

## Message from the Board President

Welcome to Nurses for Single Payer! Like so many of my colleagues, I could tell you how I have seen the health safety net unravel over my many years of nursing. But instead, I'm going to quote TR Reid in his book *The Healing of America*. "Americans who die or go broke because they happened to get sick represent a fundamental moral decision our country has made. Despite all the rights and privileges and entitlements that Americans enjoy today, we have never decided to provide medical care for everybody who needs it." In 2016, Nurses for Single Payer incorporated as a non-profit and a little while later I became the board president. Let's join all the other developed countries on earth who have decided that health care is a right! I invite you to join with Nurses for Single Payer as we lead the way to universal health care.

# Nurses for Single Payer Newsletter

[www.nursesforsinglepayer.org/](http://www.nursesforsinglepayer.org/)

NURSES FOR SINGLE PAYER NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2017

## Meet Our Board President, Carole Most, Retired



I started nursing as an LPN in 1975 and my entry to RN practice was with an ADN in 1976. In 1985, I received my Masters at OHSU and Women's Health Care Nurse Practitioner license. As a new NP grad, I started the first nurse-led Women's Health Clinic in the VA system. And for much of my NP career, I worked at the VA, a government-funded, single payer health care program for veterans. After leaving the VA, I had a variety of part-time work including Nurse Research Assistant at OHSU, a brief stint at Planned Parenthood and as a patient telephone interviewer at a Cardiology Clinic. One of my most rewarding jobs was my last job as on-call clinician for the Marion County Health Department STI and Family Planning clinics. I saw so many people seeking care at the Health Department, having lost their job and health insurance or never having had insurance due to low income or residency status. I consider myself very lucky, indeed. Having been well-employed for most of my adult life, I have always had health insurance! And now I have Medicare, government-funded, private health care! What a concept! In 1980, while working as a Labor and Delivery staff nurse in Eugene, I bought my first new car and my first two bumper stickers were *Health care is a right, not a privilege!* and *I'm Pro-choice and I vote!* Frankly, little did I know then how important those slogans would be in my life. Well, time marches on and my convictions haven't changed. That's why I joined the movement to bring universal health care to Oregon.

If you see  
someone  
wearing this  
button, come  
over and say hi!



## Meet A Nurse New To Our Movement, Maureen Andersen, RN

Maureen Andersen, MST BSN RN IBCLC - Maureen came to nursing by way of elementary school education and continues her teaching with patients at the bedside as an antepartum/postpartum nurse and lactation consultant at OHSU. Her advocacy work includes organizing with Portland Indivisible and speaking with Senator Jeff Merkley at events in support of protecting access to the Affordable Care Act. She joined Nurses for Single Payer to continue the work towards the most efficient and comprehensive healthcare coverage for her patient population.



## How To Get Involved

Please follow Nurses for Single Payer and Healthcare for all Oregon on social media to learn about our grassroots movement and upcoming events

1. <http://www.nursesforsinglepayer.org/>
2. <https://www.facebook.com/Nurses-for-Single-Payer-382272922142113/>
3. <http://hcao.org/>
4. <https://www.facebook.com/healthcareforalloregon/?fref=mentions>

