







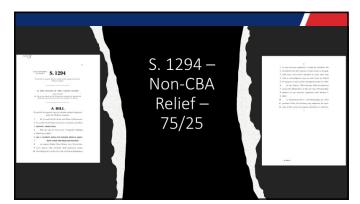
Discussions today include:

- •FY 2023 Continuing Resolution "CR" Bill (End of Year Package)
- -Fr 2023 Continuing Resolution CR Sill (Elit of Heart -Success of Industry Relief Efforts ~ HR.5555 / S.1294 -Political Landscape for 118th Congress / 2nd Session -2024 Federal Legislative Priorities & Focus -Non-bid/non rural area relief for 2025

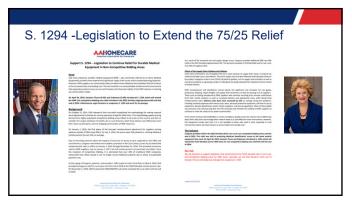
- * Competitive Bidding Program = 2025 /2026



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HR. 5555 Rep. Miller-Meeks (R-IA) & Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY)







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2024 Legislative Priorities •

S. 1294 Further extending 75/25 blended non-rural, non-CBA Medicare reimbursement rates. These rates influence other payers who peg reimbursements based on these rates, including Medicaid rates in 21 states as well as TRICARE rates.

HR.5555 Futher extending 75/25 blended Non-Rural, Non-CBA rates

•Work with Congress to encourage CMS to provide clarity on their plans for the Competitive Bidding (CB) program. If CMS indicates it plans to move forward, we will work with Congress on legislation that would codify into law important guardrails that are currently in place, including clearing price methodology and us ing the unadjusted fee schedule as bid ceiling. If the CB moves forward, we will work with Congress to re quire CMS to accept higher rates if that is the result of the bidding process.



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2024 Legislative Priorities - Continued

- Work with Congress on oversight and transparency of Medicare Advantage plans to ensure Medicare beneficiaries have to the same access to care as in Part B.
- Work with Congress and industry stakeholders on legislation to establish oxygen criteria via critical d ata elements (CDE).
- Work with CMS and Congress to prevent competitive bidding program from expanding to include CGM, ostomy, and urological products.
- HR. 5372 Legislation to allow within code for titanium/carbon fiber upgrades for mobility products as a Medicare benefit.
- Monitor Federal legislation on "right to repair" issues and potential impacts on mobility providers, ma nufacturers, and patients



Future of Competitive Bidding

The Competitive Bidding Program (CBP) was paused in 2018 to address fundamental design flaws that created unsustainable payment rates and jeopardize patient access to care.

- The Ask: Ask Members of Congress to require that should CMS move forward with additional rounds of Competitive Bidding, it must:
 - o Preserve existing safeguards added to the program:

 - Use clearing price methodology
 Keep the unadjusted 2015 fee schedule as the ceiling
- Preserve the surety bond requirement
 Ensure that CMS move forward with CBP rates if they are higher than 2016 rates and set the Single Payment Amounts accordingly



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INDUSTRY Focuses for 2024

Grassroots Activities and Opportunities

- Meetings with Incoming Congressional Freshman 80+
 Build relationships with new and returning Congressional members and staff on Key Committees
- GAP (Grassroots Accountability Project) we need you!
- Press Opportunities
- SPRING / SUMMER / August of Action!
- · 2024 Elections are 8 Short Months Away!



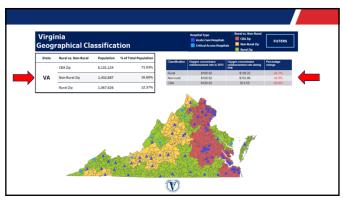


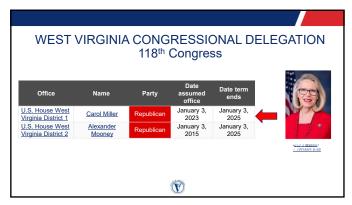
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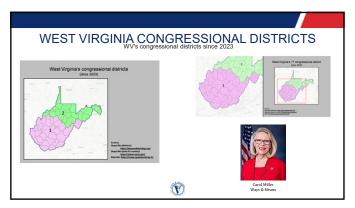


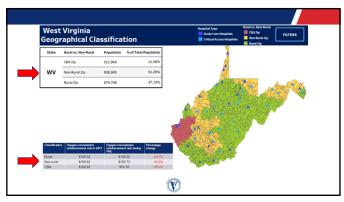




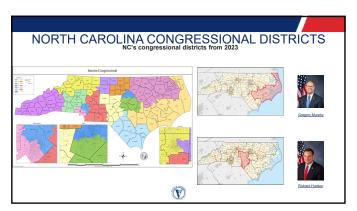


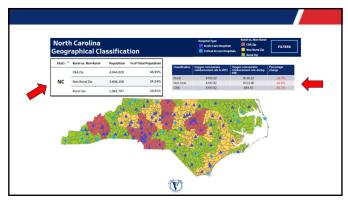








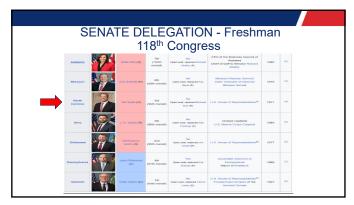










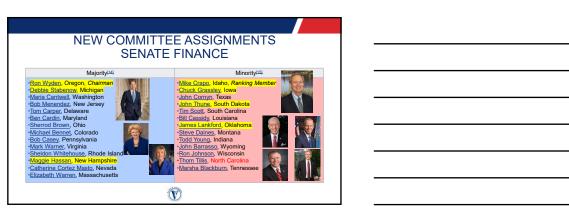






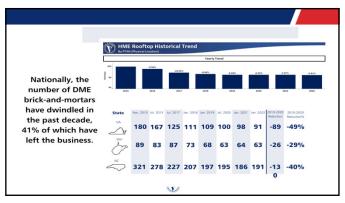


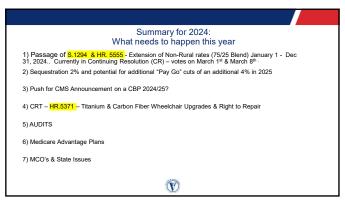
















This old soldier Continues to work for you!



At your service, John Gallagher

VP, VGM Government Relations <u>john.gallagher@vgm.com</u> www.vgmgov.com





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NC Medicaid DME/POS: 2024 Winter Update

John Vitiello, PT, MCP Program Manager February 21, 2024

1

Current DME Unit Staff

John Vitiello, PT, MCP – program manager Brenda Allen, RN – nurse consultant

• Policies 5A-2, 5A-3

Sheri Spainhour, PT - physical therapy consultant

• Policies 5A-1, 5B

2

Topics

- Medicaid Expansion
- Policy updates
- Known Systems Issues Trackers
- LME/MCO Consolidation
- Managed Care Tailored Plans

Medicaid Expansion

Session Law 2023-7, House Bill 76

- · Highlights:
 - Signed into law by the governor 3/27/2023
 - Approximately 600,000 additional state residents will become eligible (2/1/24: 346,408 have enrolled)
 - Adults aged 19-64 with incomes up to 138% of federal policy level, not pregnant, not Medicare eligible
 - Enrollment process same as current Medicaid
 - Same benefits and copays as non-expansion enrollees
 - Launched Dec 1, 2023

https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/blog/2023/12/01/more-600000-north-carolinians-newly-eligible-normedicaid-today

4

Policy Updates

Clinical Coverage Policy 5A-3

- · Highlights:
 - Added coverage for replacement BP cuffs coded A4663 for beneficiary owned monitors
 - Subsection 5.3.11, PA not required if medical necessity criteria met, lifetime expectancy 3yrs
 - Added coverage and monthly quantity limits for infusion supplies coded A4221, A4222, A4224, A4225, no changes to medical necessity criteria
 - Amended 1/15/2024, effective 12/1/2023

 $https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/blog/2024/02/09/updates-clinical-coverage-policy-5a-3-nursing \underline{equipment-and-supplies}$

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Policy Updates (cont'd)

Clinical Coverage Policy 5B

- · Highlights:
 - Subsection 5.3.3, criteria for cranial remolding orthoses updated to align with current standards of practice
 - Attachment B, code A6545 replaced with A6583
 - Attachment B, lifetime expectancies/quantity limits corrected for diabetic shoes and inserts coded A5500 through A5507
 - CMS annual HCPCS code update affecting four codes

https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/meetings-notices/proposed-medicaid-policies

6

Managed Care Standard Plans

Known Systems Issues Trackers:

AMHC:

 $\underline{https://www.amerihealthcaritasnc.com/assets/pdf/provider/knownsystem-issues-tracker.pdf}$

RCRS.

 $\underline{\text{https://provider.healthybluenc.com/north-carolina-provider/home}}$

CCHF:

https://network.carolinacompletehealth.com/

UNHC:

https://www.uhcprovider.com/content/dam/provider/docs/public/commplan/nc/resources/NC-Known-Issues-Log.pdf

WCHE

 $\underline{https://www.wellcarenc.com/providers/medicaid/claims.html}$

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LME/MCO Consolidation

Feb 1, 2024

- Sandhills Center was dissolved with most of its counties reassigned to Trillium Health Resources
- Eastpointe Human Services merged with Trillium Health Resources
- · Trillium Health Resources named as surviving entity
- Davidson county -> Partners; Harnett county -> Alliance; Rockingham county -> Vaya

 $\underline{https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/blog/2024/02/01/ncdhhs-consolidates-local-management-entitymanaged-care-organizations-ahead-tailored-plan-launch}$

8

Managed Care Tailored Plans

Planned TP Launch Scheduled for July 1, 2024

- Focus on behavioral health; approx 150k will cross into Tailored Plans
- Alliance Health (SP partner, WCHP)
- Eastpointe (SP partner, WellCare)
- Partners Health Management (SP partner, CCHE)
- Sandhills (SP partner, AmeriHealth)
- Trillium health Resources (SP partner, CCHE)
- Vaya Health (SP partner, WCHP)

https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/blog/2024/02/01/ncdhhs-consolidates-local-management-entitymanaged-care-organizations-ahead-tailored-plan-launch

entitymanaged-care-organizations-ahead-tailored-plan-launch

https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/transformation/health-plans#behavioral-health-idd-tailored-plans

9

Thanks for your hard work and dedication!

10





Durable Medical Equipment

Coverages:

- · Respiration Equipment
- Orthotic & Prosthetics
- Compression Therapy
- Diabetes Equipment
- **Burn Garments**
- Wheelchairs
- · Pumps
- Wound Care
- **Breast Pumps**

Our clinical policy can be found on our WellCare's Provider site: w.policies-wellcare.com/content/dam/centene/wellcare/Medicare/clinicalpolicies/CP.MP.107.pdf

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Medicaid Standard Benefits

Covered Services

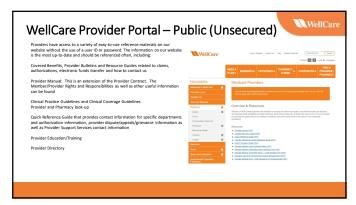
Core Benefits and Services
Below is a partial listing of (Covered Services) provided to WellCare's North Carolina Medicaid members:

Allergies
Ambulance Services
Annablance Services
Anasthesia
Auditory Implant External Parts
Burn Treatment and Skin Substitutes
Cardiac Procedures
Certified Hediatric and Family Nurse Practitioner Services
Chiropractic Services

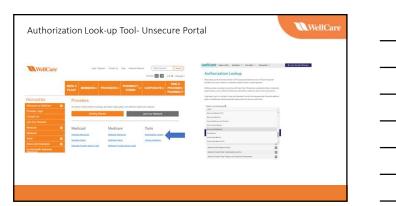
Chiropractic Services Dietary Evaluation and Counseling and Medical Lactation Services Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment Services (EPSDT) Family Planning Services

Federally Qualified Health Center (FOHC) Services Freestanding Birth Center Services (when licensed or otherwise recognized by the state) Hearing Aids Home Health Services Home Infusion Therapy Hospice Inpatient Hospital Services Inpatient Psychiatric Services for Individuals Under Age 21 Laboratory and X-ray Services Lamited Inpatient and Outpatient Behavioral Health Services Maternal Support Services Maternal Support Services Transportation to Medical Care

A full listing of our plan benefits can be found at WellCare's Benefit site: www.WellCare.com/North-Carolina/member/benefit/medicaid



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By registering for our secure, online	With the second	
Provider Portal, providers have access	Sign Up for the Provider Portal	
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Provider Relations Contact Information			
PR serves as the liaison between the provider and WellCare			
Department	Contact Information		
Provider Relations	NCProviderRelations@WellCare.com Voice Mail; 984-867-8637 Fax: 813-283-3045 Fax and voicemail requests will roll to the mailbox above and is monitored daily. Also, you may contact your PR Rep.		

Need More Information? — Please stop by our table!	
Trease stop by our table:	Need More Information? — Please stop by our table!





2

Demonstrate HME is unlike any other business Establish the goal of business Present the case for an optimal process Identify legacy inefficiencies that must stop Action steps: Change to survive!

HME is unlike any other business.	
In our industry, increasing the value that we provide to	
the patient does NOT give us the ability to increase prices.	
There are forces at play working against HME profitability.	
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4	
Who is our customer?	
Who are we creating value for?	
• The patient?	
The referral source?	
• The payor?	
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5	
There is no industry like ours.	
There is no industry like said.	
The force that sets your worth is negatively impacted by paying you your worth.	
impacted by paying you your worth.	
You must accept the game and play it well to survive.	
The second secon	
STANTOC	
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Let's talk business.	
Milton Friedman	Peter Drucker
Shareholder Theory	Innovate or Die
"The social responsibility of business is to increase its profits."	"The purpose of the business is to create and keep a customer."
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Creating value

$$\frac{\binom{Dream}{Outcome} \ x \ \binom{Perceived\ Likelihood}{of\ Achievement}}{\binom{Time}{Delay} \ x \ (\textit{Effort\ and\ Sacrifice})} \ = \ \mathsf{VALUE}$$

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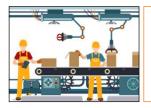


8

How do we maximize profit in this game?
How do we not just stay alive, but thrive?

Optimize your process.

Henry Ford: Specialization of labor



- Each individual in the line can be managed for productivity because they are doing one function
- Each individual will become extremely good at doing their one task
- The onboarding of the position is much quicker and more simple than a person that makes an entire car

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The case for optimization in HME

- With specialization of labor, you know the optimal staffing per department.
- ☑ With defined KPIs, you can manage each person from a scorecard on a daily or weekly basis.
- ✓ With simplification, your onboarding process is more efficient and less costly.
- $\ensuremath{\underline{\checkmark}}$ With standardization, you can capture the 400% growth of this industry.

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11

Put yourself in position to capture the market growth!

There are 30% less rooftops today than a decade ago.

For every \$1 spent per rooftop pre-consolidation:

- \$2.50 is spent today
- \$10 is projected by 2040

For every senior each rooftop cared for a decade ago:

- Today's locations care for 1.85 seniors
- And nearly 4 seniors per location projected by 2040



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	ompanies experienced revenue growth, with om experiencing double-digit growth
Which means 40% of you w	ere flat or declined!!
	y comes, it's too late to prepare."



Receive an order Enter order into system to start tracking it Validate the order Patient eligibility and payor requirements Ensure the patient wants the service Collect patient portion Schedule service Render the service Confirmation Monitor rejection reports Post payment Work any denial Manage the AR

Process Optimization Framework

Optimizing a process is a process!

- An as-is process is the existing way of doing things; it describes the current tasks and procedures in the process you're studying.
- Key performance indicators (KPIs) quantitatively describe the improvement you'd like to see. There's no room for vagueness in business process optimization; KPIs give you the metrics you need to evaluate success.
- The to-be process is the new way of doing things. It's your end goal, an optimized process, and you reach this state by implementing the process improvements you uncover during an optimization exercise.

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Process Optimization Framework

STEP ONE: Document the existing process

Start by analyzing the structure of your "as-is" process in detail.

- Tasks: What's each step in the process? Create a workflow map to organize tasks into broader processes.
 - $\circ~$ Example: Intake, order validation, eligibility, PAR check, etc.
- **Procedures:** For each task on your list, how does the work get done? Be as granular as series of keystrokes or mouse clicks that move data throughout the process.
 - This is key as it will shed first light onto cumbersome and convoluted steps being used, as well as the huge possibility that people are doing it differently.

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Process Optimization Framework

STEP ONE: Document the existing process

- Systems: You need to know what tools your team uses to complete each task in the process, and how those tools work with each other. For most processes today, these will be digital: web-based applications or portals, desktop applications like Excel or Outlook, EMRs, accounting software, etc.
- People: Who's completing each task? What sorts of verifications are in place at each step? How many Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) hours do you spend on each step? Are all staff following the exact same procedures, or is there a lot of variance?
- Visibility: How does reporting work at every stage of the process? Are you able to collect the data you need to evaluate success or reveal inefficiencies?

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Process Optimization Framework

STEP TWO: Process Analysis

- Identify target KPIs: You probably have an idea of the areas you would like to improve. No we zero in on the KPIs you can adjust to improve the process outcomes. It could be productivity or throughput, error rates or defects, FTE hours, process turnaround time, and operational cost, just to name a few.
- Identify model process: Study your "as-is" report to see which elements of the process
 are affecting your chosen KPIs. Establish ideal goals for adjusting these KPIs by
 modifying discrete elements of the process. It helps to have standard productivity
 measures or time analysis on each process when evaluating your processes.



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Process Optimization Framework

STEP THREE: Raise your belief lid

- Belief is a powerful source of energy that your entire company can feel.
- Amplify and elevate your own level of thinking.
 Create ambitious goals and have a high level of expectation for achieving them.
- Raise the bar for what's possible within your organization.





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Legacy inefficiencies must end!

- $\bullet\,$ Do not give away for free. Do not overlook errors.
- Set up your system correctly so you know your margins.
- · Always collect the patient portion.
- Reject orders at the earliest possible step & educate referral sources.
- Do not be penny-wise and pound-foolish.
- Do not let the good times spoil you.



Legacy inefficiencies must end!

- 1. Do not give away for free. Do not overlook errors.
 - $\circ~$ Do not write off due to timely filing. Keep your AR tight.
 - Feed denials back to operations so swift action can be taken.
 - Error example:

The average HME company net margin is 10% to 13%. Your staff makes an error and sends out a \$120 mask that you won't get paid on. For that mask, your net margin is \$12. You now need to sell 10 more masks to get back to break even. The margin is so slim, you must process orders without error.

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Legacy inefficiencies must end!

- 2. Set up your system correctly so you know your margins.
 - You must know what is making you money and what is losing you money.
 - Your EMR/Billing system needs to be setup properly. Then, you can regularly run a report to show what you are getting paid and what your cost is. If you are losing money, you have four choices:
 - You can stop selling it because you are losing on every sale of that item
 - You can find an alternative that is more cost effective
 - $\bullet\,\,$ You can go to the payor and attempt to get higher reimbursement
 - You can go to the vendor and negotiate lower pricing

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Legacy inefficiencies must end!

- 3. Always collect the patient portion
 - $\circ\;$ All of your profit lies in the patient portion. You must collect it.
- 4. Reject orders at the earliest possible step & educate referral sources.

"There is nothing so useless as doing efficiently that which should not be done at all. "

Peter Drucker

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Legacy inefficiencies must end!

5. Do not be penny-wise and pound-foolish.

 $\circ\;$ Utilize technology to reduce human error and reduce processing times.

6. Do not let the good times spoil you.

 Remember the good ol' times of uncapped rentals on CPAP and O2?
 When then the sun is shinning, put your focus on optimization because the cut is coming.

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Actions you can take TODAY!

- ${\bf Time\ study}:$ How long does it take to do a type of task?
- Productivity study: How many orders per person are getting completed?
- Sales training for everyone that is in contact with a patient
- Setup system to accurately calculate gross margin
- Educate your referral sources on order requirements
- Train your staff and build into your process to always collect the patient portion

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Thank you!

Steve Cela President, Strategic Office Support stevec@strategicofficesupport.com





Leadership for Business Growth

Sarah Newby Director of Sales & Marketing

Steve Cela President



ACMESA Winter Meeting 2024



1



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AGENDA

Section I: Build the Foundation

- Discover: The most powerful lever for explosive growth
- Learn: How to get leaders to work for you
 Identify: Why you're not as successful as you want to be

Section II: Scaling Principles

- Three Transformational Lids
- Seven Forces of Impact
- Seven Business Breakpoints
- One Constraint Theory







Date: March 2022
Role: Synthetics Product Management
Assignment: Kill a grade of synthetic basestock

5



Date: March 2022
Role: Synthetics Product Management
Assignment: Kill a grade of synthetic basestock

revious Accolades

ExxonMobil Global Business Award 2018
• Driving and achieving optimization of polypropylene production slate

ExxonMobil Global Technology Award 2019

Outstanding customer service and market growth in rigid packaging

ExxonMobil Global Business Award 2020

Founding mamber MADC assessm

Founding member MARC program
• Pitched to President for company-wide roll-out; Gained approval.

President-level potential rating and ranked in top cohort every year

...I failed in killing the grade, ultimately failing the manufacturing site and the PM group.

Section I: Build the Fo	undation
	STRATEGIC OFFICE SUPPORT
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Discover:	
The most powerful lever	
for explosive growth	
Tor explosive growth	
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The most powerful lever for explosive growth	
"After decades of studying thousands of successful and fa	iled companies, we have found
that the one factor accounting most for organizational insufficient capital, lack of government bailouts and prote	failure is not flawed strategy,
technology. More important than all these factors com	<u>bined</u> is the failure to embed
sufficient talent in the organization. The ability to hire available at every salary level is what distinguishes premi	
from mediocre ones."	
Dr. Bradford Smart, Topgrading	
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	SUPPORT

First who, then what

Jim Collin's *Good to Great* expected to find that the first step in taking a company from good to great would be to set a new direction and strategy, and then get people committed and aligned... but discovered that the opposite is true.

First get the right people on, the wrong people off, and then figure out where to drive.

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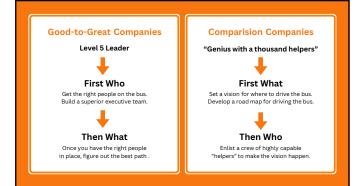
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First who, then what

- If you begin with who, the **team will more easily adapt to changing direction.**They're there because they like who is on the bus, not necessarily the direction.
- If you begin with who, you don't need to motivate and manage. The right people are self-motivated by the inner drive to produce excellent results.
- If you have the wrong people, it doesn't matter whether you discover the right direction. Great vision without great people is irrelevant.

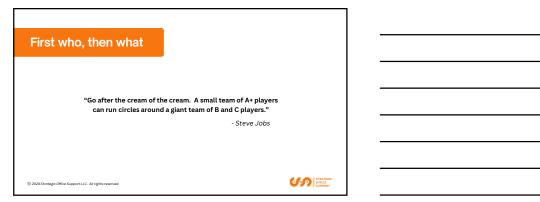
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First who, then what	
Company A: Mediocre talent Strategy will take 3 years	High performing employees are 4x to 8x more productive than normal, average employees.
Company B:	
Same strategy as Company A	
Replace 20% of average talent with great	at talent
If 400% more productive, strategy will	take <2 years
If 800% more productive, strategy will	take <1 year
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Learn:	
How to get leaders	
to work for you	
13TMMOC	
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16	
What does by blockwoods	
What does top talent want?	
You must create a vision so large and exciting that leaders would rather join you than do their own thing or seek a different opportunity.	
Their vision for themselves must fit inside your vision.	
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17	
	1
What does top talent want?	
Action Tip: Utilize PPF goals with everyone in your organization	
Personal - Focused on passions (travel, hobbies, relationships, health)	
Professional - Focused on accomplishment (new skills, awards, positions) Financial - Focused on motivations (net worth, paying loans, family care)	
Thanks Toolog of Thornacions (not note, paying tours, runity care)	

What d	oes top talent want?	
3	There is nothing an A player hates more than working Your C and B players are preventing you from attract your next leaders. You must coach up or out. Master the art of getting someone to change and ground out of desire.	ting and developing
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19		

What does top talent want?



Action Tip: CEO = CAO (Chief Accountability Officer)

- Tactical Accountability
 Developmental Accountability



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What does top talent want? You must be a great leader. No personnel strategy or recruitment process can improve the quality of people you recruit compared to improving yourself.

Who you attract is not determine by what you want; it's determined by what you are.	
Your leadership is the lid on your organization's success.	
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The McDonald brothers	
and Ray Kroc	
By 1948, McDonald had created one of the most profitable restaurants in the country. 1952 started franchising McDonalds but was a failure.	
Alller	
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The McDonald brothers and Ray Kroc	
1954 enters Ray Kroc.	
Kroc saw vision of taking McDonald's nationwide, formed McDonald's systems Inc with them. Before Kroc, the brothers sold to	
15 buyers, only 10 of which opened restaurants.	



Identify:

Why you're not as successful as you want to be

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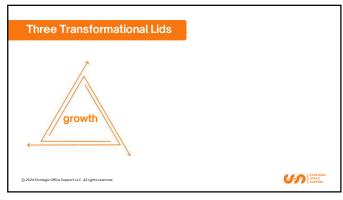
What makes a leader great?

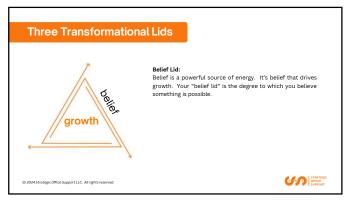






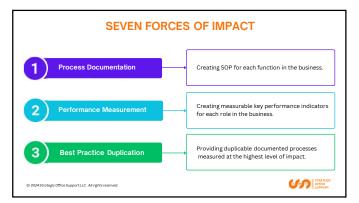
Section II: Scaling Principles

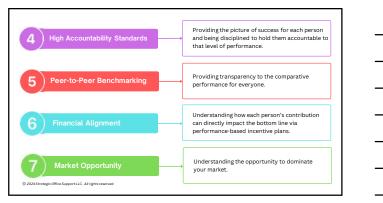


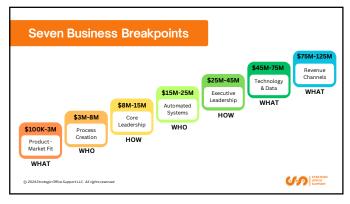




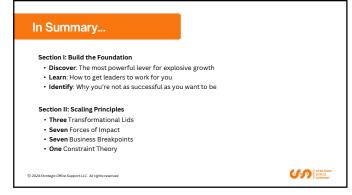








One Constraint Theory A system will grow until it is constrained. Once you remove the constraint, it will continue to grow until it reaches another constraint. Put all your effort into identifying and solving the one constraint.



Credit for this presentation goes to extraordinary giants that paved the way:

- John C. Maxwell, The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership
- Jim Collins, Good to Great
- Bradford Smart, Topgrading
- Brandon Dawson, 10x360
- And Steve Cela, for this opportunity to learn by doing

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Thank you! Sarah Newby Director of Sales & Marketing Artificial Intelligence In HME HME Summit 2023 Takoaways HME Summit 2023 Takoaways What you should know about the insurance Hille insurance World... Scan to access more resources! How to Him the Right People