



Doctors for America: Putting Patients Over Politics since 2009

Doctors for America (DFA) is a 501(c)(3) national organization that mobilizes our 16,000 doctors and medical students in all 50 states to be leaders in putting patients over politics on the pressing issues of the day to improve the health of our patients, community, and nation. Our vision is a healthy America for everyone.

We believe:

1. Everyone in America has a fundamental right to equitable, high-quality, and affordable health care.
2. Everyone should have the opportunity to lead a healthy life.
3. Every part of society has a responsibility to promote healthy families and communities.
4. Doctors should take a leadership role in improving health care and ending health disparities.



How we create change:

- **Improving Health Care in America:** Doctors for America has become one of the most influential health advocacy organizations in the country. We have played a major role in the passage and implementation of the Affordable Care Act, protecting Medicaid and the Prevention Fund in federal budget negotiations, and getting states to expand Medicaid.
- **Training and Activating Physician Leaders:** DFA has trained thousands of physicians, medical students, and other health care providers on timely topics in health policy and how to be effective advocates and organizers. Our physicians and medical students have been featured on CNN, MSNBC, Fox, NY Times, LA Times, Washington Post, and media outlets in nearly every state.

Key Issues

Increasing Access to Care: Medicaid Expansion

Nearly 5 million Americans have been left behind in the health coverage gap due to their states' unwillingness to accept federal funds to expand Medicaid. Given the intensely political nature of opposition, Doctors for America brings the conversation back to the health of citizens and communities and the everyday human cost of inaction. We have raised the importance of Medicaid expansion through rallies, meetings with lawmakers, op-eds, petitions, and working with coalition partners in a dozen states. We have successfully gotten their conservative and powerful state Medical Associations to pass resolutions in support of Medicaid Expansion.

Health Disparities and Social Determinants of Health

80 percent of health happens outside the health care system. As physicians and medical students who see the downstream effects of unhealthy communities, we aim to bridge the gap between health care and public health. We are planning a physician education series on social determinants of health to show our members where they can speak up and change the environments where their patients live, work, and play. We aim to apply our strengths in community engagement and public education to bring a thoughtful medical perspective – and the weight of one of the most trusted professions – to local, state, and national policies. Key issues include gun violence, food insecurity, and racial disparities in health outcomes.

Past Campaigns: Highlights of Success

Physician Support for the Passage of Health Reform

We gathered practicing physicians from 50 states to DC to stand with President Obama in the Rose Garden in October, 2009 – to show Congress and the public the urgency of national health reform. We organized hundreds of doctors and nurses to march in DC. Coverage included *Los Angeles Times*, *Washington Post*, and *New York Times*.

Protecting Federal Funding for Prevention and Medicaid

We organized 15 organizations representing over 300,000 physicians to protect Medicaid from cuts in 2011. We also gathered signatures and stories from hundreds of physicians in support of the Public Health and Prevention Fund and the need for increased prevention funding.



Patients over Politics Bus Tour

50 doctors and patients from 17 states joined our 12-day tour from the Florida to North Carolina to educate communities and lawmakers about the ACA while doing health screenings. Media coverage reached 60 million impressions.

Coverage is Good Medicine: Outreach and Enrollment

We trained over 1000 doctors, medical students, and other health care providers to spread the word about new ACA coverage options. We organized a 4-city bus tour in Florida that garnered widespread media coverage and helped propel the state to surpass enrollment expectations. We also organized a national provider enrollment roundtable to help 50 organizations share resources and best practices.

Docs Run and the Race for Coverage

We are setting an example for our communities by forming teams to do races – from 5K's to marathons – in over a dozen communities across the nation while supporting the mission of Doctors for America.

Surgeon General Confirmation

Doctors for America led a year-long campaign across multiple constituencies to confirm our president and co-founder, Dr. Vivek Murthy, as the nation's 19th Surgeon General.

Members at a Glance

DFA has **members in all 50 states** and **volunteer state leaders in 29 states** who are practicing or retired physicians and medical students. Our members reside in **nearly every congressional district** and span across specialties, practice settings, and career stages.

Diverse Partners and Coalitions

Doctors for America works with hundreds of diverse national, state, and local organizations, including:

America's Essential Hospitals
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Family Physicians
American College of Physicians
American Hospital Association
Asian Pacific Islander American Health Form
Catholic Health Association
Coalition on Human Needs
FamiliesUSA

National Association of Community Health Centers
National Hispanic Medical Association
National Medical Association
National Women's Law Center
PICO National Network
Service Employees International Union
Small Business Majority
Trust for America's Health
Young Invincibles

Learn More about Doctors for America

www.drsforamerica.org

[@drsforamerica](https://twitter.com/drsforamerica)

[Facebook.com/DoctorsforAmerica](https://www.facebook.com/DoctorsforAmerica)

Doctors for America – 1333 H Street NW, 10th Floor, Washington, DC 20005 – www.drsforamerica.org