

Collaboration and leadership in health care reform.

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*Dr. Michael W. Cropp
President and CEO,
Independent Health*

The current health care system in Western New York, and the U.S., is on an unsustainable course. Costs continue to rise, affecting families, businesses, governments and the economy of our region and nation.

Over the years, variations in care have led to inefficiencies in the health care system – poor quality care, unnecessary services and higher costs. At Independent Health, we are focused on creating health care solutions to achieve affordable quality care. We've created opportunities to make the system more efficient in partnership with area physicians and health care facilities. We are moving toward encouraging others to be more accountable for their health through preventive and wellness initiatives. Through our work with local health care providers, we've established Centers of Excellence, along with reforming payment incentives that reward quality outcomes, not quantity. And we've continued to improve upon the system's efficiency by embracing technology, such as increasing the use of electronic medical records.

For health care reform to be effective and sustainable, we need to work together. It's a collective responsibility requiring community ownership, wide-ranging partnership, and renewed collaboration among the public and private sectors. That's why Independent Health is reaching out to providers, employers, consumers, not-for-profit organizations, elected officials and other key stakeholders to create a high-performing health community.

At Independent Health, we continue to work with our partners to create a world-class health care delivery system in Western New York and beyond. There's a clear opportunity to make a difference – and the time is now for us to work together and find the answers that lead to a healthy future.

Visit independenthealth.com for more information.

