



Doctors for America Newsletter

Affordable, quality health care for all

DECEMBER 16, 2011

Dear Doctors for America Community,

On behalf of the DFA newsletter team, we are proud to present the first monthly edition of our revised and reenergized newsletter. Look to these pages every month for inspiring stories about your colleagues, updates on DFA's campaigns and activities, policy highlights and expert perspective. Let us know how we are doing, and please share your news with us: maggie.kozel@drsforamerica.org.

Thanks for reading!

Maggie Kozel MD, Aaron Feinstein, Dora Wang MD, and the rest of the DFA Newsletter Team

Physicians in Action

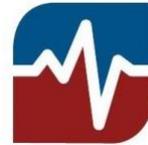


DFA members take our mission to the public! Here are some featured updates. ([Read more details about these and more activities.](#))

- **Dr. Joel Weddington**, our California State Director of DFA, has busy with several recent talks in the Bay Area and numerous meetings with local organizations and stakeholders.
- **Drs. Suzie Prabhakaran and Mona Mangat, FL**, gave presentations about the ACA to diverse audiences in early November. **Drs. Mona Mangat and Linda Burke-Galloway** delivered a petition to repeal a Florida law banning physicians from asking about gun ownership and just got published in *JAMA*.
- **Dr. Maggie Kozel, RI**, gave a presentation at Newport Hospital.
- **Medical students Meghana Desale and Brian Walderson of Johns Hopkins University** and **Georgetown students Liz Oler and Kate Prather** have both organized successful education events on their campuses.
- **Dr. Chris Lillis, a Virginia DFA member**, wrote a feature piece for his local paper entitled "Hippocratic Oath: Is law for good of patients?"

Want to get more details and read about others ways fellow doctors and medical students have been moving the country forward this fall? ([Read more...](#))

Doctors for America Updates



One Million Campaign Launch: January!

Public support for healthcare reform is low, driven by concerted misinformation campaigns and inadequate education efforts. Never has it been more urgent for doctors to use their powerful voices to engage and educate the public. The One Million Campaign, to be launched in January, will make this a reality. ([Read more...](#))

Big Decisions in Women's Health: Plan B Rules and Contraceptive Coverage

DFA has spoken out on two important developments that threaten the availability and affordability of contraception: The controversial HHS ruling on limiting access to OTC emergency contraception, and the attempt to allow exemptions to the ACA's no-out-of-pocket-expenses policy on contraception. ([Read more...](#))

Save the Date

Doctors for America National Leadership Conference and Lobby Day
April 22-24, 2011
Washington, DC

Policy Updates



Where Our Voices Matter

ACA: Medical Loss Ratio Provision Fends Off Insurance Industry Lobby!

HHS has released the final rule on the ACA's Medical Loss Ratio provision, requiring more insurance revenues to go back into patient care. ([Read more...](#))

ACA: School-based Clinics

Innovative ideas like school-based clinics are finding support through the ACA. ([Read more...](#))

Super Committee and Health Care

The Congressional Super Committee announced that they were unable to reach a bipartisan deal to reduce deficit spending. That means no new cuts to Medicare, Medicaid or ACA-funded programs... for now. ([Read more...](#))

Feature Stories



The ACA's Center for Innovation

This is the opportunity that physicians have been waiting for: the chance to be the agents of change.

One of the most exciting things about the Affordable Care Act is the way in which it institutionalizes change into the culture of the Federal Government. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the establishment and funding of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) within the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), where change is being based on *physician* input. ([Read more...](#))

Doctors and Health Care Reform: History is on Our Side

Physician/author Dora Wang reminds us that doctors have historically driven the course of health care in this country. ([Read more...](#))

Take Action

Help Build the One Million Campaign - Every \$1 Helps Doctors Educate 2 People!

Doctors for America has ambitious plans to train and support physicians and medical students in becoming educators, organizers, and leaders in communities across the country. Your donation will fund expanded trainings, logistical support, and opportunities for busy grassroots physicians and medical students like you to transform the conversation in 2012. [Donate](#) today!

Thank you to everyone who donated in the past month! Some of our donors this past month include: Arthur Lavin, Nate Bahr, Sultan Rahaman, Lisa Plymate, Christopher Hughes, Heidi Sinclair, Boyd Shook, Donald Nguyen, Katherine Scheirman, Carol Duh, Diane Meier, and Joel Weddington.

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