

Dear Ones,

I very much appreciate the members of the Task Force on Universal Health Care volunteering to do this essential and historical work to bring health equity to all residing in Oregon. I retired to Salem from New York State and was shocked to find the corporate healthcare system here. I thought that in the state capital there would be lots of state workers with health insurance and therefore lots of private doctors. There aren't any! I have the best insurance available but I can't find a primary care doctor. They are all employees of corporations and they have no say in how their office functions. These corporations, such as Legacy which I am stuck with now, do not employ sufficient doctors so when I call for an appointment the next available is usually many weeks away! If I had known about the healthcare system here I never would have chosen to retire in Oregon.

With kindest regards,
Eileen Gottschalk