

We Can Build a Better Health System



Host a dialogue to engage your community in this important movement!

What is a dialogue?

It's a meeting that brings together a mix of people from your community to think about, name, and share what is important when it comes to health care.

It's also the practice of each person at the meeting working to make sure every person's ideas and experiences are invited, heard and respected.

Dialogue helps people listen for new ideas and the wisdom that can be found in a group.

Why dialogue? How is talking and listening going to create change?

Building a better health system involves big change. Such changes come through focused, hard work.

An important part of this work is for communities to name what is most important to them and then find ways to make this real in the world.

Coming to agreement on what is important takes time and effort. The dialogue is designed to help people face the conflicts and trade-offs that are part of moving toward agreement on big changes.

Through a dialogue in your community, you can help people take steps towards consensus about health care and, as a result, toward creating a system that really works!

Find all you need to host a dialogue at www.ourhealthcarefuture.org

On this site you can

- View video footage from several community dialogues
- Read frequently asked questions about the dialogue
- Download for free the materials you will need

Who We Are

Our Healthcare Future.org and the dialogue are the work of hundreds of concerned people.



You and others who host and participate in dialogues

We invite communities that host dialogues to post their pictures, survey results and comments in the online community forum. This is a place where you can continue the dialogue with others who are working for a better healthcare future in our nation.

People who helped test and improve the dialogue

Early dialogues took place in Virginia Beach, Virginia; Baltimore, Maryland; and in Tampa, Clearwater, St. Petersburg, Miami, Florida City, West Palm Beach and Stuart, Florida. The dialogue picture gallery and healthcare dialogue video show just a few of the more than 200 people who participated in these dialogues and whose feedback shaped the dialogue design posted on this web site.

Design team*

The dialogue was put together and tested by four people who work for organizations concerned about our healthcare future.

Michael Culliton works with [NETWORK](#), a National Catholic Social Justice Lobby in Washington, DC. For more than 20 years he has worked to help create dialogue-based workshops that help people consider and take action around important issues like health care.

Jack Glaser is director of the [Center for Healthcare Reform for the St. Joseph Health System](#) in Orange, California. He has worked as a senior executive in healthcare systems, as a consultant to healthcare executives and as a teacher, philosopher, theologian and psychotherapist.

Irene Jillson is on the faculty of [Georgetown University Medical Center](#), Washington, DC. She has over 30 years experience in health and social policy work in the U.S. and other countries. An important part of her work has included helping communities to plan and evaluate health services.

Ann Neale is on the faculty at [Georgetown University Medical Center](#), Washington, DC. She has worked in health care for most of her professional life, including as a vice president in two healthcare systems and as staff person for a U.S. senator.

Allegany Franciscan Ministries, Inc., a foundation of the Allegany Franciscan Sisters, is a leader in helping communities to meet the everyday healthcare needs of people while inviting communities to look at big questions like how to improve our healthcare future. Through their generous funding and a working partnership with Allegany staff, the design team created and pilot-tested the dialogue.

*Although this effort was started by people who work for organizations that have Roman Catholic roots, the dialogue design and process are neither religious nor partisan. Rather, the process is designed to help you - with other people from your community - explore what is important to you as you help create our healthcare future.