



Champaign County Health Care Consumers

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Grassroots organizing for health care justice and access since 1977.

Media Advisory

August 4, 2008

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Christie and Carle Clinics get graded on access issues. Consumer group to release "Access to Care Report Card" at protest.

On Monday, August 4, 2008 at 11:30 a.m., the Champaign County Health Care Consumers' (CCHCC) Health Care Access Task Force will hold a protest at Carle Clinic and Christie Clinic's new locations in southeast Urbana in order to release a report card and demand an end to the lack of access to care for local consumers. The Health Care Access Task Force has graded the two major clinics on a number of access issues and will be releasing an "Access to Care Report Card" at the protest.

The protest will go from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with a presentation of the "Access to Care Report Card" at 11:30 a.m.

Both major physician clinics have policies that limit or deny appointments and services to uninsured patients, patients with Medicaid insurance, and patients who have medical debt, and as a result, these patients have virtually nowhere to turn for health care services. In addition, new "patient dumping" practices are coming to light, and these practices compound the access crisis.

While expansion of Carle Clinic and Christie Clinic is welcome, issues of transportation and distance to travel have yet to be addressed by the clinics. The Health Care Access Task Force has prepared an "Access to Care Report Card" that will grade Carle and Christie Clinics on their accessibility in various categories of access to care. These, and other access issues, will be addressed at the action.

The Health Care Access Task Force, formed in April 2007, is working to create a sustainable solution that guarantees timely access to quality, affordable health care to all Champaign County residents.

WHO: Champaign County Health Care Consumers' Health Care Access Task Force

WHAT: Release of "Access to Care Report Card" and protest

WHEN: Monday, August 4, 2008
Presentation: 11:30 a.m.
Protest: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

WHERE: 1710 E. Windsor, 1818 E. Windsor, Urbana

VISUALS and MATERIALS: Poster board signs, "Access to Care Report Card"