

## A SACRED COMMITMENT TO

### *A Faith-Inspired Vision of Health Care*

I/we commit to the following actions to raise this vision:

**Individual:**

- Talk with the leadership in my community of faith about working on this issue
- Encourage my community of faith to observe a Health Care Sabbath
- Take responsibility for leading a study or dialogue series in my community of faith
- Make at least 3 contacts with my elected officials via phone, letter or personal visit
- Recruit at least 10 other persons to sign the Vision Statement
- Join a local health care advocacy group
- Collect stories about how my family and friends experience health care in the U.S.
- Volunteer in a local program that provides health care services for the uninsured
- Sign-up for an email listserv to become better informed about this issue
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Community of faith:**

- Observe a Health Care Sabbath in our community of faith
- Schedule a study or dialogue series
- Launch a letter-writing email effort to urge elected officials to sign the Vision Statement
- Organize visits to elected officials to discuss this issue
- Launch a project to generate calls to local Talk Radio
- Sign up for JPanet at <http://www.ucc.org/justice/join-the-network>
- Collect stories about how members of our faith community experience health care in the U.S.
- Recruit 5 other communities of faith to commit to the Vision Statement
- Sponsor a forum in which elected leaders to hear from the people the represent
- Establish health ministry at your community of faith
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE RETURN THIS COMMITMENT FORM TO:

HEALTH CARE JUSTICE  
 ATTN: BARBARA BAYLOR, M.P.H.  
 JUSTICE & WITNESS MINISTRY, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
 700 PROSPECT AVE, CLEVELAND, OH 44115



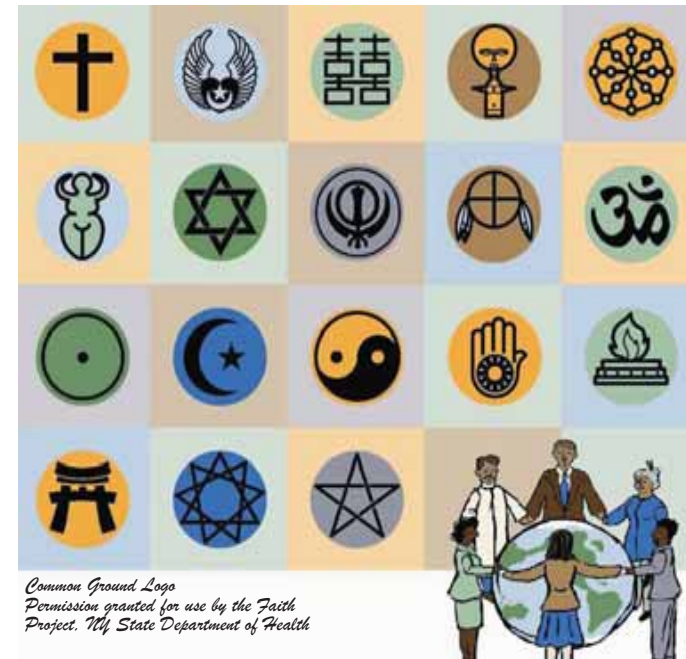
The United Church of Christ's campaign, **Health Care for All** is still a priority! The Church speaks prophetically that health care is not only a basic human right, but a human need as well. We believe that our health care system must provide comprehensive, quality, affordable accessible and available health care for all. Key General Synod Pronouncements and Resolutions (10, 11, 18, and 21) have affirmed the moral and justice imperatives of equal access for all people in the United States and have called for the establishment of a universal system of health care delivery. These documents continue to challenge the Church to renew its commitment to and deepen its involvement in advocating for health care for all as one way to respond to the priority Jesus gave to ministering to those who are sick (Matthew 25:31-46) and to engage in diakonia – the ministry of healing, service, care, compassion and hospitality – the love and grace, God made visible in the UCC's Mission Statement on Health and Human Service.

**“A Faith-Inspired Vision of Health Care” was developed by the members of Faithful Reform In Health Care, a coalition of faith communities and individuals working for compassionate, comprehensive and sustainable health care reform in the U.S.**

**The Health Care Justice Program, Justice and Witness Ministries, UCC is an active member of this Coalition.**

For more information on UCC Health Care Justice Program, contact Barbara Baylor (216) 736-3708 or visit [www.ucc.org/justice/health](http://www.ucc.org/justice/health)

For more information on Faithful Reform, visit [www.faithfulreform.org](http://www.faithfulreform.org) or contact Rev. Linda Walling (216) 325-0010.



*Common Ground Logo  
 Permission granted for use by the Faith Project. My State Department of Health*

**A SACRED COMMITMENT  
 TO  
 A FAITH-INSPIRED  
 VISION OF HEALTH CARE**

# "A Faith-Inspired Vision of Health Care"

AS PEOPLE OF FAITH,  
WE ENVISION A SOCIETY WHERE EACH PERSON IS AFFORDED  
HEALTH, WHOLENESS, AND HUMAN DIGNITY.  
THAT VISION EMBRACES A SYSTEM OF HEALTH CARE THAT IS  
INCLUSIVE... ACCESSIBLE... AFFORDABLE... AND ACCOUNTABLE.

## ► Vision: Inclusive

**Health care is a shared responsibility that is grounded in our common humanity.**

In the bonds of our human family, we are created to be equal. We are guided by a divine will to treat each person with dignity and to live together as an inclusive community. Affirming our commitment to the common good, we acknowledge our enduring responsibility to care for one another. As we recognize that society is whole only when we care for the most vulnerable among us, we are led to discern the human right to health care and wholeness. Therefore, we are called to act with compassion by sharing our abundant health care resources with everyone.

## ► Vision: Affordable

**Health care must contribute to the common good by being affordable for individuals, families and society as a whole.**

We believe that in the sacred act of creation we are endowed with the talents, wisdom and abundant resources necessary to meet the needs of one another, including the health care needs of all. Therefore, in our calling to be faithful stewards, we understand our responsibility to use our health care resources effectively, to administer them efficiently, and to distribute them with equity.

## ► Vision: Accessible

**All persons should have access to health services that provide necessary care and contribute to wellness.**

We believe humanity is sacred and that all persons should benefit from those actions which contribute to our health and wholeness. Therefore, we are called to act with justice and love, to ensure that all of us have access to the health care we need in order to live out the fullness of our potential both as individuals and as contributing members of our society. We must work together to identify and overcome all barriers to and disparities in such care.

## ► Vision: Accountable

**Our health care system must be accountable, offering a quality, equitable and sustainable means of keeping us healthy as individuals and as a community.**

We believe that as spiritual and sacred vessels, we are responsible for the care of our bodies to the best of our ability and for the care of one another regardless of individual circumstances. Therefore, individuals, families, governments, businesses, and the faith community are called to work in partnership for a system that ensures fully-informed, timely, quality and safe care that treats body, mind and spirit.

## A SACRED COMMITMENT TO

### *A Faith-Inspired Vision of Health Care*

I/we commit to promoting "A Faith-Inspired Vision of Health Care" and to working for a health care future that includes everyone and works well for all of us.

(PLEASE PRINT!)

NAME (as it should appear in print)

( ) CHURCH      ( ) INDIVIDUAL      ( ) ORGANIZATION

CONTACT PERSON (if organization or church)

SIGNATURE

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

TELEPHONE

EMAIL

WEBSITE

(Continued on back)