



Health Care For All New York

Building Health Reform That's Right for New York

Who We Are

Health Care For All New York (HCFANY) is a statewide coalition of over 170 organizations dedicated to winning quality, affordable health coverage for all New Yorkers.

HCFANY's Mission:

- Convene and educate advocates, policymakers, and the public about State and federal health reform measures;
- Provide easily accessible public information and education about health reform;
- Work with and provide input to policymakers on state health reform issues and federal health reform implementation issues; and
- Ensure that the health policy conversation in New York reflects real consumer concerns, such as access, affordability, quality, security, accountability, transparency, and equity.



HCFANY works to achieve access to quality, affordable health care for ALL New Yorkers.

HCFANY Task Forces

HCFANY convenes five task forces to advance aspects of its work:

Children, Youth and Families (CYF) Task Force

The CYF Task Force is committed to ensuring all children in New York have coverage and that the State adopts child- and family-friendly policies as it implements the ACA.

Coalition to Protect the Rights of New York's Dually Eligible (CPRNYDE)

CPRNYDE shapes HCFANY's work around policies that affect the population of New Yorkers eligible for both Medicaid and Medicare.

LGBT Task Force

The LGBT Task Force guides HCFANY's policy work around reducing health disparities among LGBT populations and strives to create a health care system that is LGBT-friendly.

Public Programs Group

The Public Programs Group advocates for strong, consumer-friendly public program policies and operations on the NY State of Health Marketplace, including Medicaid, Child Health Plus, and the emerging Basic Health Program.

Racial and Ethnic Disparities Task Force

The Task Force guides the policy conversation and HCFANY organizing around issues of health equity in all aspects of our work.

Leading, Partnering, and Convening

HCFANY organizes around a set of "10 Standards for Quality, Affordable Health Care," which all member organizations commit to and promote in the health reform arena. These standards are used as basic guidelines for HCFANY to weigh-in on policy issues and also to organize and mobilize around.

By organizing around these "10 Standards," HCFANY has been able to attract a dynamic and diverse membership.

Each year, HCFANY members come together to designate a policy agenda based on priority issues for the year.

HCFANY worked hard to ensure that the Affordable Care Act was a law that benefitted New Yorkers. We continue to work to make sure that it is implemented in a consumer-friendly way.

In addition, HCFANY continues to advocate and educate on other important health coverage issues and policies that affect New Yorkers.

To join HCFANY, see a list of HCFANY's member organizations, read the full version of HCFANY's "10 Standards," or read our policy agenda for this year, visit us on the web at: hcfany.org

(Continued on reverse →)

Health Care For All New York

The Affordable Care Act

On March 23, 2010, the federal health reform law, the Affordable Care Act (ACA), went into effect. This historic legislation has already helped more than one million New Yorkers gain coverage; holds insurance companies newly accountable; and makes health care more secure and more affordable.

Key ACA provisions include:

- The NY State of Health Marketplace launched in October 2013, and by the end of 2014 well over one million New Yorkers signed up.
- Young adults can now keep their parents' insurance until age 26. Former foster youth can stay on Medicaid until that age, too.
- Navigators and Certified Application Counselors are available to help consumers enroll in new insurance options. They are trained by the state, and their help is free.
- Seniors who hit the Medicare "donut hole" got a \$250 rebate in 2010, and a 50% discount on brand name drugs and a 7% discount on generics starting in 2011.

For more information on the ACA, including fact sheets and tools for advocates, go to www.hcfany.org

Meeting Our Policy Goals

Over the last few years, HCFANY has achieved significant policy wins, including:

- **Securing a Basic Health Program (BHP) in New York State:** Many New Yorkers who make just over the Medicaid income limit still struggle to afford insurance, even with the new federal subsidies under the ACA. HCFANY advocated for a BHP in New York, a state-option under the ACA to provide low-cost coverage to New Yorkers under 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. New York legislators approved the BHP in the 2014-2015 New York State budget, and the program is set to launch in 2016.
- **Protecting New Yorkers from surprise, out-of-network bills and improving network adequacy:** New Yorkers have faced significant financial burdens from surprise medical bills for services they unknowingly received from an out-of-network provider. HCFANY worked closely with the Department of Financial Services and other advocacy groups to achieve New York's landmark surprise bills legislation, passed in 2014. This legislation holds consumers harmless from surprise bills, improves disclosure and transparency, and extends network adequacy protections to more types of insurers.
- **Achieving accountability in New York State's Charity Care Pool:** Each year, New York's hospitals receive more than \$1 billion to help treat individuals without health insurance. In 2012 and 2013, HCFANY worked closely with the Department of Health and hospital industry representatives to ensure that this funding is tied to real patient care. A new funding distribution method adopted in the 2013 budget eliminates bad debt from the calculation and increases transparency. Plus, a new pool of \$25 million rewards hospitals that meet State standards for providing financial assistance to eligible patients.
- **Restoring prior approval to the Department of Financial Services:** In the past, insurance companies could simply file a price increase and use it. This law gave the Department of Financial Services the ability to regulate health insurance rate increases *before* they go into effect so that New Yorkers will no longer be subject to unjustified insurance rate increases. HCFANY also pushed to have health insurer rate filing information made public, which was achieved in November 2011.

Be part of the solution! Join Health Care for All New York by going to:

www.hcfany.org