



PRESS STATEMENT- For immediate release

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Interfaith Leaders Call for Action on Health Care at Gubernatorial Forum

October 18, 2018 - Interfaith leaders gathered in brisk weather outside the Gubernatorial Forum at Infinity Music Hall in Hartford to pray for those in need of quality, affordable health care. They called on all three Gubernatorial candidates to talk in public about their plans for access to quality, affordable health care for all state residents.

“As clergy we understand that the members of our congregations experience some of the most stressful and anxious moments of their lives around health care. We believe that those who are running for the highest office in our state should make health care a priority. We are here today to call on the candidates for governor to talk about their plans for the state around health care,” said Pastor Rodney Wade, President of the Concerned Black Clergy Council of Waterbury and Senior Pastor of Long Hill Bible Church.

The faith leaders were joined by dozens of activists from Protect Our Care CT’s nonpartisan **IVote4HealthCare** effort, who also asked candidates about their plans for health care and urged all voters to consider candidate positions on health care when they vote on November 6.

Two individuals, Betsy Glassman and Diane Bullock, shared their own stories about struggles with access, coverage and cost in the health care system. (Their stories are attached.)

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*The **Protect Our Care CT** campaign supports comprehensive, high quality, affordable and accessible health care for all Connecticut residents.*

We believe that health care is a right and that we must work together for health care we can all count on.

We are committed to building a diverse network of people and organizations engaged in making the health care system work for everyone.

*The **Protect Our Care CT** campaign:*

- *Advocates at the state and national level for policies and programs that lead to health equity and health care for everyone*
- *Defends Medicaid, Medicare and women's health programs and protects the gains made by the Affordable Care Act*
- *Educates each other, the public and policy makers on health care issues*
- *Holds policymakers accountable for moving us forward to meet our health care goals*