



UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE RESOLUTION

Whereas, the United States is the only industrialized nation in the world without some form of universal health care for its citizens; and

Whereas, the World Health Organization has ranked the United States health care system 37th out of all nations in terms of meeting the needs of its citizens; and

Whereas, Connecticut enjoys the highest per-capita income in the United States, yet suffers from the highest rate of uninsurance in New England; and

Whereas, one out of every ten Connecticut residents, an estimated 356,000 people, are uninsured; and

Whereas, the State of Connecticut spends \$15 billion annually on health care; and

Whereas, 80% of the state's uninsured are, in fact, employed, yet many do not qualify for state medical assistance, and

Whereas, with ever increasing health care costs, small business owners and entrepreneurs are frequently unable to afford health care for themselves and their employees; and

Whereas, medical debt is the number one cause of bankruptcy in Connecticut; and

Whereas, racial, income, and ethnic disparities in access to care threaten diverse communities across Connecticut; and

Whereas, Mansfield residents need and deserve access to quality health care regardless of income or social status; and

Whereas, there is nothing more powerful we can do to create jobs, to secure the well being of our most vulnerable families, and to save taxpayers money than to accomplish universal health care here in Connecticut; and

Whereas, *healthcare4every1* is a statewide advocacy campaign whose goal is to organize an active, vibrant, and diverse network of concerned residents and organizations in order to build public and political support to achieve universal health care in Connecticut;

Therefore be it Resolved, that the Mansfield Town Council encourages the Connecticut General Assembly to enact legislation that provides access to comprehensive health care for all Connecticut residents; and

Be it Further Resolved, that the Mansfield Town Council endorses the *healthcare4every1* campaign, and in doing so, we agree with the Institute of Medicine Principles for Universal Health Care:

- Health care coverage should be universal. It should cover everyone.
- Health care coverage should be continuous, portable from job to job, regardless of employment status.
- Health care coverage affordable to individuals and families.
- Health care insurance should be affordable and sustainable to society.
- Health care coverage should enhance health and well-being by promoting access to high-quality care that is effective, efficient, safe, timely, patient-centered, and equitable.

We further agree:

- To have our organization's name listed on the *healthcare4every1.org* web site
- To have the Foundation publicize this endorsement