



MVHCA NEWS

April 2014

Mid-Valley Health Care Advocates

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NEWS RELEASE, March 26: Governor Kitzhaber announced today that Oregonians now have until April 30, 2014, to apply for private health insurance.

The Governor also announced that qualified Oregon small business owners will have access to more affordable health insurance for their employees. The new arrangement allows small businesses to access the tax credits for 2014 without having to wait for small-group shopping features to be available on Cover Oregon's website. There's much more information on how this will work at resources.coveroregon.com/small-business.

HEALTHCARE-NOW! Organizing for a National Single-Payer Healthcare System

March 10: The cause of universal healthcare is alive and well. Not only is the state of Vermont **moving toward a single-payer system**, but Vermont's **U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders** has **introduced a bill and is holding a hearing** tomorrow on the benefits other countries enjoy from a single-payer system that would benefit everyone except the profiteering middlemen who've rigged the current system.

"**The United States is the only major nation in the industrialized world that does not guarantee healthcare as a right to its people,**" Sanders said. "It is time that we bring about a fundamental transformation of the American healthcare system. It is time for us to end private, for-profit participation in delivering basic coverage."

The bill, **S. 1782, the American Health Security Act**, would be a much more significant change to health coverage than those recently implemented. It would create a much simpler, less wasteful system of paying for healthcare, one that's in fact been tested in every other industrialized nation in the world, every one of which buys more healthcare for less money than we do in the United States.

The current system remains so broken that change must come. The question is how slowly and how piecemeal, and with how much unnecessary suffering along the way.

Join us in speaking up for universal coverage now!

This is a joint action with RootsAction and the Labor Campaign for Single Payer.

Sincerely,

Ben, Zoraida, and Jeff
Healthcare-NOW! National Staff

Healthcare-NOW! Is a grassroots organization that addresses the health insurance crisis in the U.S. by educating and advocating for the passage of expanded and improved Medicare-for-all legislation, such as HR 676.



"It is time for us to end private, for-profit participation in delivering basic coverage." - Sen. Bernie Sanders

[Ask your senators to cosponsor](#) (click) and support the American Health Security Act.

Take Action!

Share this on Facebook

facebook

Share this on Twitter

twitter

APRIL

5th Portland Inner City Blues Festival!

At the Melody Ballroom, 615 SE Alder St. in Portland.
10 ALL STAR MUSIC PERFORMANCES. Details [here](#) (click).
This is the Music Festival to benefit the growing campaign
Health Care for All - Oregon. Tickets \$15 [here](#) ~ \$20.00 at Door
 Saturday April 5th 6 p.m.-12 a.m.
Carpool from Corvallis? Contact mchuntington@comcast.net



15 The Healthcare Movie. Sponsored by the League of Women Voters.
 Compares our system with Canada’s. Followed by discussion led
 by members of MVHCA. Corvallis Public Library, **7:00 pm.**

24 George Mann Concert. American folksinger sings songs of labor
 and social activism plus powerful, funny takes on the current state
 of the nation. **MVHCA benefit.** Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.
Tickets \$15 at door or at Troubadour, Grassroots or Gracewind.
 (No one turned away)
7:00 pm.



Folksinger George Mann

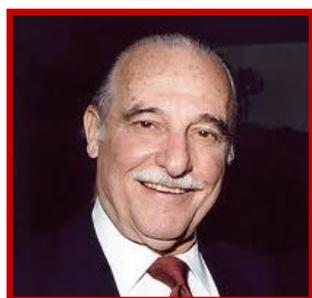
Volunteers still needed for the George Mann concert on April 24.

E-mail Bobbi Hall at rbhall@peak.org with “volunteer” in the subject line if you can help. Volunteers are needed to distribute flyers (now). Others would need to arrive at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at 6:30 on April 24th and help set up chairs, sell tickets or clean up afterwards. Volunteer for multiple duties or just one.

MAY

8th Informational Talks about Cover Oregon & Basic Health Care Proposal.

Janet Bower: “Basic Health Proposal”; Leticia Garcia-Rodrigues: “How to enroll in Cover Oregon”. Rural & Hispanic focus. Spanish-speaker will be available. Monroe Library, 4:30—6:30.



Dr. Gerald Friedman

16th Gerald Friedman, PhD economist lectures.

Two lectures in Corvallis; also in six other venues around the state.

One lecture will compare the U.S. health care system with other countries, the other— the economic viability of ‘Medicare for All’.

12 n on OSU campus, Hallie Ford Center
 7—9 pm at Dennis Hall, Presbyterian Church, 9th & Monroe.
 Followed by a fundraiser reception—Tickets \$15. Purchase at door or on MVHCA website, at Grassroots Bookstore or Winestyles.

The man on the right in this picture was learning about Mid-Valley/HCAO at our table, where we were asking people to comment on: How would Corvallis be different if EVERYONE had health care?

At LEFT is Jack Elder, our treasurer, and at CENTER—Amy Roy, our social-media editor.

From 5 to 7 pm at the fair on March 10, folk circulated among tables provided by a great many community groups, Mid-Valley Health Care Advocates among them. It was a high-energy evening, and we felt good to be there making our case.

bobbi hall



Now You Can Help MVHCA With Just a Few Clicks (Facebook Edition)!

We are working to expand our online audience so that we can get our message out about health care reform and the need for quality health care for everyone. Facebook has a threshold: once an organization has 200 or more Likes, it shows up on a lot more news feeds. Our goal is to get 200 people to Like our page as soon as possible. Even if you only have time to do steps 1 & 2, it can make a big difference! Here are some simple steps you can take to help expand our online community so that more citizens are informed and involved. We focus on Facebook this issue, and will cover Twitter in next month's edition. Here's how you can help us reach this goal:



- 1) If you don't have a Facebook account, go to www.facebook.com and create one.
- 2) Go to www.facebook.com/MVHCA and click **Like** (see purple oval in screen shot).
- 3) Go to **Invite Your Friends to Like This Page** and click on your Facebook friends to invite them to also **Like** the MVHCA page (see red oval in screen shot).
- 4) Make a post on your page similar to this: "I support health care for all Oregon so I support Mid-Valley Health Care Advocates by liking them on Facebook. Help them spread their message by liking their page too! <https://www.facebook.com/MVHCA>."
- 5) Look for the daily MVHCA posts and **Like**, **Share**, and **Comment** as much as you want.
- 6) When you see an event on the MVHCA page, click on the event and invite your friends to attend.

Thank you for helping get the message out about MVHCA and the need for universal health care!

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED FOR MAY 16 (7-9 PM) FRIEDMAN EVENT!

Call Dagmar Johnson at 541-752-4415. At this point we still need:

Housing for the tour team 4 – 10 homes

Setup/take down tables – 2 more

Put up posters around town – 1 more

Pass donation baskets during event – 2 more

Manage sign-in clipboards – 1 more

Elizabeth Waldron is our new Volunteer Coordinator.

Elizabeth is a retired physician, internal medicine/geriatrics, and is looking forward to helping our secretary keep track of MVHCA members and volunteers. She may call or e-mail you with questions or to recommend reading. Elizabeth invites you to e-mail her, ewaldron931@gmail.com, with your thoughts.



Elizabeth Waldron

The MVHCA Nominating Committee (John Booker, Louise Ferrell and Bobbi Hall) has nominated **Tim Roach** for MVHCA Vice-Chair and **Jack Elder** to run again for Treasurer. Advocates may nominate someone from the floor if they secure that person's permission in advance. The election will be held on June 23.

Funding the Study Bill: An Update

To win Oregon legislators and voters to universal, tax-supported health care, it is vital that the \$200,000 needed for a study of alternative healthcare proposals be raised. Dr. Sam Metz reports that the fund drive is going slower than hoped: "We anticipate [the study] will be funded and underway when the February 2015 legislative session convenes. [It] is unlikely to be complete. We plan to ask the legislature to extend the completion deadline [and] anticipate little opposition to this proposal."

"We are confident this study will be funded and completed in time to provide Oregon's legislators and voters with the information they need to enact universal, ... sustainable health care in Oregon," says Dr. Metz. If you can help, contact Sam at S@SamuelMetz.com or ©5003.754.1329.

The Basic Health Program: There's Help for Some Left out in the Cold Presently by ACA

There is a solution in the pipeline for Americans who fall just above the Medicaid eligibility limit and have been finding their options for insurance under the Affordable Care Act too expensive. It is *The Basic Health Program* and will be available in states that opt for it in January 2015. It will also offer coverage to (legal) immigrants in the U.S. for less than five years and to refugees.

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services published the final rules for this ACA provision last month. It allows states to use federal funds to establish this alternative program. Oregon's legislature recently passed a law (HB 4109) calling for the Oregon Health Authority to study the option.

JOIN US!

Attend our Fourth Monday general meetings! Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 2945 NW Circle Dr., 7—9 PM

Next meeting: April 28

Orientation for newcomers at 6 PM, same place.

The MVHCA Bookmobile (& DVDs) appears at Fourth Monday General Meetings

Connect with MVHCA via Facebook (www.facebook.com/MVHCA) & Twitter (twitter.com/MVHCA)

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