



Health Care is a Human Right



WELCOME

A move is underway to repeal the Affordable Care Act and unravel everything we have gained in health care in over 50 years, including Medicare and Medicaid. Our coalition is refocusing our efforts on stopping these attacks and finding a health care system that allows all of us access to quality, affordable health care.

Welcome to our **February** Health Care is a Human Right newsletter! Every month, we will keep you up to date on the progress of this movement.

In this issue you will learn about:

- New Legislative Targets
- Actions, Rallies and Canvasses
- Organizations Sign On
- What You Can Do
- Events to Attend

Legislative Targets

A new campaign is underway to Save the Affordable Care Act and stop attacks on health care, Medicare and Medicaid. The campaign has four legislative targets including Rep. Dave Reichert in the 8th Legislative District, Cathy McMorris Rodgers in the 5th LD, Dan Newhouse in the 4th LD and Jaime Herrera Beutler in the 3rd. Each of these Republican Congress members is opposed to the ACA and stands in the way of saving it and protecting our health benefits. Several events and actions have already taken place. More are to come. Read more below.

Governor's

Press Conference

On January 12, Governor Jay Inslee held a press conference at Swedish Medical Center in Issaquah to call for a stop to the repeal of Obamacare until a replacement is simultaneously ready to put in place. He challenged this state's seven million residents to reach out to their Senators and Representatives in Congress and encourage them to protect our state's health care. Washington CAN! leader Joselito Lopez told attendees of his story of losing health insurance while he was on the operating table. "We all need to be accountable in this fight to save health care," Lopez said.



Save the ACA Rally

On January 15, a rally led by Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal to save the ACA brought 2,000 activists to Westlake Park. Emotional stories from members of the community who would be affected by a repeal of the ACA inspired the crowd. "Three quarters of a million Washingtonians could lose their healthcare," Jayapal said. "There are 50,000 people who have benefited through Medicaid expansion who will lose that." She continues to be a strong voice in the efforts to protect health care.

Reichert Protest



Rep. Dave Reichert was the first target in a series of actions planned by Washington CAN!'s staff and membership. A protest outside his office sent a message to Rep. Reichert through his staff that health advocates will not stand idle while he does nothing to protect health coverage, Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security in Washington state.

Vancouver Canvass

The Washington CAN! field canvass hit the streets in Vancouver, WA to cover the district of Republican Representative Jaime Herrera Beutler. Canvassers knocked on hundreds of doors in the 3rd district collecting post cards of ACA supporters. Canvassers knocked on 1,085 doors, made contact with 494 people and collected 313 post cards. The post cards will be delivered to Herrera Beutler in meeting with her in the coming weeks.



Organizational Support

65 organizations have signed on to support the move to protect the Affordable Care Act. The organizations in community, health care and labor industries have signed a letter to Congress demanding it save the ACA.

[Read the letter here.](#)

[Send your own letter to Congress here.](#)

New Fact Sheets

There are new fact sheets available to give legislative-district-specific data in the targeted districts of 3, 4, 5 and 8. [Click this link to download a fact sheet.](#)

What Can You Do?

Write a letter to your Congress member asking them to fight to save the Affordable Care Act. Congress members in the targeted legislative districts of 3, 4, 5 and 8 need to hear from you the most, but all Congress members are needed for this fight, so send an email to Democrats too.

[Click this link to send an email.](#) Be sure to customize the letter if you have a personal story!

Coming Up

Open House

Congressman Newhouse is holding an **open house** for constituents to ask questions **on Monday, Feb 6 at 11 am at Omak City Hall, 2 North Ash Street**. This is a great opportunity to show up to participate in the town hall and bring up your concerns about the ACA, Medicaid and Medicare coming under fire. [You can download the fact sheet for that district here](#). Organizers are encouraging those who are interesting to show up at **10:30 outside Omak City Hall** and to come prepared to share a story, or ask a question. Children are welcome and homemade sings are encouraged!

Have a Heart for Health Care

Join Washington CAN!, Fuse Washington, SEIU Healthcare, 1199 NW and others in **Spokane on Monday, Feb 13th at 12 noon** for a rally outside **Cathy McMorris Rodgers office** to ask her to **Have a Heart for Health Care**. We are asking **Congresswoman Rodgers** to stand up to her peers in Republican leadership and oppose efforts to overturn the Affordable Care Act. Address: 10 N Post St, Suite 625, Spokane WA 99201.

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Mailing address: Washington Community Action Network, 1806 E Yesler Way,
Seattle, WA, 98122, US