

## HCAO Statement of Support Guide

### What is the Statement of Support and why do we circulate it?

The *HCAO Statement of Support* is one of the HCAO Mobilization Tools and is intended for use in the context of one-on-one, face-to-face discussions. We use it at house parties, events of all kinds and even on the street or door-to-door. We talk with people about Health Care for All-Oregon and the grassroots movement we are building. We ask for their support by giving us their contact information, and we ask if they would like more information or would like to become involved in helping us win Health Care for ALL.

### **UNDERSTAND THAT THIS STATEMENT OF SUPPORT IS ALL ABOUT GRASSROOTS ORGANIZING!**

We want to engage people in a friendly, one-on-one conversation about our common experiences with a failed health care non-system and encourage them to consider joining our efforts to achieve our goal of establishing an active grassroots movement of **1.1 million potential voters** in support of a comprehensive, equitable, affordable, publicly funded, high quality, universal health care system serving EVERYONE in Oregon and the United States. In this process, we expect to experience stronger personal commitment and participation in our movement.

### Getting Started

1. Print off several copies of the *Statement of Support*.
2. Clip them to a clipboard on which you have attached a ballpoint pen, using string and parcel or duct tape.
3. Fill in the date, location and event information in the top left corner. For example, if you are circulating the statement at the Alberta Street Fair in Portland on August 2, 2014. You will put Portland as the location and Alberta Street Fair as the event.
4. Then write in your name, address, phone number, and email address on the first line. Print the information very legibly. Also click the boxes for "I Want More Info" and "I Want to Get Involved." There are two reasons for your filling out all the requested information. First, we track the events at which our volunteers

work. Second, we put in all of our information because we have learned that people tend to fill in the information that the previous writer has filled in.

5. Make a plan for following up with supporters. You can either do the follow up yourself, arrange with members of your local group to follow up, or contact the Supporter Follow-up Coordinator, Jana Gregory, for help. You can find the necessary materials for follow up in the **Supporter Follow-up** in the **Take Action** section. **For questions about follow up, call Jana Gregory, 971-235-3456, or email at [oregon333@yahoo.com](mailto:oregon333@yahoo.com).**

## **6. Guidelines for Collecting Signatures**

1. If you haven't circulated *Statements of Support* before or if you are new to HCAO, you might want to follow another volunteer around and listen to the conversations that he or she has with the people approached. If you feel you are not knowledgeable about many of the issues, read the brochure, inserts to the brochures, a copy of the **Summary of Michael Dembrow's HB 2922** in 2013 and other handouts located in the **HCAO Tabling Handouts List** in the **Take Action** section. These will increase your confidence.
2. Approach a person and tell them that you are working for health care for all people in Oregon. Ask if they think that all people should have access to high quality, publicly funded, affordable health care or a similar question. Then tell them a little bit about Health Care for All Oregon and engage them in a conversation about their health care experiences if they are willing. Ask if they will sign the statement. Many people will think that you are offering them an initiative petition. Explain you are not -- that this is simply a statement indicating their support.
3. If they leave the address box empty ask if they will fill it in. Tell them that we do not usually send materials by postal mail (and, in fact, we can indicate that they don't want any postal mail). The reason we want their residence address is so that we can determine their Oregon state house and senate representatives. We will let legislators know how many people in their district support high

quality, publicly funded, affordable health care – universal health care.

7. If they leave the email address box empty tell them that we don't send lots of emails, but it will enable them to receive a couple of newsletters each month so that they will know what is going on.
8. If they don't indicate they want to get involved, ask if they might give even an hour or two occasionally to help us out.
9. **Most important of all**, make sure you can read everything they wrote. If you can't, double check spellings, numbers and email addresses with them. If we don't get good contact information, we will not be able to follow up with these new supporters.

### **Wrapping Up**

1. Thank the supporter for signing the statement and direct them to the table (if it is a tabling event) to pick up information about HCAO. If someone is doing photo petitions, encourage them to also do a photo petition.
2. Turn in completed *Statements of Support* to your local group database person or the HCAO office, 619 SW 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 121, Portland, OR 97205. For questions, contact Jana Gregory.

**Jana Gregory, Supporter Follow-Up Coordinator**  
**HCAO, 619 SW 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 121**  
**Portland, OR 97205, Attn: Jana Gregory**  
**oregon333@yahoo.com 971-235-3456**