

SAMPLE PROBLEM AND VISION STATEMENT

Problem: What Washington's health care system looks like now:

- **Access:** Too many people go without needed care;
- **Cost:** Too much money must be spent providing care to those for whom it is available;
- **Quality:** Too little health benefit is received for the money being spent.

Vision: In five years, Washington's health care system should:

- Acknowledge that resources are limited, and spend those resources only on necessary, appropriate, safe, high quality care so that such care may be provided to as many residents as possible;
- Use prevention and health promotion to the greatest extent possible, reducing the need for costly medical treatment;
- Drive administrative expenditures no greater than that which is essential for the provision of and timely payment for appropriate, quality treatment;
- Assure that each person receives care appropriate to his or her condition, reflecting the best available scientific evidence, and each provider's complete and accurate understanding of the patient, his or her health status, and any environmental and social conditions effecting his or her well-being or treatment outcomes;
- Empower every person through information and incentives to engage in and take responsibility for their own well-being, and to be aware of his or her role in addressing the unsustainable costs of the system;
- Provide the least expensive care necessary in any circumstance to produce the desired health outcome;
- Provide access for all state ~~resident~~ to a basic level of care, while acknowledging that every possible service may not be available to everyone;
- Make efficient use of the health care workforce;
- Acknowledge the value of choice, and the contribution of the health care industry to the state's economy and individual financial security, but balance these against limited resources.

How do we begin in the 2007 legislative session to achieve this five-year vision?

