2010 National Strategy Conference
*Buidling the Movement for Single-Payer Healthcare*

November 13th and 14th

William Way LGBT Community Center
Philadelphia, PA

www.Healthcare-Now.org
Agenda for Saturday, November 13th

4 PM - Welcome
Facilitators, Don Bechler, Single Payer NOW and Laurie Wen, Healthcare-NOW! New York City

5 PM - Policy and Protest: Philadelphians Address Fronts of the Single-Payer Struggle
Dr. Walter Tsou, Healthcare for All Philadelphia; Jacqueline Silver, MSW and Patricia Eakin, RN, Pennsylvania Allied Staff Nurses and Allied Professionals; Cheri Honkala and Galen Tyler, Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign.

6:30 - 7:30 PM - Dinner

7:30 - 8:50 PM - Moving Single-Payer Forward: Grassroots Strategies
Breakout groups will form around six themes to begin strategizing about the way forward in the struggle for single-payer healthcare. *Groups will reconvene Sunday to continue discussion and refine strategy.*

**Education - Ballroom** - facilitated by Ali Thebert, Physicians for a National Health Program and Rebecca Elgie, Single Payer New York

**Outreach/Base Building - Community Room** - facilitated by Andrea Miller, Progressive Democrats of America and Lisa Patrick-Mudd, Single Payer NOW

**Labor - Living Room** - facilitated by Mark Dudzic, Labor Campaign for Single Payer and Cindy Young, National Nurses United

**State Strategies - Philadelphia Room** - facilitated by Donna Smith, National Nurses United and Amy Lange, Minnesota Universal Health Care Coalition

**Challenging Corporate Power - Ballroom** - facilitated by Drew Smith, Mobilize Ohio Movement and Dr. Margaret Flowers, Physicians for a National Health Program


8:50 - 9:00 PM - Closing Remarks
Agenda for Sunday, November 14th

9:15 - 10:00 AM - Faith and Single-Payer: Moving Forward for Universal Healthcare

Dr. Bruce Hirsch, Network for Spiritual Progressives, Rev. David Bos, Presbyterian Health Education and Welfare Association, and Margie Rece, Quaker Religious Society of Friends.

10:00 - 10:45 AM - A Look at the Century of Struggle for Universal Health Care in the United States

Dr. Theodore Brown, Professor of History and of Community and Preventive Medicine and Medical Humanities at the University of Rochester

10:45 - 12:00 PM - Workshops

State Single-Payer Strategy - Philadelphia Room - Chuck Pennachio, Healthcare for All Pennsylvania; Mary Feldblum, Health Security for New Mexicans Campaign; Amy Lange, Minnesota Universal Health Care Coalition


David vs. Goliath: Divesting from Private Health Insurance Companies - Community Room - Rev. David Bos, Presbyterian Health Education and Welfare Association

Training the Trainer: Learn How to Organize an Effective Speakers Training and Evaluate Single-Payer Speeches - Living Room - Don Bechler, Single Payer NOW


12:00 - 12:45 PM - Lunch

Sunday agenda continued on next page.
Agenda for Sunday, November 14th Continued

12:45 - 1:30 PM - Organizing in States and Building the Movement for the Human Right to Health Care

Anja Rudiger, National Economic Social Rights Initiative, James Haslam, Vermont Workers Center, Al Gladyck, Retirees for Single Payer Health Care, Chuck Pennachio, Healthcare for All PA, and Amy Lange, Minnesota Universal Health Care Coalition

1:30 - 2:45 PM - Workshops

Handcuffed for Health Justice: Civil Disobedience and Creative Direct Action - Community Room - Laurie Wen, Healthcare NOW! NYC and Drew Smith, Mobilize Ohio Movement

Taking it to the Streets: Outreach and Framing for One on One Conversations About Single Payer - Living Room - Lisa Patrick Mudd, Single Payer NOW

Healthcare is a Human Right - Philadelphia Room - Anja Rudiger, National Economic Social Rights Initiative; and Peg Franzen and Jonathan Kissam, the Vermont Workers Center

“Infection in the System” - A Documentary by the Media Mobilizing Project - Ballroom - Bryan Mercer and Amendu Evans, Media Mobilizing Project

2:45 - 3:00 PM - Coffee Break / Reconvene Breakout Groups

3:00 - 4:00 PM - Grassroots Strategies

Breakout groups reconvene to refine strategy recommendations. Same rooms.

4:00 - 5:00 - Plenary: Affirming Our Strategy
Rev. Lucius Walker, Jr., August 3, 1930 - September 7, 2010

The 2010 National Strategy Conference is dedicated to Rev. Lucius Walker, Jr. Rev. Walker has been the Executive Director of the Interreligious Foundation for Community Organization/Pastors for Peace (IFCO) since 1967, and has served on Healthcare-NOW!'s Board since it formed in 2004.

Marilyn Clement, Healthcare-NOW!'s founder and National Coordinator until her death in 2009, and Rev. Walker were close friends, and Marilyn served on IFCO’s Board throughout most of its history. IFCO has served as Healthcare-NOW!’s fiscal sponsor since 2004, a service it provides to many social change organizations all over the US. When Marilyn became ill in June of 2008, Lucius stepped up IFCO’s support and gave much of his own time, allowing Healthcare-NOW! to overcome many challenges.

IFCO is perhaps best known for its two decade organizing campaign to end the U.S. embargo against Cuba. It sponsored 21 humanitarian aid caravans to Cuba, educating and engaging tens of thousands of US residents to challenge the embargo. In 1996, when the US government seized over 300 computers destined for Cuba as part of one of the caravans, Rev. Walker began a hunger strike that lasted 94 days, ending when 374 computers were finally released for shipment to Cuba. During the last two months of the “Fast for Life,” Rev. Walker occupied a tent outside the United Methodist national office in Washington, D.C.

In 2000, when members of the Congressional Black Caucus visited Cuba, President Fidel Castro made an offer to the delegation – Cuba would provide free medical school training to US citizens who would return to the US and practice medicine in poor and underserved areas. IFCO, with its usual tenacity, became the liaison with the Cuban government designated to implement this program. The first students arrived in 2001. To date, 33 students are MDs who successfully completed the program, and 122 are enrolled in the six-year program.

Rev. Walker was a very gifted human being, who inspired activists and demanded justice everywhere he went and in everything he did. He was an orator that could move any audience, a strategist who was not intimidated by empire’s power, and a humanitarian who dedicated his life to the belief that every human being deserved to be treated with dignity, with equal access to quality education, health care, nutrition, housing and living wage work.

Our movement has lost a champion. May he inspire the living to honor his legacy by more intense organizing and dedication to social justice in the U.S. and all over the world.
Conference Facilitators

**Don Bechler** is Chair of Single Payer NOW. Their focus is campaigning for SB 810, the California Universal Healthcare Act and nationally, HR 676, the US National Healthcare Act. He is on the board of Healthcare-Now and Senior Action Network, and the steering committee of the Leadership Conference for Guaranteed Healthcare.

**Laurie Wen** of Healthcare-NOW! New York City was staff organizer at Healthcare-NOW! in 2009 and is on the board of PNHP, New York Metro chapter. She is also active with Healthcare-NOW! NYC and Single Payer New York. Laurie organized sit-ins at insurance companies and politicians’ offices last fall for the Mobilization for Health Care for All civil disobedience campaign.

Panelists

**Rev. David Bos** is a member of the Presbyterian Health Education and Welfare Association and retired Louisville Presbyterian minister.

**Dr. Theodore Brown** is Professor of History and of Community and Preventive Medicine and Medical Humanities at the University of Rochester. His research falls into several areas: the history of American psychiatry and psychosomatic medicine; the influence of organized philanthropy on medical research, health policy, and medical education; the American health left and its role in both domestic and international health policy; and the history of American and global public health.

**Patricia Eakin, RN**, has been a registered nurse at Temple University Hospital for twenty-seven years and a registered nurse for thirty four years. She currently works full time in the Emergency Room as serves as PASNAP’s state wide president. During her tenure as president, PASNAP has become one of the most vocal labor supporters of single payer
across the state of Pennsylvania. Ms. Eakin recently testified before the Pennsylvania senate in support of single payer and was involved in leading the recent successful strike at Temple Hospital.

Al Gladyck is a member of UAW Local 7 Retiree Chapter and a member of Retirees for Single Payer Health Care.

James Haslam has been the Director of the Vermont Workers’ Center since 2000 and is the Lead Organizer for the Healthcare Is A Human Right Campaign.

Dr. Bruce Hirsch practices Geriatric Medicine, Infectious Disease, Internal Medicine near Manhasset, NY. He is also a member of the Network for Spiritual Progressives.

Cheri Honkala is a founder and national organizer for the Poor Peoples Economic Human Rights Campaign (PPEHRC). PPEHRC is an organization of 125 poor peoples groups from across the country that uses the economic human rights as contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (the rights to housing, health care, food, clothing, education and living wage jobs) as the framework for a movement to end poverty. As a woman who was formerly homeless and on public assistance herself, Cheri has been a tireless fighter for the rights of poor families for many decades.

Amy Lange RN, MS, a registered nurse and certified nurse-midwife has over 20 years of clinical experience in a variety of practice settings and several years as faculty in a nurse-practitioner certification program. Amy now works full time on health care reform as the Executive Director of the Minnesota Universal Health Care Coalition/The Campaign for the Minnesota Health Plan—a nonprofit working to establish single-payer health care for the state of Minnesota.
Chuck Pennacchio is history program director at The University of the Arts in Philadelphia, founder of Citizen Solutions for Pennsylvania, and former United States Senate candidate (2006). A longtime advocate of publicly-financed, privately-provided universal healthcare, and organizing veteran of 34 years, Chuck is Executive Director of Health Care for All Pennsylvania.

Margie Rece was born and raised in Long Island, New York. Dedicated in the Disciples of Christ Christian Church, Newark, NJ, later became a member of the Oldest Presbyterian Church in the country. She attended Yale Divinity School, preached and taught in Congregational/Christian Church. Joined the Methodist Church in Warm Springs, GA. After the war, she attended MCG and became a Psych/Mental Health Registered Nurse. She saw firsthand the changes in nursing, driven by the drug and insurance companies, and is now a leader in Healthcare-NOW! Georgia working for single-payer Medicare for All.

Anja Rudiger, Ph.D., is director of the Human Right to Health Program at the National Economic and Social Rights Initiative (NESRI). Anja works with community organizations and national coalitions to develop human rights tools for reforming the U.S. health care system. She has many years of experience in promoting a rights-based approach to policymaking at local, national, and international levels.

Jacqueline Silver, MSW has been a full time social worker at Temple University Hospital for twenty-two years. She served as President of the 500 member Temple University Hospital Allied Health Professionals until August of 2010. During her tenure as President Ms. Silver help develop her union into one of the strongest health care locals in the region, who recently, along with 1,000 registered nurses, led a successful month long strike against and increasingly anti union administration at Temple.

Walter Tsou, MD, MPH is a nationally known consultant on public health and health care reform. Currently, he is on the adjunct faculty in the Center for Public Health Initiatives at the University of Pennsylvania. He was President of the American Public Health Association in 2005. He served as Health Commissioner of Philadelphia from 2000 to 2002. He is on the
national board of Physicians for a National Health Program. Locally he is on the boards of Philadelphia Physicians for Social Responsibility and Health Care for All Pennsylvania among others.

Galen Tyler is a formerly homeless father. He was an organizer for the Kensington Welfare Rights Union from 1997-2003. He is a founding member of the Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign and is in the leadership body. From 1999 to 2006 Galen set on an International body as a board member on the Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights Network and a founding member. In 2003 he became the Executive Director of KWRU. He played leadership role in the Philadelphia Affordable Housing Coalition and the Campaign for Housing Justice. Galen still remains a low-income father working with all sections of the population to put an end to homelessness and poverty.

Breakout and Workshop Facilitators

Mark Dudzic joined the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers (now part of the Steelworkers) in 1979 when he helped to organize his precious metals refinery in Northvale, NJ. He served as chief steward and, in 1985, was elected full time local president. In 1994 he was elected President of the District 8 Council--the largest District Council in the OCAW. He was a leader in the efforts to build a Labor Party in the late 1990’s and, after the death of Labor Party founder Tony Mazzocchi, he moved to Washington DC in 2003 to carry on his work. He helped to found and currently serves as National Coordinator of the Labor Campaign for Single Payer.

Rebecca Elgie grew up in southern Ontario and worked in education for almost 40 years. When she retired in 2003 she started working on health care reform as a full time volunteer. Rebecca and her partner Bernie walked New York State from Kingston to Jamestown (over 400 miles!) to promote a single payer not for profit health system. Rebecca speaks at faith communities and at college and civic groups. She serves on the steering committees of Single Payer New York and is a board member of Healthcare-NOW!
Amendu Evans is a 33 year member of Service Employee International Union (SEIU) 32BJ. As a shop steward with SEIU, Amendu works to ensure the dignity of his co-workers, and all working people. Amendu is also a member of Media Mobilizing Project and a reporter/engineer for Labor Justice Radio, a monthly radio program that advocates justice for all working people.

Dr. Margaret Flowers is a Maryland pediatrician with experience as a hospitalist at a rural hospital and in private practice. She is currently working on single-payer health care reform full-time. In addition to her activity as co-chair of the Maryland chapter and Congressional Fellow for PNHP, Dr. Flowers is on the board of Healthcare-Now! Dr. Flowers obtained her medical degree from the University of Maryland School of Medicine and did her residency at John Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore.

Peg Franzen is the President of the Vermont Workers' Center and also the Coordinator of the "People's Team" for the Healthcare Is A Human Right Campaign which helped win a groundbreaking state bill in 2010 putting Vermont on course to treat healthcare as public good. Peg has worked for over thirty years of experience working on disability justice, fighting poverty and human rights.

Jonathan Kissam is a volunteer educator and strategist with the Vermont Workers’ Center. He also has two part-time jobs as a customer service representative and web engineer respectively, and is a rank and file member of UE Local 203.

Tom Knoche is a city planner who teaches Urban Studies at Rutgers-Camden, and serves on the Healthcare-NOW! Board. Tom spent 28 years in Camden, NJ as part of an intentional community engaged in community organizing, housing for the homeless, resisting displacement, and other social justice issues.
Bryan Mercer is Digital Inclusion Organizer and Web Strategists for the Media Mobilizing Project (MMP). MMP works to build the media and communications infrastructure of a movement to end poverty led by poor and working people united across color lines in Philadelphia and beyond.

Andrea Miller is part of the National Field Team for Progressive Democrats of America and a new Board member of The Patients Union. Prior to that, she was a part of Congressman Dennis Kucinich's presidential campaign, first as Statewide Coordinator for Virginia and subsequently as Regional Coordinator. Andrea was MoveOn's Regional Coordinator for the Central, Southwest and Tidewater areas of Virginia until taking on the Kucinich campaign.

Jeff Muckensturm is Healthcare-NOW!’s Web Coordinator. He manages Healthcare-NOW!’s website, database of supporters, social network profiles, and writes grants. Jeff lived and worked at Leavenhouse (a Catholic Worker community) in Camden, NJ and got his MA in Regional Economic and Social Development from the University of Massachusetts before joining Healthcare-NOW! full-time.

Lisa Patrick-Mudd became involved with the Single Payer movement in 2005 while attending the University of California, Santa Cruz. She’s been active with Single Payer Now as the Southern California Organizer. She runs the organization’s website, Singlepayernow.net. She focuses on activities surrounding tabling and outreach, organizing meetings in Los Angeles, recruiting and training activists on how to table and advocate for single-payer.

Katie Robbins is the National Organizer of Healthcare-NOW! and a firm believer that health care is a human right that must be delivered to all people without financial or other barriers. Currently based in Philadelphia, she supports an ever-expanding grassroots network of single-payer activists across the country who are working to build a movement to win a publicly funded, single-payer universal health care system.
**Donna Smith** is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Colorado College with a degree in history. She co-chairs Progressive Democrats of America's national "Healthcare Not Warfare" campaign, is the founder of American Patients United, is a national single-payer health care advocate and community organizer for the California Nurses Association/National Nurses Organizing Committee, and is on Healthcare-NOW!'s Board and Steering Committee.

**Drew Smith** has worked in healthcare administration for 4 years and first became involved with activism. His experience in medical billing and collections let him see first-hand the problems with our system. As the need for more direct action arose throughout last year’s healthcare debate, he formed the Mobilize Ohio Movement which is committed to bringing single payer to fruition. They have acted as a watch dog organization fighting health injustices with rapid response organizing, standing up to healthcare corporations, and raising awareness to our communities about the need for single payer.

**Mary Feldblum**, Executive Director, Health Security for New Mexicans Campaign. Established in 1993 the Campaign is the largest coalition in the state’s history. A former academic with a Ph.D. in sociology and a minor in economics, Mary has worked for many years as a consultant in a variety of areas including social policy research, empowerment and organizing workshops, negotiations training and mediation. She has over two decades of lobbying experience, representing a variety of New Mexico environmental organizations as well as the Campaign.

**Cindy Young** is a Special Projects Coordinator for California Nurses Association (CNA). Her primary responsibility at CNA is developing and implementing a single-payer education and advocacy program. Prior to her employment with CNA, she was the Senior Health Policy Advisor for California School Employees Association (CSEA) for twenty years. Cindy also served as the Labor Co-Chair for the California Education Coalition for Health Care Reform (CECHCR). Cindy served as the Director of Research for Unite/HERE, Local 2 in San Francisco for ten years. Her responsibilities included research and analysis on the Union’s Health, Pension and Education Trust Funds.
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The California School Employees Association salutes Healthcare-Now! For your work on the 2010 National Strategy Conference

CSEA and our 230,000 members know the only way to affordable, accessible, quality healthcare is through a single-payer system.

Allan D. Clark
Association President

Josie Mooney
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Salutes:

Healthcare—Now!
for It’s Continued Leadership
in the Essential Struggle for Health Care
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We join with you and others key supporters
in formulating strategies for moving forward
at the November 12 & 13 Conference
in Philadelphia, PA

On behalf of the LCS-P:
National Advisory Board
&
National Steering Committee
Mark Dudzic, National Coordinator

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Renewing the Call for:
“MEDICARE FOR ALL!”
We Are Happy to Support Healthcare—Now!
America's Coalition of Coalitions fighting for Universal, Single-Payer Healthcare for All...

...As you call us all to task in developing new strategies and tactics at the November 12 & 13 Conference in Philadelphia, PA

We Look to You for Continued Leadership and the Same Fighting Spirit You’ve Provided in the Past!

HEALTHCARE JUSTICE EDUCATION FUND

~ The Fight for Social Justice Can Never Take a Break ~

Renewing the Call for:

“MEDICARE FOR ALL!”

HJEF Co-Chairs: Sharon Penrod & Joan Suarez

Director: Jerry Tucker

E-mail: jtuckernd@sbcglobal.net
Onward to Single-Payer Health Care!

Champaign County Health Care Consumers
Chicago Single Payer Action Network
Gray Panthers
Illinois Single-Payer Coalition
Physicians for a National Health Program, IL Chapter
Progressive Democrats of America, Illinois

Thank you to Healthcare-NOW! for your leadership in the movement, and best wishes for a successful conference.

-your Labor friends in California

Onward to single payer!
Expanded and Improved Medicare for All

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The Pennsylvania Association of Staff Nurses and Allied Professionals is a state-wide union of registered nurses and healthcare professionals.

Together with the National Nurses United, we are committed to single-payer healthcare and creating better care for our patients and our country.

Together with HEALTHCARE-NOW, we will win just healthcare for all!
Breakout Room Locations

**Ballroom** - Located on second floor at the top of the steps. All plenaries, meals, and full conference gatherings are located here.

**Philadelphia Room** - Located on first floor. Enter behind the reception desk, down the hallway, first door on left.

**Living Room** - Located on first floor. Enter behind the reception desk, down the hallway, second door on left.

**Community Room** - Located on second floor. At the top of the steps, turn right (away from Ballroom), go to end of the hall.


Healthcare-NOW!

Our Mission

Healthcare-NOW! is an education and advocacy organization that addresses the health insurance crisis in the U.S by advocating for the passage of national, single-payer healthcare legislation. Right now, the National Health Insurance Act (HR 676) is the only legislation that will create a national, single-payer healthcare system. We see healthcare as a human right, not a privilege tied to the ability to pay.

Our Vision

Healthcare-NOW! is a 501(c)4 organization that is fueled by committed volunteers, activists, and interns supporting single-payer national health care. We are highly decentralized organization with hundreds of active members spread all over the country. We firmly believe that bottom-up efforts are the only way to win single-payer, guaranteed, and universal healthcare. We aim to engage and empower leaders at the grassroots level who will understand the issue and implement a wide range of tactics to push support for HR 676 into National legislation. We provide tools and leadership training to help them more effectively organize for single-payer national health care.
Healthcare-NOW! Staff Thanks All of Our Members, Supporters, Board Members, and Steering Committee

Steering Committee
Mark Dudzic, Director, Labor Campaign for Single-Payer
Sandy Fox, Director, Western PA Coalition for Single-Payer
Tom Knoche, Organizer, Healthcare-NOW!
Margie Rece, Healthcare-NOW! Activist
Donna Smith, Legislative Advocate, California Nurses Association
Ray Stever, President, Industrial Unions Council
Miriam Thompson, Organizer
Kay Tillow, Director, All Unions for Single-Payer HR 676

Board
Nurah Ammat’ Ullah, Executive Director, Muslim Women’s Institute for Research and Development
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Medea Benjamin, Director, Code Pink
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Rebecca Elgie, Chair, Tompkins County Health Care Task Force
Dr. Oliver Fein, President, Physicians for a National Health Program
Dr. Margaret Flowers, Congressional Fellow, Physicians for a National Health Program
Leo Gerard, President, United Steelworkers Union
Dr. Ida Hellander, Executive Director, Physicians for a National Health Program
Lindy Hern, PhD Candidate, Missourians for Single Payer
Susie Johnson, Executive Secretary, United Methodist Church, Women’s Division
Edith Kenna, Organizer, Hoosiers for a Common Sense Health Plan
Michael Lighty, Director of Public Policy, California Nurses Association
John Lozier, Executive Director, National Health Care for the Homeless Council
Mark Piotrowski, Organizer, Alachua Country Labor Party
Mikuak Rai, Organizer, Coalition of Uninsured and Underinsured for Single Payer
Art Richter, Co-Chair, Single Payer NY
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Vashti Winterburg, Co-chair, Kansas Health Care for All
Dr. Quentin Young, National Coordinator, Physicians for a National Health Program