

The Road Ahead...

In 2011, the Healthcare Is a Human Right Campaign succeeded in getting Act 48 passed, which requires our state to meet everyone's health needs.



Over the next year, lawmakers and Governor Shumlin's administration will get into the details of how our future healthcare system will work, and especially how it will be funded. Many different groups and industry lobbies will be in the Statehouse fighting for their own interests.

We believe everyone should be able to get the care they need, when they need it, and that we should pay for this system in an equitable way.

Get Involved!

- Sign the petition and tell your story
- Talk to your neighbors, friends, and family
- Participate in democracy and contact your legislators
- Join the healthcare is a human right campaign!

The Vermont Workers' Center is a democratic, member-run organization dedicated to organizing for the human rights of the people in Vermont. We seek an economically just and democratic Vermont in which all residents can meet their human needs and enjoy their human rights, including dignified work, universal healthcare, housing, education, childcare, transportation and a healthy environment.



**info: www.workerscenter.org
email matt@workerscenter.org**

Fighting for Universal Healthcare as a Public Good by 2017



Vermont is on the verge of a breakthrough to make sure that everyone can get the healthcare they need — but we need you to take action to make it happen.

The Vermont Workers' Center

The Healthcare Is a Human Right campaign calls on Vermont to leave behind the relics of the insurance system and put people's health needs first.

Universal access to care that meets all health needs.

The system of health insurance is driven by making money for corporations, while healthcare is driven by health and meeting our health needs. Even after federal health reform, insurance "benefits packages" continue to prioritize profits for insurance companies, while limiting the care we can access.

Our campaign calls on Vermont to leave behind the relics of the insurance system and put people's health needs first. Everyone must be able to meet all their health needs — from dental to vision, reproductive to transgender care, and everything we need to stay healthy.

Universal = everyone

Everyone needs healthcare and noone should be denied the care they need. In 2011, a proposed Senate amendment



threatened to exclude migrant farmworkers from the healthcare system, until members of the Healthcare Is a Human Right Campaign blocked the amendment by demonstrating that universal means everyone in our communities. We should expect more attempts to exclude people from Green Mountain Care and be prepared to stand by all our neighbors.

Here's what we are fighting for in Vermont:

A healthcare system that meets everyone's needs.

What's included?
All the care we need.

Who's included?
Everyone.

No more out-of-pocket costs that restrict our access to care.

By funding healthcare through progressive taxes, access to care will be free when you go to use the service. Imagine that when you're sick, or just want to stay healthy, you can go to a care provider regardless of how much money you have in the bank or what job you hold. The only thing you'll need in your wallet is your Green Mountain Care card. There should be no co-pays, deductibles, or other fees, which lead to delays in care and the possibility of people's illnesses getting worse.

We love our kids and want to leave them a better world.



Everyone contributes what they can through equitable, progressive taxes. No more premiums.

In our society, there are some things that we decide are so important that we commit to making sure everyone has them. Like schools and fire protection, healthcare should be treated this way, as a public good.

Imagine your house was on fire but the fire trucks didn't come because you skipped a premium payment to the fire company. It sounds absurd, but this happens every day with our health. That's why we think healthcare should be funded publicly through a progressive tax system. That means people and businesses contribute based on how much they are able to pay. Wealthy people and corporations would pay more out of their income and wealth than lower-income people and small businesses. Right now we pay premiums to private insurers. That's not compatible with us treating healthcare as a public good.