



ACCESS TO CARE: What You CAN Do to Make Health Care Reform a Reality

Health care reform is one of the most critical issues facing our country today. Millions of Americans remain uninsured and underinsured, making them twice as likely to be diagnosed with advanced cancers that may otherwise have been preventable. At the same time, the rising costs of health care only continue to burden families and the national economy. ACS CAN has been a leader in advising Congress to make health care reform a top national priority this year through our Access to Care Campaign—pushing for the greater access, adequacy, affordability, and administrative simplicity of health care that could save thousands of lives. ACS CAN seeks to empower advocates across the nation to push these changes to the system that could play a significant role in the fight against cancer. The most important voice in legislative decisions is your own; make it heard in the halls of government. Below are a few ideas on what you can do to make health care reform a reality:

Get Informed. Learn about the problems with our current health care system by viewing ACS CAN's Access to Care online presentation at <http://acscan.org/healthcare/learn/>.

Take Action. Participate in local lobbying activities dealing with health care reform and greater access to care for all Americans.

Tell a Coworker. Encourage health professional colleagues to become members of ACS CAN, and to monitor Access to Care and other health care reform issues that impact their practice.

Keep it on the Agenda. Provide updates on the Access to Care Campaign and involvement in ACS CAN at local Cancer Committee Meetings.

Contact Your President. Visit www.acscan.org/healthcare and fill out our online petition form to Barack Obama, asking him to make health care reform and Access to Care a national priority now. Simply fill in your personal information, and make your voice heard in the White House.

Contact Your Members of Congress. Visit www.acscan.org/healthcare and send a personalized message to your senators and representatives about the link between the national health care system and our ability to win the fight against cancer. Let them know that Access to Care should be at the top of their agenda.

See Where Your State Stands. Visit <http://acscan.org/healthcare/states/> and review your state's efforts to support health care reform and to ensure life-saving access to coverage for all of its citizens.

Spread the Word. Tell your friends and family about this critical issue and what they can do to help by joining our Facebook and MySpace communities. Visit www.acscan.org/healthcare to take the Access to Care Campaign to the web.

Share Your Story. Read the personal experiences of everyday Americans with today's health care system, and write your own. Tell us what you think needs to change in the near future.

Stay in the Loop. Sign up for insider emails and mobile phone updates, and track the progress of Access to Care initiatives in Congress.

Join ACS CAN. Become a member to support our efforts to make the public's voice heard in the halls of government, and to make adequate, affordable, and accessible health care a reality for all Americans. Simply visit www.acscan.org/donate and join the fight against cancer.