



This Week in Primary Care

The I Don't Think We Have to Stay Stuck Issue

Doctors are fighting back against the corporate greed that challenges their ability to practice medicine effectively and deliver high quality patient care.

In Oregon, 150 doctors and close to 5,000 other frontline healthcare workers have been **on strike** against the Providence Health & Services corporation **since Jan. 10, 2025**. It is the largest healthcare workers' strike in Oregon's history.

In Philadelphia, resident physicians and fellows at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital voted by an **overwhelming majority** to unionize, following in the footsteps of doctors at Temple University Hospital and Jefferson's Einstein Healthcare Network.

As healthcare corporations **continue to buy up** primary care practices all over the country, doctors are pressured to put **profit above patient care** by seeing as many patients as they can cram into their already full schedules. They are prevented from taking the time to get to know each patient, understanding their concerns, and getting to the bottom of their problems. Primary care doctors feel like cogs in a wheel that never stops. The result is burnout—and worse.

PC4AA's Eve Shapiro recently interviewed Gabe Charbonneau, M.D., co-founder of **Medicine Forward**, a group of doctors fighting back against burnout and its causes. As Dr. Charbonneau explains in this interview, Medicine Forward is committed to finding ways to take back control of primary care practice; to restore the precious time doctors need to listen to and care for every patient; to put the doctor-patient relationship before profit; to end burnout; and to connect and empower doctors nationwide and in communities across the country to collaborate to achieve their goals. Read the full interview below.



Teach-In/Learn-In
Tuesday, February 11
8:30pm EDT



Alison Warfel

**COO, Block Island
Health Services**

**How to sell the
story of your
community**

Register Below!

*Join PC4AA for a conversation
about making primary care
accessible for all!*

[Register Here](#)



I DON'T THINK WE HAVE TO STAY STUCK

Interview with Gabe Charbonneau, M.D.

By Eve Shapiro

February 4, 2025

“Meetings started out as conversations among physician colleagues and one administrator, and we would talk about problems and challenges and what we could do about them. I thought those meetings were productive. At some point, the administrator... decided the meetings should change. All of a sudden, we went from six or seven doctors and one or two administrators to a meeting of 20 people, and almost all of them were administrators... The meetings went from thoughtful conversation and dialogue to, “Here’s how we’re going to get paid, we want you to be on board with this, and we want you to go back to your clinic and get your colleagues on board with how we’re going to get paid.”

– Gabe Charbonneau, M.D.

[Read the Article](#)

If you would like to dig deeper into the corporate transformation of health care, sign up for this **three-part webinar series** from Georgetown’s Center on Health Insurance Reforms. (See the recoding of the first webinar [here](#).)

The Corporate Transformation of Health Care

Webinar 1: January 31 at 1:00 p.m. ET.

The Corporate Transformation of Health Care: What It Means for Patients and Providers

Elisabeth Rosenthal, Editor in Chief, Kaiser Health News
Patricia Kelmar, Senior Director, Health Care Campaigns, PIRG
Dr. Vicki Norton, President-Elect, American Academy of Emergency Medicine

Webinar 2: February 14 at 1:00 p.m. ET.

The Corporate Transformation of Health Care: What's Driving this Trend

Linda Blumberg, PhD, Research Professor, CHIR
Zirui Song, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School
Zack Cooper, Associate Professor of Public Health and Associate Professor of Economics, Yale School of Public Health
Stephen T. Parente, Professor of Finance and Minnesota Insurance Industry Chair of Health Finance and Associate Dean of the Carlson Global Institute

Webinar 3: February 28 at 1:00 p.m. ET.

The Corporate Transformation of Health Care: How Policymakers Can Curb Harmful Practices

Jane Beyer, Senior Health Policy Advisor, Washington State Office of the Insurance Commissioner
Evan Klein, Special Assistant, Legislative & Policy Affairs, Washington State Office of the Insurance Commissioner
Charles Miller, Director of Health and Economic Mobility Policy, Texas 2036
Meg Garrett Reed, Executive Director, Office of Affordable Health Care, State of Maine

Register Now

In the most recent episode of the ***Relentless Health Value*** podcast, PC4AA board member and founding partner of Converging Health, Scott Conard, discusses how insurance plan sponsors can prevent high-risk patients from becoming high-cost patients. Central to the task is ensuring access to advanced primary care teams! **Listen here.**

relentlesshealthvalue™



Relentless Health Value™ January 30, 2025 462 33:34 30.73 MB

EP462: Managing Populations of Whole, Actual People Who Are Not the Sum of a Bunch of Different Body Parts, With Scott Conard, MD

00:00:00 00:00:00

Listen to the Podcast

At our most recent Teach-In/Learn-In, we revealed the new PC4AA Local Playbook! If you missed it, you can watch here!



[Watch Video](#)

Become a Primary Care Champion!

We're excited to invite you to join us in making a meaningful difference in healthcare access for all Americans. By becoming a Primary Care Champion, you can support our vital work and help us create a healthier future for everyone.

Every contribution counts!
Together, we can drive impactful change in our communities.

Thank you for considering becoming a Primary Care Champion!

- Do you have a primary care story? Good or bad, **we want to hear it!**
- Follow PC4AA on **Instagram**, **Facebook**, and **LinkedIn!**
- We are looking for volunteers to work with our social media team! **Click here** if you are interested.
- Please **support PC4AA** in the fight for primary care for people, not for profit!

Donate Now!

HOW TO BOOST PC4AA ON SOCIALS!



Link here to our socials and more!

Each week we showcase how access to primary care makes people healthier, saves money, and can be the cornerstone of a healthcare system that puts people over profit.

Was this newsletter forwarded to you? Do you believe in access to primary care for all Americans? [Click here to join our mailing list!](#)

[Invite a Friend to Join the Movement!](#)

Share Your Primary Care Story With Us!

Have you had an unfortunate experience trying to access primary care? A great experience with a primary care provider? Whether you are a patient, caretaker, or health care professional, we want to hear your story! How has access to primary care affected you and your family?

[Tell Us Your Story](#)

We may even ask you to share your story with our supporters in one of our Teach-In/Learn-Ins! You can watch Kristen's story for inspiration.



Watch Recordings of All Our
Recent Teach-In/Learn-Ins

[PC4AA Videos](#)

The PC4AA Website is now available in Spanish!

PC4AA Español

If this newsletter was forwarded to you and you believe in access to primary care for all Americans, please join our mailing list!

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