

Jack Ashby, MHA, Recognized by America's Best in Medicine as an Expert in Health Care Payment and Policy

A Legacy of Health Care Innovation and Policy Leadership in Hawaii



Honolulu, Hawaii Jan 26, 2026 ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - Honolulu, Hawaii — Jack Ashby, MHA, retired from his role as Director of Hospital Research at the Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA), a position he held from 2008 to 2022. With over four decades of experience in health care policy and finance, Mr. Ashby has been a pivotal figure in enhancing the quality and efficiency of health care delivery in Hawaii. His contributions have significantly shaped hospital payment systems and Medicare

Advantage policies, benefiting countless residents across the state.

Throughout his tenure at HMSA, Mr. Ashby led initiatives that focused on improving hospital payment systems, optimizing cost efficiency, and elevating the quality of care provided to patients. His expertise in analyzing hospital costs and payment-to-cost ratios played a crucial role in the development and implementation of HMSA's hospital pay-for-performance program. As the landscape of health care evolved, Mr. Ashby adeptly expanded his focus to encompass the intricacies of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) payment policy, particularly concerning the Medicare Advantage program.

In addition to his work on payment systems, Mr. Ashby demonstrated a commitment to social responsibility by spearheading the development of a comprehensive health care center for the homeless in urban Honolulu. This initiative not only addressed immediate health care needs but also fostered long-term pathways to stability for some of Hawaii's most vulnerable populations.

Mr. Ashby's educational background is equally impressive. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and a Master of Hospital Administration (MHA), today termed Health Care Management and Policy, from the University of Michigan. Prior to his impactful role at HMSA, he was the Hospital Research Director at the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) for 19 years, where he was instrumental in shaping federal policies related to Medicare payment systems and hospital reimbursement models. Earlier in his career, he held senior leadership positions as Vice President of Finance at the District of Columbia Hospital Association and as Group Manager for Health Systems at Applied Management Sciences, Inc., focusing on health system performance and financial analysis.

After retiring from HMSA, Mr. Ashby continues to serve as a consultant, providing valuable insights on payment-related issues and contributing to the ongoing evolution of health care payment reform and data-driven health policy in Hawaii.

Mr. Jack Ashby's remarkable career represents a significant contribution to health care policy and leadership in Hawaii. His legacy of innovation and service continues to influence the future of health care in the islands, and his dedication to improving health care access and quality serves as an inspiration to all who follow in his footsteps.

Learn more about Jack Ashby:

Through his America's Best in Medicine profile, <https://americasbestinmedicine.com/providers/jack-ashbymha>

America's Best in Medicine

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