

Marianne Steger, MS, CEBS

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Marianne Steger has more than 35 years of experience in health plan strategy and design, employee benefits, labor relations and public policy. Currently the Director of Public Sector and Labor Strategy for Willis Towers Watson working with public employers and unions to preserve retiree health care, she is the retired Director of Health Care for the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System. At OPERS she ran the retiree health care program for nearly a quarter of a million lives including executing the largest transition (142,000 lives) in the country of Medicare retirees from a group plan to individual plans on a Medicare exchange. Prior to commencing her career at OPERS in 2011, she spent 30 years partnering with public employers on health care issues in her career with the American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO.

In her career she has partnered with numerous public sector entities in Ohio helping them provide quality affordable health care to employees including: the State of Ohio, Franklin County, City of Dayton, Cincinnati Public Schools, the City of Cincinnati, City of Columbus, City of Niles, Miami University, City of Akron, City of Toledo, Lucas County, Cuyahoga County and others.

Passionate about the contribution public employees make to our communities, Marianne has been on a mission to preserve retiree health care across the nation, like she did in Ohio, since retiring as the health care director at OPERS.

Marianne represented OPERS on the Public Sector Health Care Roundtable, a national organization that works to improve health quality and cost for public pension systems and public employers. She also serves nationally on the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans Public Sector Committee and has served as chair and was a voting director of the IFEBP Board in the past.

Marianne was appointed by former Ohio Governor Strickland to serve on the Ohio Health Care Coverage Reform Initiative Task Force. She was also appointed by Cincinnati Mayor Mark Mallory to serve on the Cincinnati Retirement System Pension and Health Care Task Force. More recently she helps her home city of Columbus Ohio with administering their health care program for active employees.

Marianne graduated as a Paul Robeson Scholar with a Bachelor of Arts in Labor Studies from Rutgers University and holds a Master's of Science in Labor Studies from the University of Massachusetts and is certified as a Certified Employee Benefits Specialist from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania and the IFEBP.

Marianne produces a podcast called *Eye on 65* about retiree health care with her co-host John Barkett. Available on iTunes or wherever you get your podcasts.