President and CEO Louis L. Levine, who has a distinguished resume in labor, from his service under three governors of New York State to his work with the AFL-CIO, founded the National Labor & Management Conference (NLMC) in 1977, 40 years ago. The NLMC provides a forum for the critical contemporary issues affecting both labor and management.

At its annual meeting this year in Hollywood, Florida, Mr. Levine delivered opening remarks in which he contrasted new advances in industries to the resulting obsolescence of different professions and the potential irrelevance of millions of workers. There is a tremendous gap, for example, for workers aged 45 - 60; their jobs are gone, and no one is paying attention to this gap or the workers, who often lack training and education for today’s jobs. Our education system is not helping. “Schools are not training students for the year 2030, they’re training for 2000.”

Mr. Levine also appeared on the panel “The Future of Healthcare: What is on the Horizon for 2017 and Beyond,” joining R. Daniel Davis, DPM, President of the American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA); Andrew Gurman, MD, President, American Medical Association (AMA) and Karen Ignagni, President and CEO, EmblemHealth. Part of his presentation focused on Medicaid. Of the approximately 20 million patients added to the Affordable Care Act rolls, most are new Medicaid patients, he said. Doctors who will accept Medicaid payments in urban areas, however, are very hard to find, so the patients end up in hospital emergency rooms anyway, even though Medicaid’s intent was to shift their care to doctors’ offices. The audience agreed.

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President & CEO Levine Honored for 40 Years of the National Labor & Management Conference

The “The Future of Healthcare: What is on the Horizon for 2017 and Beyond” panel comprised, left to right: NYCPM President and CEO Levine; R. Daniel Davis, DPM, President of the American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA); Andrew Gurman, MD, President, American Medical Association (AMA) and Karen Ignagni, President and CEO, EmblemHealth.

At the meeting, Mr. Levine was honored for founding NLMC 40 years ago with a champagne toast and presented with a plaque that bore a model bridge and honored Mr. Levine as a “Builder of Bridges.”