Single Payer NOW! Achieving the Universal Solution in an Incremental World

Geri Katz
Minnesota Nurses Association

Jamie Long, J.D.
The office of Congressman Keith Ellison (MN-5)

Regina Reed
National Health Care for the Homeless Council
The mission of the National Health Care for the Homeless Council is to eliminate homelessness by ensuring comprehensive health care and secure housing for everyone.
Single Payer NOW! Achieving the Universal Solution in an Incremental World

Geri Katz, Minnesota Nurses Association
Nurses Want Healthcare for All
Principles

• All people are covered with equal care
• Includes dental, vision, mental health, chemical dependency
• Allows patients to choose their providers

www.mnhealthplan.org
Principles

• Reduces costs by cutting administrative bureaucracy

• Premiums based on ability to pay

• Focus on preventive care and early intervention
Principles

• Enough healthcare providers to guarantee access to timely care

• Provide adequate and timely payments to providers

• Simple funding and payment system
Failures of the Current System
What can’t financing alone fix?

Social Determinants of Health

- Neighborhoods
- Education
- Employment
- Food availability
- Literacy
- Access to nature
- Housing
- Public safety

These factors cannot be solely fixed by financing.
Health Insurance industry’s explanation for rising costs

• People use what they don’t need

• People are irresponsible

• People are old
Single Payer savings = improved outcomes
MNA and Single Payer
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>DO</strong></th>
<th><strong>DON’T</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic Need</td>
<td>“Right not a privilege”</td>
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<td>Simple and streamlined</td>
<td>will cover uninsured</td>
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<tr>
<td>Criticize the industry</td>
<td>Gov’t vs. Corp</td>
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<td>Dental and vision</td>
<td>Rule out GOP/conservatives</td>
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Sources of Healthcare Spending

- Private: 35%
- Medicare: 20%
- Medicaid: 11%
- VA/Public Health: 11%
- Govt. Workers: 11%
- Tax Subsidies: 6%
2/3 is tax dollars
Current Single-Payer Bills

• In the House of Representatives- The Expanded & Improved Medicare For All Act, H.R. 676

• In the Senate- The Medicare-for-All Act of 2017, S. 1804

• A Directory of State Single-Payer Legislation can be found at HEALTHCARE-NOW
Perspective from “the inside”

Jamie Long, J.D.

Deputy Chief of Staff
The Office of Congressman Keith Ellison (MN-5)
What can I do?
Resources

- CampaignForGuaranteedHealthCare.org
- FixitHealthCare.com
- PNHP.org
- NationalNursesUnited.org