

Care4All California Campaign – Goals and Strategies

PROTECTING AND EXTENDING CALIFORNIA’S PROGRESS: Our campaign is proud of the work to implement and improve the Affordable Care Act in California. This work has led to the largest drop of the uninsured of all 50 states, new patient protections, and real progress on addressing cost, quality, and equity. If the framework and financing of the ACA stays intact, we can take additional steps toward the goal of universal and affordable health care for all Californians. While we must remain vigilant to the very real federal threats to cut coverage and care for Californians, we also see an opportunity to continue our progress at the state level.

THE CHALLENGE AND THE OPPORTUNITY: We are clear-eyed but unbowed in facing the obstacles to attain quality, affordable health care for all Californians. These obstacles include raising and/or recapturing revenues to fund our health system, industry and political opposition, and thorny policy issues. Hostile federal actions would cut and cap Medicaid, Medicare and the ACA and set our progress back a generation, and the federal government is unlikely to approve significant waivers or other changes in laws or regulations that would allow California to go forward.

We refuse to let those obstacles stop California’s progress. While fighting to keep Medicaid, Medicare, and the ACA intact, we can advance the vision of universal health care and seek to make tangible improvements in our health system at the state level in the short-term that don’t require significant federal approval. With a new Governor who has publicly expressed commitment to many of these goals, California has the unique ability to bring this change now.

THE ASPIRATIONAL GOALS WE SEEK TO ACHIEVE:

* **Securing and expanding coverage, increasing access and affordability, for all Californians**, regardless of immigration status; improving affordability and more assistance to low and middle income Californians, from children to seniors, and getting California towards universal coverage;

* **Advancing quality care and more equitable health outcomes**, ensuring that all Californians can access quality care once enrolled, for improved health outcomes and reduced health disparities. Securing, expanding and improving public coverage, simplifying our system, and shifting our health focus more on prevention rather than profits; and ultimately continuing to have California lead the nation to show what is possible in improving our health care system.

* **Addressing the overall cost and holding industry accountable**, including greater oversight and accountability of insurers, hospitals, drug companies, and other providers and other elements of the health industry, as well as otherwise advancing the “quadruple aim” of access, cost, quality and equity, for improved health outcomes and reduced health disparities.

WHO WE ARE: This campaign of consumer, community, labor, progressive, and health care organizations working to advance the goal of quality affordable health care for all Californians. This campaign includes many groups that support single-payer and Medicare for All reforms, and we see these efforts as complementary, not competing, given different tracks and timetables. This campaign will focus on what is achievable in California without significant federal approval or changes to the California Constitution—and that is concrete, measurable progress toward universal coverage.

Since 2010, California has made so much progress, but there is much more to do. We should build on our progress and, as much as possible, not let the current federal Administration be a barrier to upholding California’s values. We can provide real, tangible help and support to Californians in the short term over the next few years, toward the broad vision of quality affordable health care for all.

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