



HERO **News Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HERO SELECTS DAVID ANDERSON AS RECIPIENT OF THE BILL WHITMER LEADERSHIP AWARD

MINNEAPOLIS (Aug. 29, 2013)—The [Health Enhancement Research Organization \(HERO\)](#) announced today that [David Anderson](#), executive vice president and chief health officer for StayWell Health Management, has been chosen as the recipient of the [HERO Bill Whitmer Leadership Award](#).

“This award recognizes the important role that strong leadership plays in improving the health of the nation’s workforce,” said Jerry Noyce, president and CEO of HERO. “Research shows that if executive leaders visibly support workplace health, their companies are more likely to see improvement in employee health and positive financial outcomes. David Anderson has been at the forefront of research related to the role of leadership in employee health management, and as an executive leader himself, he has designed programs that helped shape the industry, while demonstrating a personal commitment to a healthy lifestyle every day. David was a founding member of HERO and has provided leadership in the growth and operation of this organization for many years.”

Anderson was chosen for this award based on his sustained leadership in enhancing the practice of employee health management and for fostering measurable improvements in health-enhancing behavior change and workplace health.

In his role at StayWell, Anderson oversees the design of the company’s population health strategies, assessment models, and behavior change programs. He is also a nationally recognized expert in research that addresses the effectiveness and the financial impact of workplace health initiatives. Anderson has authored or co-authored more than 50 peer-reviewed journal articles and given more than 100 presentations at national wellness and benefits conferences.

According to [Philip Swayze](#), chair of the HERO awards committee and associate director of business development for [Abacus Health Solutions](#), Anderson was nominated by his peers and selected based on a review of his overall body of work in the field of employee health management. Applications for the Bill Whitmer Leadership Award were reviewed and rated by a committee of industry-leading professionals with extensive experience in designing and implementing workplace wellness programs.

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Based in Edina, Minn., the Health Enhancement Research Organization (HERO) is a non-profit corporation dedicated to the creation and dissemination of employee health management research, education, policy, strategy, and leadership.

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