

## Press Statement - For Immediate Release

02/11/2021

For more information, contact: Jackie Nappo (203) 494-7769

## <u>Universal Health Care Foundation: Governor Lamont's budget does not meet the</u> moment.

During one of the most enduring and severe crises our state has experienced, Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut (Universal Health Care) was disappointed to see Governor Lamont put forward a budget that fails to meet the moment.

Despite claims that Governor Lamont wants to address health care, his budget does not commit to extend HUSKY (Medicaid) to more people, fails to cover undocumented immigrants, and makes no significant investment in public health infrastructure - during a pandemic, no less.

"The lack of appreciation for what people are going through right now is frankly astounding," said Frances G. Padilla, President of Universal Health Care. "This budget lacks the vision and boldness needed to meaningfully address the very real suffering happening statewide."

While the Governor proposes legislative initiatives to make health care more affordable, these efforts simply do not go far enough to help those who are most underserved by our health care system.

"Enough band-aid solutions," Padilla said. "We can do so much more. There are bold proposals on the table right now, and this budget should embrace them. The people of Connecticut deserve that."

####

Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut's mission is to serve as a catalyst that engages residents and communities in shaping a democratic health system that provides universal access to quality, affordable health care and promotes health in Connecticut. We believe that health care is a fundamental right and that our work is part of a broader movement for social and economic justice.