



Champaign County Health Care Consumers

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Grassroots organizing for health care justice and access since 1977.

Media Advisory

November 19, 2007

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Local consumers to protest at Carle Clinic

Group to deliver a Thanksgiving card to Carle Clinic and demand an end to Carle Clinic's discriminatory practices that limit or deny care to uninsured and those with Medicaid, including pregnant women

On Tuesday, November 20, 2007 at 11:00 a.m., the Champaign County Health Care Consumers' (CCHCC) Health Care Access Task Force will hold a protest at Carle Clinic to demand an end to the Clinic's discriminatory practices. The protest will go from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

At 11:30 a.m., the group will hold a brief press conference and then send a delegation into the Clinic to deliver a Thanksgiving card to the Carle Clinic administration, demanding that the Clinic open their doors to everyone in the community.

Both major physician clinics in the Champaign County community (Carle Clinic and Christie Clinic) have policies that limit or deny appointments and services to uninsured patients, patients with Medicaid insurance, and patients who may be insured but have medical debt, and as a result, these patients have virtually nowhere to turn for health care services. Despite an ample supply of health care providers in the Champaign County community, close to 40% (approximately 75,000 people) of Champaign County's population is locked out of the health care system.

While Carle Clinic has recently publicly promised the community that it would expand access to care for people with Medicaid and All Kids insurance, it has been sending letters to pregnant women, clearly stating that if the women intend to use insurance provided through Medicaid, they will have to go somewhere else for their prenatal care.

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: Protest at Carle Clinic, press conference, and Thanksgiving card delivery

WHEN: Tuesday, November 20, 2007
Protest: 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Press Conference & Card Delivery: 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: 602 W. University, Urbana – North side of University Ave.

VISUALS and MATERIALS: Protesters with signs, Thanksgiving card to Carle Clinic Administration, Carle Clinic letter denying care to an expecting mother