

HEALTH CARE FOR AMERICA

EDUCATION FUND

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Dear Friends,

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HCAN and Health Care Reform in the News

With momentum building in the health care reform discussions, HCAN is becoming the organization that people turn to for information. In addition to being mentioned in USA Today, just this week, HCAN is featured in Politico, and on the [front page of the Huffington Post](#).

Here are some excerpts from the [Politico profile](#) of HCAN National Campaign Director and HCAEF Executive Director Richard Kirsch:

If HCAN ran the world, what three health care reforms would become law?

Everyone in the country would have health care that's truly affordable, based on their ability to pay. Their coverage would be comprehensive coverage and would be really accessible in every community. And the third thing is everyone would have a choice of either a regulated private health insurance plan or a public health insurance plan.

What are three things that could kill universal health care reform efforts this year?

What could kill reform is a combination of the forces who really, really want to protect their profits in the system deciding to do a big public campaign, to really go public in attacking reform principles and therefore scaring the public generally about prospects of reform.

[And] if Congress basically decides that it would rather put its head back in the sand and do minimum things rather than make some really, really tough decisions that are going to mean [ticking off] some powerful interests no matter which way they turn.

What's the biggest asset you can bring to bear to help pass health care reform?

First of all, that the heart and soul of Health Care for America Now is outside the Beltway, with organizers

in 41 states who are mobilizing more than 600 state-based organizations and thousands of activists in each state. And then you combine that with a coalition that represents huge, powerful organizations with 30 million members and a big presence inside the Beltway.

Read the article in its entirety [here](#).

Health Care for America Now! ("HCAN") is a section 501(c)(4) issue advocacy organization. HCAN is related to Health Care for America Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) and a project of The Tides Foundation.

Spotlight on HCAEF/HCAN Coalition Member, USAction

USAction Education Fund has been working to achieve quality, affordable health care since its founding 10 years ago - and its state partners have been working to improve health care for up to 30 years. [USAction Education Fund \(USAEF\)](#) unites people locally and nationally - on-the-ground and online - to create an America that works for all of us. USAEF leads some of the nation's strongest progressive coalitions by organizing issue and civic engagement efforts to achieve social, racial, and economic justice. Over the last three years, it has become the "go-to" organization for those seeking to provide public education about policy on quality health care for all and economic justice. The organization's greatest strength is its coordinated online and on-the-ground capacity for nationwide fieldwork within a network of 28 locally run, state-based partners.

USAction is proud that Health Care for America Education Fund grew out of a conversation between USAEF Executive Director Jeff Blum and Richard Kirsch, who was the Director of USAEF's New York partner before he became Health Care for America Education Fund's Executive Director. The two veteran organizers strategized about what it would take to achieve quality, affordable health care for all and then they put their ideas into action. Today, Blum is a co-chair of the national coalition. USAEF staff members chair two coalition committees, and its state partners lead the field organizing and public education work in 22 out of the 41 states in which the coalition is active.

USAEF believes that achieving quality, affordable health care for all is one of the most important changes America must make this year. As a founding Health Care for America Education Fund member, USAEF is rolling up its sleeves to do whatever it takes to help reach this crucial goal.

Learn more about USAction at www.usaction.org.

See all HCAEF/HCAN coalition members [here](#).

New Materials from HCAEF and HCAN

We are moving fast - we have new successes to report on every week. For example, we now have 800 national, state and local organizations that are members of our HCAN coalition. As of this week, HCAN has signed on a total of 186 Members of Congress to our Statement of Common Purpose.

We have recently updated some prior documents and created new documents that you might be interested in:

- Timeline of Success
- HCAEF Overview
- The Time is Now
- Racial Equities in Health Care
- HCAEF E-Brochure

See them all [here](#).

Please do not hesitate to send this newsletter and links to those people who think may be interested in our

work.

For more information about HCAEF and our work please contact Shadia Garrison, Foundations Development Manager, at sgarrison@healthcareforamericanow.org.

Regards,

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Health Care for America Education Fund