

Now is the time to speak with your legislators and to let them know you support
Universal Primary Care!

Guaranteed Primary Care for Every Vermonter! Support H248 and S53!

Every Vermonter needs primary care. Whether it is to treat the flu, for a checkup, or to stitch you up after an accident, **the Primary Care Physician is where most Vermonters access their care for most of their medical problems.**

- **Accessible primary care has been shown in numerous studies to be the single best step to improving population health.** It is our first and best line of defense.
- **Providing publicly funded primary care would lower health care premiums for everyone** as Vermont law does not allow rates to reflect services private insurers don't have to pay for.
- **Universal Primary Care is very inexpensive.** It is less than 6% of total health care costs.
- **Access to Primary Care will reduce the need for expensive hospitalizations and emergency room visits** by treating conditions earlier and preventing disease.

Legislative Update on Universal Primary Care

- During the 2015 legislative session, the legislature asked for a detailed cost plan. **The study results demonstrated that we can affordably provide primary care, to every Vermonter as a public good with no out of pocket costs.** The most important takeaway is that we can achieve universal primary care for just \$48 more per Vermonter per year than we currently spend. But, this would also mean no out of pocket costs and savings on long-run system costs, by preventing disease and reducing preventable ER visits and hospitalizations.
- During the 2016 session, an additional study was requested by the legislature, it reviewed literature on primary care and found many studies linking broad access to primary care with cost savings and improved health of the population.
- Now in the 2017 session, two new Universal Primary Care bills have been introduced (H248 and S53). They commit to creating a Universal Primary Care system for all Vermonters as of January 2019, and to that end, ask the Joint Fiscal Office to develop financing options that will be considered in the next legislative session.

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