



This Week in Primary Care The Giant Shift Issue

Relationships were once at the heart of primary care practice. These relationships led to doctors' deep knowledge and understanding of their patients, trust between doctors and their care teams, and doctors' familiarity with specialists on whom they could always rely. Such relationships were particularly important in rural areas, where primary care doctors were the linchpins for the health of entire communities.

Not that this matters to the hospitals, health systems, and corporations that now employ **almost 78%** of physicians in this country. Today, these corporate owners exert ever-increasing pressure on doctors to seek profit by seeing more patients in less time and navigating unwieldy electronic health records—leaving little time for the myriad other tasks that are part of a normal day practicing primary care.

In a [new interview](#), Noah Nessin, a family doctor in Glenburn, ME, and Jeff Brown, an expert in systems-design principles, explain to PC4AA's Eve Shapiro that primary care doctors in rural areas are so burned out—and suffer such moral distress trying to meet the demands of their corporate bosses—they no longer have time for the relationships. As a result, patients, doctors, and entire communities suffer.

This problem isn't going to solve itself. As Nessin explains, "Primary care advocates and primary care providers have to organize and demand a giant shift in the way primary care is viewed and reimbursed."

That's where YOU come in! Join PC4AA as we build a grassroots movement to demand that giant shift in the way primary care is viewed, delivered, and paid for! The residents of Central Falls, RI, are doing their part! On March 10th they became the first city in the nation to pass a resolution supporting Primary Care for All Americans! Your city is next, if you make it happen!

Become a Primary Care Champion!

Your support will help power the movement for primary care for all!

[Donate Now](#)

A GIANT SHIFT IN THE WAY PRIMARY CARE IS VIEWED

Interview with Noah Nessin, M.D., and Jeff Brown, M. Ed.

By Eve Shapiro

April 1, 2025

ES: What do you mean when you say the fundamentals of primary care have gone awry?

NN: We've built a model of primary care that is transactional rather than relational, so you lose all the emotional value of practicing primary care, which is the power of the relationship with your patients, with your team, with your community. And that's what sustains you through a difficult day—a day when you're overbooked, when you're behind, when you've had an unsatisfactory interaction or outcome. It's the relationships that sustain you and sustain your patients.

In this transactional model of primary care, all the opportunities for relationship-building have been stripped away from us, including easy visits, which are funneled off to same-day care providers. During easy visits, you get to shmooze a little and recharge your battery in the moment, and these visits are all gone. In the interactions and encounters we do have, we are so wrapped up in completing the tasks associated with these encounters that we don't really have the opportunity for relationship building, for empathy building, for deeply caring for and about our patients because we're just thinking about the tasks that are piling up. This is true in most models of primary care, especially primary care in rural areas.

[Read the Interview](#)

If You've Ever Participated in the National Health Service Corps Scholarship Program

We would like to interview you for an upcoming issue of PC4AA to learn:

- What did your service mean to you?
- How did your experiences change your life and practice?
- How did your presence affect the health of communities where you served?
- What stories stay with you?
- What does the NHSC mean for healthcare today?

Please click below to contact [Eve Shapiro](#) and share your story!



PC4AA president Michael Fine and Central Falls, RI, workgroup lead Christy Romero testified in front of the Central Falls City Council, leading to the passing of this resolution!



RESOLUTION

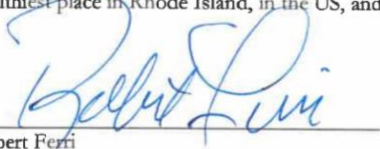
A Resolution Supporting Primary Care for All Americans


Co-Sponsored by Councilpersons Laurilim Rosado-Marinez & Tatiana Baena

Introduced March 10, 2025

- WHEREAS,** Primary healthcare is the only medical service that has ever been shown to improve the health of the public and reduce the cost of healthcare; and
- WHEREAS,** Central Falls is fortunate to have a number of primary health care providers; and
- WHEREAS,** the use of regular primary care by Central Falls city employees and residents has likely improved the health of all Central Falls residents, and likely saved taxpayers thousands of dollars; and
- WHEREAS,** it is in the best interest of the City of Central Falls that we have the healthiest population and most affordable health care in Rhode Island and in the US.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Central Falls City Council does hereby urge every Central Falls Resident to have and use primary care regularly as needed; and urge all City employees and all our health care workers to work together to make sure everyone in Central Falls has the opportunity to have and use a primary care relationship, so that everyone in Central Falls has primary care, and so we together prevent preventable disease and make Central Falls the healthiest place in Rhode Island, in the US, and the world.


Robert Ferri
Council President


Alberto M. de Burgo
City Clerk



Teach-In/Learn-In

Tuesday, March 25

8:30pm EDT

Sara Pastoor



Matthew Libby



PLAYBOOK: A MENU OF OPTIONS

Register Now!
[LINK HERE](#)

[Register Now!](#)

We're hiring!

Primary Care for All Americans is searching for enthusiastic people for the following part-time roles. Depending on your qualifications, job descriptions may be combined or adjusted. Pay is \$20-\$30/hour, depending on experience. No experience is required, except where noted.

- The production associate will coordinate constituent relations, manage the mailing list, produce bi-weekly newsletters, manage the scheduling of meetings for multiple committees and state and local workgroups, update the website, and help out in other ways that come up. Five hours per week.
- The newsletter editor will collect news articles, academic papers, event notices, and anything else involving primary care worth highlighting for our members. Editor will write introductions to other works, edit the work of contributors, and may write original content if interested. Some health policy knowledge is required.

- The communications associate will develop and nurture relationships with external partners, oversee internal and external communications, including social media, and contribute to the newsletter and website.

Please express your interest by emailing us:

[Email Us!](#)

At our most recent Teach-In/Learn-In, Allana Krolkowski, MD, FAAFP, shared how maternity care can help communities provide primary care to everyone.

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!

[Join Us!](#)

Primary Care for All Americans | 8900 Van Wyck Expressway | Jamaica, NY 11418 US

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