HEALTHCARE AMENDMENTS
Lead Authors: Electoral Committee
Please check the DSA-LA Member Discussion Board for Lead Author contact information.

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Healthcare

As socialists, we recognize the inequities of our healthcare system are not a byproduct of capitalism, but are inequitable by design. The for-profit healthcare system yields dividends for the capitalists by profiting off of sickness. People are forced to choose between taking on high medical bills or going without care. Right now, we have a system of healthcare that is accessible only if you have a job, meet certain specific requirements, or fall below a certain income (means-testing). But healthcare is a human right. Everyone deserves the opportunity and guaranteed care to thrive and be healthy, so that all may live dignified lives.

As socialists, we oppose the idea that healthcare is a product to be sold for corporate benefit. We fight for a system that provides cradle-to-grave coverage that is free, on demand, and at point of service funded through public resources that come from taxation of the value we as workers create. Healthcare includes all care and that means medical, dental, vision, mental health, preventative care, comprehensive sexual education, gender-affirming care, and reproductive care, including the termination of pregnancies.

Our Demands

- *Enact ~~U~~universal, single-payer Medicare for All*
  - *Support ~~future~~ state legislation asking for a federal waiver to establish establish a comprehensive~~, (i.e. medical, dental, vision, reproductive, mental health, long-term care),~~ universal ~~(i.e. including undocumented individuals)~~ single payer Medicare-for-All system at the state level*
  - ~~*Establish a comprehensive, (i.e. medical, dental, vision, reproductive, mental health, long-term care), universal (i.e. including undocumented individuals) single payer Medicare-for-All system at the state level*~~

    - ~~*Request waiver from the federal government to allow state-based single payer healthcare*~~
    - *Guarantee full access to gender-affirming care and other healthcare services needed by LGBTQ+ people and marginalized groups*~~*Create mechanisms to ensure true healthcare equity and full accessibility to high-quality care for LGBTQ+ and other marginalized groups*~~
    - ~~*Support legislation allowing for care to be provided in street-based settings to meet the healthcare needs of the unhoused community*~~
- *Minimize barriers to care in LA County in*~~*as*~~ *preparation for a state single payer system*
    - *Eliminate all cost-sharing for all patients across all insurers operating in Los Angeles County*
    - *Guarantee in-person language interpretation at all health care facilities*
- *Guarantee Equitable and accessible healthcare*
    - *Increase the number of inpatient psychiatric beds and expand mental health services, including street-based outreach and care, as well as in-home and on-site services*
    - ~~*Increase the availability of mental health care in L.A. County by increasing the number of inpatient psychiatric beds and expanding outpatient mental health services, including street-based outreach and care, as well as in home and on-site services*~~
    - *Increase the availability of harm reduction services and high-quality, evidence-based substance use treatment through L.A. County public services*
    - *Guarantee transportation support for all patients to health care facilities*
- ~~*Minimize barriers to care in LA County as preparation for a state single payer system*~~
    - ~~*Eliminate all cost-sharing for all patients across all insurers operating in Los Angeles County*~~
    - ~~*Guarantee in-person language interpretation at all health care facilities*~~
- ~~*Guarantee transportation support for all patients to health care facilities*~~
- ~~*Expand county-level coverage of care to all residents making under $70,000/year as preparation for a state single-payer system*~~