



an introduction to
medicare *for all*
and why we need it

**Southwest
Michigan**

Democratic Socialists of America



we are being
ripped off

compared to
other countries
we pay **more**
for **less**

did you know?

Americans pay more for healthcare than any country in the world.

Yet we are far from the healthiest. We have the highest infant and maternal mortality rates, and the lowest life expectancy of 'rich' countries. So where is all that money going?

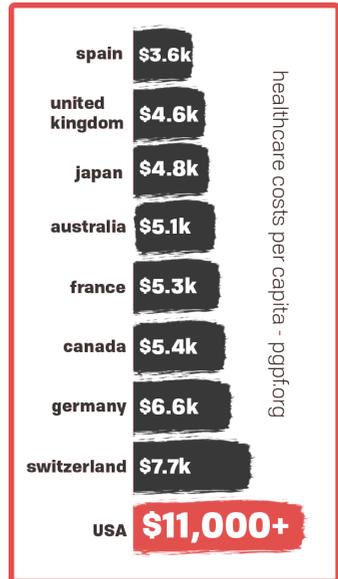
Nearly \$278 billion per year is currently wasted on a bloated corporate bureaucracy, and almost \$342 billion per year is given away in tax subsidies to big insurance companies. That money does not go to healthcare workers (doctors, nurses, and support staff). Instead, it goes to CEOs and administrators that make upwards of \$80,000 a day.



Healthcare should be about healing the sick, not giveaways to the rich.

We need a system that prioritizes the health of working-class Americans over the profits of insurance companies and their billionaire executives. If you are a part of the working-class majority in this country, the system is broken.

We need a new system. ***We need medicare for all.***



5 principles of medicare for all

what does medicare for all mean?

a single health program

Everyone will be covered by one health insurance program, administered by the federal government, and have equal access to all medical services and treatments.

comprehensive coverage

All services requiring a medical professional will be fully covered. You go to the doctor of your choice. Dental, vision, mental health, and pharmaceuticals are all included.

free at the point of service

All healthcare costs will be financed through tax contributions based on ability to pay: no copays, no fees, no deductibles and no premiums. Ever.

universal coverage

Coverage for all United States residents - non-citizens included.



jobs program

A jobs initiative and severance for those affected by the transition to government-run healthcare.



a working-class family currently pays nearly ~~\$6,273~~ a year in premiums. under medicare for all they would only pay \$466 in taxes – saving over \$5,000 per year.

it's not just about the savings. medicare for all gives us freedom.

Imagine knowing, that regardless of your situation, that you and your family would be completely covered for any potential healthcare situation.

**how much anxiety that would take away from you?
how would that change your life?**



Medicare for All offers 'cradle to grave' coverage - everything would be covered from the moment of birth until death.

Your children's appointments, glasses and medicine. Their future scrapes and breaks from growing up. Your own prescriptions and check ups (that includes dental). Your mom's cancer treatments and her mom's elderly care facility. It's seems a lot but there is **no deductible or co-pay, everything is covered.** this will be the reality under medicare for all.

It will give us freedom to leave our terrible jobs. Employers will be forced to offer higher wages with better benefits. Small Business owners can hire more people without being crippled by complicated paperwork and costs.

It will also give healthcare workers the freedom to care. our doctor's and nurses will be able to deliver the best care to everybody. They'll be able to spend more time treating patients than filling out insurance paperwork.

the fight for healthcare is just the **beginning**

everyone gets ill. that's why everybody deserves coverage



As a socialist organization, we realize that many issues facing the working class are linked. We see healthcare justice as part of a larger fight for a better, more just society ran for the many, not the few.

The american healthcare system has an unequal effect upon people of color, women and the LGBTQ+ community. These communities are most likely to be unable to afford life saving medical visits and prescriptions.

Our elected officials, benefit from our current system. They receive donations from insurance companies and are corrupted by their privileged status. That is why we, the working class of SWMI, must lead this fight.



**the current
system is
racist and
sexist.**



3 steps to win.

1 sign our petition

We believe that the fight for medicare for all starts at the local level. Sign our petition and demand that our local officials publically support Medicare for All. [sign the petition at swmidsa.com/m4a](https://swmidsa.com/m4a)

2 organize with us

It's going to take more than a petition to get Medicare for All and we're in this fight until the end. Organize with us and learn more about the other work we do. [learn more at swmidsa.com](https://swmidsa.com)

3 share this zine

Finished with this resource? Pass on the knowledge and share it with a friend, family member or co-worker. Only a mass movement will get medicare for all, so the more people on our side the better!

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