



HEALTH CARE HEADLINES 2021

UNIVERSAL MEANS EVERYBODY.

SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS. NONPROFITS. POOR PEOPLE. UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS. PARENTS. CHILDREN. TRANS FOLKS. LGBTQIA+. GROCERY STORE WORKERS. BLACK. LATINX. ASIAN. WHITE. FREELANCERS. UBER DRIVERS. 26 YEAR OLDS. MEN. WOMEN. NON BINARY FOLKS. THE HOMELESS. FRONT LINE WORKERS. CIG WORKERS. SMALL BUSINESS EMPLOYEES. NON PROFIT EMPLOYEES. IMMIGRANTS. THE DISABLED. THE ELDERLY. CAREGIVERS. THE INCARCERATED. AND YOU, TOO.

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Don't miss it! The next installment of **Beyond COVID: Connecting Communities, Health, and Care!**

Join us June 30 for a compelling conversation with Liany Elba Arroyo, MPH, CPH, Director of Hartford's Department of Health

and Human Services & Jennifer Muggeo, MPH, Deputy Director of Ledge Light Health District to discuss public health, moderated by Frances Padilla.

Local public health departments have remained at the center of COVID testing, tracking, and control- and yet, they are underfunded and disrespected. They have the potential to bolster health equity and build healthier communities, and we're looking forward to chatting with two of the smartest women in that sector. [Reserve your place now.](#)

See our legislative session health care highlights below!

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How did we get closer to UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE this session?

- Coverage for undocumented children through age 8 and prenatal & postpartum coverage for undocumented pregnant people
- More affordable/comprehensive coverage for lower income people who buy plans via Access Health CT
- Ban on mid-year changes to the list of covered drugs in private insurance plans
- Dental and vision coverage for children up to age 26 on their parents' plan

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How did this session fall short?

- Failure to create more quality, affordable health care options for small businesses and non-profits
- No restoration of HUSKY eligibility for parents up to pre-2015 levels
- Failure to extend coverage to all undocumented immigrants

Universal Means Everybody.



The session is over but the fight continues.

The general assembly did the right thing and passed a bill expanding HUSKY (Medicaid) to undocumented children up to the age of 8, and

undocumented pregnant people. Now, Governor Lamont has to sign the bill into law. [Send a letter to tell him to do the right thing, too.](#)

H.B. 6689: An Act Concerning The State Budget For The Biennium Ending June Thirtieth, 2023, And Making Appropriations Therefor, And Making Deficiency And Additional Appropriations For The Fiscal Year Ending June Thirtieth, 2021.

CTN 06/09/21

The state budget does not meet the moment, and is a "knee on the neck of the Black community and other underserved communities of our state."

As part of the Recovery For All coalition, we called for a budget that generates new revenue to address equity for all state residents. Our state had the chance to make bold change as we move out of the pandemic. The budget fails to do that, plain and simple. As Sen. Fonfara says in the video above, we can do better, and we must do better. Watch his full speech above.

In her words: a Pride Month spotlight on Julia DiCola

Julia DiCola is a fierce advocate for homeless youth and a strong believer in the importance of community health centers. She's also the first transgender board chair of Optimus Health Care, the second largest federally qualified Community Health Center in the state. Read our conversation on the barriers trans people face, and how the challenges the LGBTQ community faces are interconnected. [Read on.](#)



As always, [tell us what you'd like to hear more about](#) so you can see the latest on all the issues you care about.

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