

## Summary - WMM4A Meeting, July 11, 2018

**NOTE:** The next WMM4Q Outreach Training will be Sunday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> in Holyoke, noon-3:00 p.m. This lively training helps advocates increase their knowledge and build confidence for engaging others about Medicare for All. There are still a few openings on July 22<sup>nd</sup> so register now by sending your name, email address and phone number to Beth Eisenberg: [jubilada@icloud.com](mailto:jubilada@icloud.com)

**NEXT WMM4A MEETING:** Wed. August 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m., 20 Hampton Ave., Northampton

### LOCAL AND STATE UPDATES:

**The Holyoke Hub has started canvassing.** Along with info about Medicare for All and the Single Payer non-binding ballot question, they are also bringing along Voter Registration forms and info about the MNA's Safe Staffing ballot question. They are also getting literature translated into Spanish. Contact Chris Martin: [craymartin90@gmail.com](mailto:craymartin90@gmail.com)

**Green River Festival July 13-15** – Nancy Talanian and Ellen Hirschberg have organized volunteers for tabling about Medicare for All at the huge three-day music festival this weekend. The table will include literature, sign-up sheets, the WMM4A banner, “Why I Support Medicare for All” posters for social media selfies, and a bowl of individually-wrapped Lifesavers with a sign that says “Medicare for All is a Lifesaver!”

**LWV National Conference** - Barbara Pearson reported on the recent League of Women Voters national conference regarding a well-attended caucus to promote Medicare for All as a priority for LWV. M4A is not currently a priority at the national or state level of LWV, but this caucus hopes to change that. For info and T-shirts contact Barbara: [bzpearson@gmail.com](mailto:bzpearson@gmail.com)

**Fix-It Showing in Granby** – Good turnout on July 5<sup>th</sup> and lots of new sign-ups to work with WMM4A. Folks from Amherst and South Hadley attended, too, and two candidates for state representative. Several folks were connected with the Democratic Town Committee.

**Fix-It Showing in Florence** - Good conversation, but small turnout for this event on June 26<sup>th</sup>. Lesson learned – sometimes we need to help more with publicity if we want a good turnout!

**The Easthampton Hub** is planning a family event for late August / early September, possibly as a fundraiser.

**The new Hilltown Hub** tabled at recent Worthington Fair celebrating the town's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Tables were located inside on a very hot day so traffic was light. But they got a page of new sign-ups that will help with outreach for the hub.

**The Amherst Hub** has formed a **new working group to reach out to health care providers** about Medicare for All. Melanie Lewis will be coordinating this group:  
[melaniewlewis@gmail.com](mailto:melaniewlewis@gmail.com)

**Occupy the Airwaves radio show** invited Deborah Levenson and Lindsay Sabadosa for a conversation focused on Single Payer. The hour-long show aired live on Sunday, July 8<sup>th</sup> on Valley Free Radio, WXOJ-FM 103.3. Here's the link:  
<https://archive.org/details/OccupyTheAirwaves7.08.2018>

**National Single Payer Conference in Minneapolis June 22-24** -- Several WMM4A folks attended this conference and met with others there from the Boston area for a state caucus. Jon, Patty, and Kelly reported an exciting conference, hosted by Healthcare-Now! and with the National Nurses United (NNU) union taking the lead. Healthcare-Now! has set up a WIKI to post speeches and workshops from the conference – there's a lot of great stuff. Check it out here:  
<https://www.healthcare-now.org/index.php?s=WIKI>

## **SUMMER OUTREACH CAMPAIGN**

At the last meeting, folks asked that WMM4A provide a bit more direction for outreach and education activities leading up to the primary elections on Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>. With this in mind, we discussed two projects:

## **CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

We discussed sending a questionnaire about Medicare for All – or rather, the link to a questionnaire – to every candidate in the Pioneer Valley running for state office. We would then issue a report about the results and make responses available to the public and the press. About a dozen people signed up to help with this project and we will try to get it rolling as quickly as possible so that we have results to publicize ahead of the Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> primary.

## **CANDIDATE FORUMS**

Here is a list of the candidate forums we're currently aware of:

1<sup>st</sup> Franklin (Kulik)

- Thursday, July 12<sup>h</sup> Shea Theater in Turners Falls (Food bank)
- Saturday Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> Willimansburg (Wmsburg Individ.)
- Tuesday August 7<sup>th</sup>, Deerfield Academy 6:30 -8:30

1<sup>st</sup> Hampshire (formerly Kocot)

- Wednesday, July 25 at WWII Club in Northampton (Food bank)
- Monday, July 30th, JFK Middle School 6:30 -8:30

#### 2nd Hampshire (Scibak)

- Thurs. July 26th, S Hadley Public Library 6:30 -8:30

#### 3rd Hampshire (Goldstein-Rose)

- Wednesday, July 18th - Bangs Community Center, Amherst 6:30 -8:30
- Monday, August 20 at the Bangs Community Center in Amherst.

#### Senate Seat (formerly Rosenberg)

- Monday, August 13th, Deerfield Academy 6:30-8:30
- Tuesday, August 14<sup>h</sup> at the Shea Theater (Food bank)

**We encourage each hub to organize teams** to attend the candidate forums in their district.  
What can these teams do?

- Show visibility outside the event – wear a button, use the WMM4A banner, hand out literature
- Find out the format for asking questions and prepare to ask questions about Single Payer
- Let us know how it goes! Feedback to [info@wmMedicareforall.org](mailto:info@wmMedicareforall.org)

We would also like to organize teams for the Senate forums – on August 13<sup>th</sup> and August 14<sup>th</sup>.  
To volunteer to organize a team or be part of a team, contact Deborah: [levendeb2@gmail.com](mailto:levendeb2@gmail.com)

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