



EQUAL Health Network: Defending and Advancing Health Reform

Months after the passage of the **Affordable Care Act (ACA)**, many of us still have questions: What will the law do for me? How can we make it work?

The EQUAL Health Network presents reliable, accessible information and progressive analysis on health care reform to the public, particularly women, seniors, public health, and the faith community, and to policy makers and the media. **EQUAL's priorities are:**

- 1. Educate the public about the ACA.** Counter misinformation, build public support
- 2. Implement the Law.** Mobilize public participation and comments
- 3. Improve the Law.** Public campaigns on key policies

We invite supporters of health reform to:

- **Join the EQUAL listserv: send a blank email to: equal@list.equalhealth.info**
- Partner with us to advocate for universal and affordable coverage for health care

Key Features of the Affordable Care Act (ACA):

♦ **Expanded Coverage** - Phased In ♦ **Curbing Insurance Abuses** ♦ Down payments on **Cost Controls:**
~ Quality Improvements, Primary care ~ Public Health and Prevention ~ Rate Regulations

Immediate benefits:

SENIORS: \$250 drug rebate **SMALL BUSINESSES:** Tax break on paying for health insurance
YOUNG PEOPLE: No exclusions for pre-existing conditions. Stay on parents' health insurance to age 26.

KEY INFORMATION SOURCES: The EQUAL Health Network produces comprehensive and short summaries as well as “briefs” on specific aspects of the ACA. The EQUAL **website** includes links to the sources below plus specifics on women, seniors, public health, & more:

<http://www.equalhealth.info/>

Department of Health and Human Services: www.healthcare.gov ♦ House and Senate leadership websites:

www.speaker.gov/newsroom/legislation?id=0361, dpc.senate.gov/dpcdoc-sen_health_care_bill.cfm

Kaiser Family Foundation Health Reform Gateway: healthreform.kff.org ♦ The Commonwealth Fund

www.commonwealthfund.org/Health-Reform.aspx ♦ Center for Budget and Policy Priorities www.cbpp.org

Families USA Health Reform Central: www.familiesusa.org/health-reform-central/

UC Berkeley Center for Labor Research and Education laborcenter.berkeley.edu/healthpolicy/index.shtml

**EQUAL Health Network ♦ Center for Policy Analysis, P.O. Box 29586, San Francisco, CA 94129 ♦
Ellen R. Shaffer & Joe Brenner, Co-Directors**

Phone: 415-922-6204 ♦ fax : 415-885-4091 ♦ email : ershaffer@gmail.com ♦ www.equalhealth.info