

*Yes - I want to help make Cape Care a reality!*

I've enclosed a donation of: \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ \$75 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ I endorse the Coalition's mission statement and give permission for public use of my endorsement.

\_\_\_\_\_ I'd like to volunteer  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
email \_\_\_\_\_

Tax-deductible donations payable to UHCEF / Cape Care Coalition may be sent to:  
Cape Care Coalition, P. O. Box 3023, Wellfleet, MA 02667

## How You Can Help

### Study the Plan

See [WWW.CAPECARE.INFO](http://WWW.CAPECARE.INFO) for the updated plan. As this plan evolves, it is important that residents of the Cape study it and comment on what they feel meets or does not meet their - or the community's - needs.

### Lobby your Legislators

Contact your Massachusetts State Senator and Representative and let them know that you support the Cape Care Community Health Care Trust and want them to do the same. For your legislators' contact info, visit [WWW.WHEREDOIVOTEMA.COM](http://WWW.WHEREDOIVOTEMA.COM)

### Support the Vision and Spread the Word

Learn about the plan and talk to your friends, neighbors and other Cape Cod residents.

### Become a Volunteer

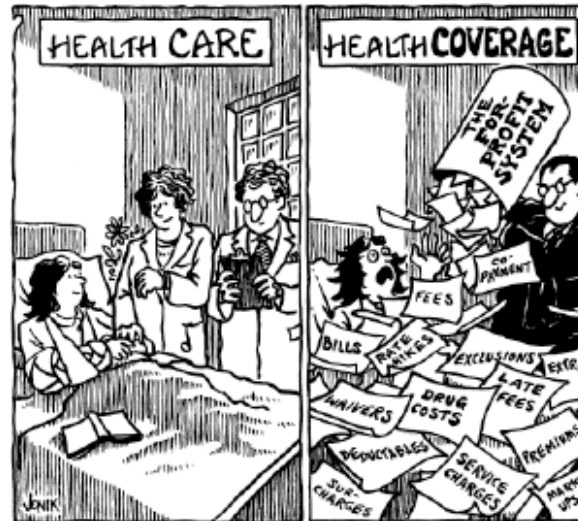
There are action teams working to expand public awareness of this initiative. Please volunteer to help, there's plenty to be done; and attend a quarterly meeting (see our website calendar for date and location).

### Make a donation

You can show your support and encouragement in a direct manner by making a donation to help the Coalition cover costs, including a paid coordinator.

## Support Grows for Cape Care

- In 2006, eleven Town Meetings across Cape Cod voted to support the development of this plan.
- In 2007, the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates passed a resolution to "support and encourage" the continued development of Cape Care.
- In November 2008, a non-binding ballot question calling for the establishment of health care as a human right was endorsed by over 70% of voters.
- Financial support from the Cape Cod Foundation, Unitarian Universalist Fund for a Just Society, Haymarket People's Fund, Cape Cod Health Care Foundation, Bank of America, and many individuals, organizations, and businesses.



### Cape Care Coalition

P. O. Box 3023, Wellfleet, MA 02667  
(877) 700-8070  
email: [info@capecare.info](mailto:info@capecare.info)

[WWW.CAPECARE.INFO](http://WWW.CAPECARE.INFO)

# Cape Care Coalition

Community-owned  
health care for Cape Cod

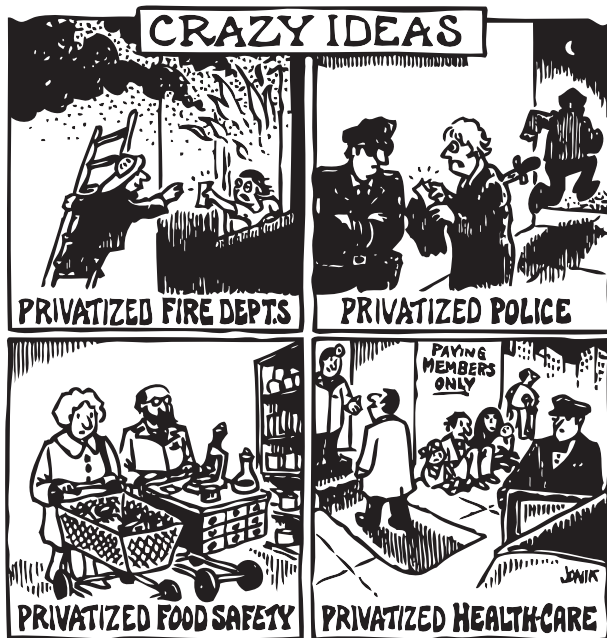
### Our mission:

Create a regional, community-owned health care system to provide all Barnstable County residents comprehensive and affordable health care, delivered through the current and expanded network of providers.

A group of concerned citizens and medical professionals have been working since 2003 for an equitable health care system for Cape Cod.

The Cape Care Community Health Trust legislation (HB 4138) may be the first example in the nation of a community-owned regional health care system, and we hope it will serve as a model for state plans or even a federal plan for our nation!

- The US is the only industrialized nation without universal health care, yet we spend far more on health care than any other nation.
- Massachusetts spends more than any other state.
- 60 Americans die each day from lack of health insurance.
- 62% of U.S. personal bankruptcies are due to medical bills.
- 78% of these bankrupt families had health insurance.
- 30+% of premiums for private insurance go to overhead, not better health care.
- The current 'system' benefits for-profit insurance plans, pharmaceutical companies, imaging and other equipment suppliers, and 'health management' corporations.



### Health Care Today Does it Work for Our Community?

- Health Care as a commodity: the more you can afford, the better your care.
- Health Care tied to employment: lose your job, lose your health care.
- Thousands still *uninsured* on Cape Cod, and many thousands more are *underinsured*.
- Rapidly increasing number of underinsured have high out-of-pocket expenses: premiums, deductibles, co-pays, & poor prescription coverage.
- Most lack dental & long-term care.
- Primary care providers are scarce, and more are leaving Cape Cod - it's difficult to find care, even for the 'covered'.
- Complex, disjointed 'system' with high administrative overhead and waste.
- High insurance costs limit employers' profitability and workers' pay.
- Penalties for failing to purchase corporate health insurance.
- Commonwealth Connector is a state agency to connect residents to private health insurance providers, and limited income qualifies some for low cost or free health insurance. But many can't find a physician who can afford to accept such insurance, and one serious illness could cause medical-financial ruin.
- The current MA system leaves control in the hands of the for-profit health insurance industry, and the cost of these industry-driven reforms cannot be sustained.

### Imagine a different picture for our community...

#### Safeguard Our Health and Provide Real Coverage with Cape Care

- Health Care as a human right - coverage available for *all* Barnstable County residents.
- Minimal out of pocket costs - no premiums or deductibles, low copayments, full prescription coverage.
- Financial security - freedom from worry about catastrophic health care costs. Bankruptcies and foreclosures due to health care debt will end.
- Health Care *not* tied to employment.
- Dental and Long-Term Care coverage included.
- A public health approach to risk reduction and disease control - made possible by an *actual system* - with a strong emphasis on prevention, health promotion and wellness.
- A true coordinated health care system - with greatly reduced administrative overhead, lower overall costs, and reduced waste - will keep and attract providers to the Cape.
- Stronger, healthier, more desirable communities, improving the quality of life and attracting workers.
- Health Care financed through a Barnstable County Health Tax that will be property-based (like our schools, police & fire, and libraries) and a low and predictable employer health care payroll tax.
- Serve as a model for the nation.

### Frequently Asked Questions

**What about my choice of health care provider?** Cape residents will be free to choose their own doctors, dentists, and other licensed professionals.

**Is this "socialized medicine"?** No. The Cape Care model contains no government ownership. Hospitals, clinics, laboratories and pharmacies will remain privately owned, and all health professionals will remain sole proprietors or privately employed.

**What about employers who provide health insurance benefits?** Employers will no longer be directly responsible for their employees' health insurance, and coverage will be unrelated to employment.

**What if people who are currently insured choose not to switch plans?** Enrollment will not be mandatory. However, we intend to develop a health plan that attracts nearly all residents with cost control, comprehensive benefits, wide provider acceptance and choice, health promotion and integrated quality care features.

**Why just for Cape Cod?** We firmly believe that a universal, single payer health care system would be best for the whole country. Many experts believe that a regional system has a greater chance of success, and could be a model for the rest of the country.

**What about the Commonwealth Connector?** Cape Care will seek approval as a health plan or "insurance" option for Barnstable residents. If the funding for the Connector fails to keep up with rising costs however, Cape Care would function independently.