will be out of network. In addition, Medicaid plans will be out of network for both Premier hospitals and physicians if an agreement isn't reached.
- UnitedHealthcare and Premier have reached an agreement to extend Medicare Advantage plans for Premier hospitals and facilities through Dec. 31, 2017.
- Continuity of care may be available to any individuals who may be undergoing active treatment at Premier, providing continued in-network benefits for a period of time after Premier goes out of network. Members should call the number on the back of their ID card to see if they may qualify for Continuity of Care.
- Please visit <http://www.uhc.com/premier-health-network> for important updates, additional information and resources.

UnitedHealthcare is fortunate to have a broad network of hospitals and physicians in Southwestern Ohio. UnitedHealthcare is committed to working with Premier in finding a solution that would renew network access to its hospitals and physicians. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact UnitedHealthcare with any questions.



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