

**Proposals to the Blue Ribbon Commission on Health Care Costs & Access
Listed by Strategy**

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25. Reduce Health Disparities
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1. Enhance Community-Based Approaches

- Establish a statewide network of community healthcare collaboratives (**Communities Connect**)
- Make collaboratives responsible for the coordinated development and implementation of eight critical activities (outreach and enrollment, coordinated care, affordable prescription drugs, chronic disease management, coverage of low wage workers, organized donated care, adequate provider safety net network, prevention and wellness services) and begin to restructure the delivery system to reduce fragmentation and improve health care access and outcomes (**Communities Connect**)
- Create Community Healthcare Management Districts (**Communities Connect**)
- Provide matching funds for the design and implementation of a Spokane area pilot project (called the “Value of Health” initiative) that will measure and quantify the financial savings involved and the health improvement realized in a community-based, preventive approach to health (**Community-Minded Enterprises**)
- Provide ongoing funding for the Community Health Care Collaborative Grant Program (SB 6459 – 2006) (**Project Access**)
- Establish a program to provide local communities with an ombudsman to help connect low-income uninsured to medical care (**Project Access**)
- Support the further deployment of the Prescription Drug Assistance Foundation (**Project Access**)
- Fund and otherwise support the design and development of Project Access programs throughout the state (**Project Access**)

2. Provide Health Care Coverage for All Children

- Enhance Healthy Kids Now! (SCHIP) to provide coverage to uninsured children through SCHIP’s federal reauthorization and higher funding levels, as well as partnering with national and state organizations to increase enrollment (**PhRMA**)
- Establish a children’s coverage mandate (**Roger Collier**)
- Package legislation to cover all children by 2010 (**Community Health Network/Washington Association of Community & Migrant Health Centers**)
- Implement a children’s health initiative centered on providing a medical home to our state’s low income children (**Group Health Cooperative**)
- Work with purchasers and carriers towards a requirement that all health carriers offer extended eligibility for unmarried dependent children up to the age of 25 (**Group Health Cooperative**)
- Increase health care coverage for children (**Health Coalition for Children and Youth**)
- Increase access to health care services for children through an improved delivery system that incorporates the medical home model (**Health Coalition for Children and Youth**)
- Emphasize and reward the delivery of preventive health care and improve the quality of health care received (**Health Coalition for Children and Youth**)
- Secure a sustainable funding source (**Health Coalition for Children and Youth**)
- Integrated preventive health care for children – expand the “Kids Get Care” program statewide (**King County Health Action Plan**)

- Making sure best practices are not best kept secrets – expand the statewide reach of the Children’s Health Improvement Collaborative (**King County Health Action Plan**)
- County innovations and expansion of coverage and access to services – pilot expansion of children’s health initiatives in county “incubators” (**King County Health Action Plan**)
- Provide comprehensive health care to all children age 18 and under, including maternity and dental care (**King County Medical Society**)
- Provide coverage for all children (**Washington Fair Share Coalition**)

3. **Enhance State Health Care Programs**

- Expand programs (such as Take Charge) to prevent unintended pregnancy by providing access to contraception, family planning services and medically accurate sexual health education (**Planned Parenthood Public Policy Network of Washington**)
- Expand BHP and Medicaid to cover residents up to 300% FPL, with cost-sharing based on a sliding scale (**Washington Fair Share Health Care Coalition, Spokane Alliance**)
- Expand access to care for the uninsured and working poor through existing safety-net programs (**Washington Academy of Family Physicians**)
- Expand the Small Employer Health Insurance Partnership to cover employees up to 300% FPL (**Washington Fair Share Health Care Coalition, Spokane Alliance**)
- Increase enrollment in the Basic Health Plan (**Washington State Medical Association, Community Health Network/Washington Association of Community & Migrant Health Centers**)
- Expand Senior Information and Assistance programs through increased funding to serve the health access needs of older adults and adults who need chronic care (**Association of Area Agencies on Aging**)
- Invest in community health centers (**Community Health Network/Washington Association of Community & Migrant Health Centers**)
- Implement affordable buy-in options for small employers, with a focus on low-income employees (**Group Health Cooperative, Community Health Network/Washington Association of Community & Migrant Health Centers**)
- Expand doula services to low income pregnant women (doulas are certified professionals that serve as a resource/cultural navigator to pregnant women) (**Open Arms Perinatal Services**)
- Devote more resources to seniors’ oral health (**Washington Dental Service Foundation**)
- Integrate preventive and restorative oral health services for low-income and/or homebound seniors (**Smiles for Life Project**)
- Subsidize coverage for individuals who have incomes below 300% of the federal poverty level and no significant assets (**Office of the Insurance Commissioner**)
- Increase outreach for low-income populations to access public programs (**Regence**)
- Intensify efforts to cover adults and children eligible for but not enrolled in public programs (**America’s Health Insurance Plans**)
- Eliminate bureaucratic red tape, such as onerous eligibility criteria and paperwork requirements to ease administrative burden (**Planned Parenthood Public Policy Network of Washington**)
- Increase provider payments in Medicaid and the Basic Health Plan to 80% of the Uniform Medical Plan (**Washington State Medical Association**)

- Assure adequate reimbursement with accountability in state programs (**Group Health Cooperative**)
- Establish a Medicaid Ombudsman Program in Washington State. Located in individual communities, the ombudsman would serve as a liaison between the Medicaid program and the physicians in the community (**Spokane County Medical Society**)
- Allow subsidization of deductibles, not just insurance: explore the cost of assisting individuals with the deductible in health savings accounts rather than always subsidizing the total insurance package (**National Federation of Independent Business**)
- Assign a designated primary care provider to Medicaid recipients (**Snohomish County Medical Society**)
- Prioritize existing public sector health care spending – review state priorities in health care spending and align the use of existing dollars to meet those priorities (**National Federation of Independent Business**)
- Increase the Medicaid reimbursement rate for services to children from around \$34.56 per relative value unit to \$50.00 per relative value unit (**Washington Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics**)

4. **Reduce Regulation of the Commercial Insurance Market**

- Eliminate unduly restrictive laws and regulations that inhibit the development of innovative and cost-effective health insurance products (**America’s Health Insurance Plans**)
- Reduce health insurance regulation (**Association of Washington Business**)
- Streamline insurance and health care administration and regulation (**Group Health Cooperative**)
- Remove regulatory barriers to reduce the cost of premiums and increase the number of private insurers doing business in the state (**Jobs and Health Care Coalition**)
- Provide more affordable products through the private market for small business employees and young adults (**Regence**)
- Increase market competition through entry of new carriers in Washington (**Washington Association of Health Underwriters**)
- Pilot and evaluate new health benefit designs (**Group Health Cooperative**)
- Create a truly competitive private marketplace for health insurance and health care service delivery (**Independent Business Association**)
- Make it a priority to bring more competition back to the individual market (**National Federation of Independent Business**)
- Change rating laws to allow for lower premium cost plans (**Washington Association of Health Underwriters**)
- Use rating mechanisms proven to work in other states (**Independent Business Association**)
- Change our rating laws to allow additional rating factors or to allow an insurer more ability to deviate rates within small group plans (**National Federation of Independent Business**)

5. **Allow Limited Benefit Health Plans**

- Maximize use of limited benefit plans, which provide primary or preventative services, for lower income uninsured individuals and families (**PhRMA**)
- Encourage the availability of low cost, flexible health plans (**Association of Washington Business**)

- Increase coverage choices through limited benefit coverage plans and health savings account options (**Washington Association of Health Underwriters**)
- Allow insurance carriers to offer reduced mandate insurance plans (**Washington Policy Center**)
- Create a greater variety of choice in products and prices (**Jobs and Health Care Coalition**)
- Allow limited benefit health plans that provide first dollar coverage rather than catastrophic coverage (**National Federation of Independent Business**)
- Determine plans by price: contract with a certified actuarial firm to provide the legislature with five plan designs, not subject to any coverage, service or administrative requirements, which could be offered each of five price points between \$50 and \$150 per member per month (**National Federation of Independent Business**)
- Allow all insurers to offer one plan with an average cost of \$100 per person per month, another plan at \$150 per person per month and any other health care plans that insurers want to offer in addition to those two plan (**Independent Business Association**)
- Establish a state office of health information and planning, and among other things, direct it to design and periodically update evidence-based model health benefit plans that include preventive services and only those other benefits determined to be the most efficacious and cost-effective within specified dollar limits. Require carriers to offer such plans. (**Senator Jim Kastama**)
- Allow the offering of health plans which include less than the full array of mandated benefits (**Snohomish County Medical Society**)

6. Facilitate Health Savings Accounts

- Enhance an existing program, targeted to small employers and uninsured individuals in South Snohomish County, to create an effective and efficient link between a high deductible catastrophic health plan with a health savings account and a retainer fee primary care medical practice (**Anchor Medical Clinic**)
- Increase coverage choices through limited benefit coverage plans and health savings account options (**Washington Association of Health Underwriters**)
- Strengthen the ability for individuals and small businesses to have health savings accounts (**National Federation of Independent Business**)
- Adopt “HP4Life” as a model health plan design which can be incorporated into current individual or group benefits, or public coverage programs. The plan combines an adjustable Consumer Driven Health Plan with an integrated set of state-of-the-art prevention and health management interventions such as an annual health questionnaire, a personal wellness report, disease management, and incentives for wellness achievements. (**Stephen Barchet**)

7. Increase Regulation of the Commercial Insurance Market

- Extend Washington State’s mental health parity law to include the small business and individual insurance markets (**Washington Coalition for Insurance Parity**)
- Require insurers that provide coverage for prosthetic devices to include coverage for hearing aids (**Washington Speech & Hearing Association**)
- Combine health insurance market pools and create a reinsurance market for the combined pool (**Washington Fair Share Health Care Coalition**)

- Improve benefit design to include a core group of services (**Washington Fair Share Health Care Coalition**)
- Encourage innovative benefit design with chronic care coverage (**Spokane Alliance, Washington Fair Share Health Care Coalition**)

8. **Increase Employer Financing of Health Care**

- Offer large employers a choice of providing coverage or paying a sliding scale premium tax based on employer size (**Spokane Alliance**)
- Give large employers a choice of providing employee health insurance coverage or contributing to the cost of covering employees through state plans (**Washington Fair Share Health Care Coalition, Community Health Network/Washington Association of Community & Migrant Health Centers**)
- Guarantee affordable coverage for employees and dependents: impose a levy on all but very small employers to cover costs of State-sponsored health insurance (**Roger Collier**)
- Employers with more than ten employees should have two options for providing health insurance to their employees – either fund at least a minimum level of coverage or pay a health care access fee to the state to provide coverage (**Office of the Insurance Commissioner**)

9. **Implement Health Care Tax Reform**

- Provide access to health care for lower-income through tax credits to help subsidize individuals and small employers (**America's Health Insurance Plans**)
- Provide a B&O tax credit or deduction for health care providers for the cost of treatment for the uninsured (**PhRMA**)
- Support state and federal tax policy that encourages coverage (**Association of Washington Business**)
- Study and recommend appropriate health care tax reform (**Group Health Cooperative**)

10. **Establish a Statewide Universal Coverage Program**

- Provide universal coverage that: is portable; is not exclusively linked to employment; includes a basic benefits package available through insurers that is developed through a public process using evidence-based medicine; and that is financed through contributions of consumers, employers, and government. Individuals should be allowed to purchase additional coverage beyond the basic package financed through the public system (**Providence Health & Services**)
- Establish a Health and Wellness Service Board (HWSB) through which the state in cooperation with the private sector should guarantee every resident of the state access to a core set of critical health services, and catastrophic care, at an affordable price. This would require increased funding for many public health services and subsidization for low income families (**State Board of Health Access Committee**)
- Establish a task force with the authority, responsibility and staff to draft legislation that provides every citizen with affordable universal access to health care, with fair reimbursement to providers (**Health Care that Works**)
- Create the Washington Health Security Trust, a single public trust fund dedicated to the financing of a defined set of health services for all state residents. Finance the trust through

a combination of sources, including employers, individual residents, and existing state health care programs (**Health Care for All – Washington**)

- Universal health coverage, publicly funded with health care privately delivered (**Jefferson County Committee for Health Care Access**)
- Impose a state income tax to pay for outpatient primary care services to all Washington residents, beginning with children (**Linda Johnson**)
- Replace all or most private insurance with one publicly funded, publicly administered insurance plan (**Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace**)
- Set up a single health care plan that guarantees quality health care to every resident of Washington State (**Physicians for a National Health Program**)

11. Establish an Insurance “Connector”

- Create a non-profit organization or public entity to implement and operate reforms (similar to the Massachusetts Health Insurance Connector) (**Office of the Insurance Commissioner**)
- Establish a central insurance “marketplace”: create a new State-sponsored broker function offering standardized “no frills” coverage from multiple insurers, emphasizing prevention and quality care (**Roger Collier**)
- Improve the marketplace for individuals and small employers through a “health connector” similar to what has been adopted in Massachusetts (**Group Health Cooperative**)
- Consider implementing a “Connector” similar to Massachusetts (**Washington Policy Center**)

12. Establish an Individual Coverage Mandate

- Require self-employed individuals above 300% FPL to purchase insurance (**Spokane Alliance, Washington Fair Share Health Care Coalition**)
- Create a de facto mandate that individuals purchase insurance by creating incentives, removing disincentives and establishing “gateways” (**State Board of Health Access Committee**)
- Require individuals who are unemployed, self-employed, or who do not receive coverage through their employer to maintain a specified level of health care coverage (**Office of the Insurance Commissioner**)

13. Promote Personal Responsibility

- Increase communication and education on the importance of coverage for higher income individuals who can afford coverage but remain uninsured (**Regence**)
- Engage communities with a public awareness campaign to explain health care costs and responsibilities (**Group Health Cooperative**)
- Encourage insurance carriers to offer health care plans that shift away from first dollar coverage (**Washington Policy Center**)
- Educate consumers on true cost of health care and encourage personal responsibility (**Washington Association of Health Underwriters**)
- Educate consumers on the health care system and personal responsibility (e.g., through the Governor’s Community Health Bowl, televised health tips, website health tracking services, etc.) (**Washington Health Foundation**)

- Focus on individual responsibility, not employer responsibility – ensure individuals exercise their responsibility for their own health and provide incentives to do so (**Independent Business Association**)
- Educate individuals about the costs of health care, how they impact those costs, and increase their responsibility for their health care (**Jobs and Health Care Coalition**)
- Determine what insurance should cover, what individuals should be responsible for, and how such decisions should be made in the future (**Washington Policy Center**)
- Make it easier for individuals to obtain their own health care and insurance rather than creating dependency on employers or government (**National Federation of Independent Business**)
- Increase accountability in the system by providing consumers with better information and incentives to modify lifestyles where possible and make more informed medical decisions (**Premera**)
- Enable Washingtonians to become better informed about taking care of themselves for wellness, chronic symptoms and illness (**Barbara Brewitt**)
- Encourage citizens to take greater responsibility for their health by increased awareness of quality-of-life assessments of daily functionality (**Barbara Brewitt**)
- Provide health care consumers with comprehensive health screens, education and consultation, medication and supplement evaluation, evidence-based information to support health care decision-making, computerized medical history, advocacy and liaison assistance, and preventive lab testing (**Proactive Health Team**)

14. **Provide Information on Treatment Quality and Price**

- Provide consumers information on quality and pricing (**Providence Health & Services**)
- Produce a publicly-available report comparing performance of medical clinics and hospitals (**Puget Sound Health Alliance**)
- Support existing efforts of the Puget Sound Health Alliance to expand statewide (**Puget Sound Health Alliance**)
- Create a risk-adjusted, value-based reporting of providers and insurers (**Spokane Alliance, Washington Fair Share Health Care Coalition**)
- Supply information to consumers currently isolated from cost (**Association of Washington Business**)
- Provide consumers far better health care information to allow consumers to actively make health care purchasing decisions (**Independent Business Association**)
- Increase transparency with information on quality, clinical performance and cost-effective treatment options so consumers can make better choices and health care professionals can deliver the most cost-effective care (**Premera**)
- Increase price transparency through a web-based tool on hospital pricing (**Snohomish County Medical Society**)
- Increase pricing transparency (**Spokane Alliance, Washington Fair Share Health Care Coalition**)
- Support effective transparency and reporting initiatives (**Group Health Cooperative**)

15. **Help Consumers Use the Health Care System More Effectively**

- Locate access specialists at the earliest point of entry when a resident enters a community to provide early education about how to use the health care system effectively (**Yakima County Health Care Coalition**)
- Locate access specialists in hospital emergency rooms to interview patients who access the ER for non-urgent conditions, and assist them in accessing care in a more appropriate primary care setting (**Yakima County Health Care Coalition**)
- Develop shared community information and referral systems to collect information about residents needing assistance, health education needs, and to follow up on health coverage applications in process (**Yakima County Health Care Coalition**)
- Provide patient and community education based on the information collected from the county's residents (**Yakima County Health Care Coalition**)
- Provide health care consumers with comprehensive health screens, education and consultation, medication and supplement evaluation, evidence-based information to support health care decision-making, computerized medical history, advocacy and liaison assistance, and preventive lab testing (**Proactive Health Team**)
- Have state officials and business owners engage in an active education plan to educate workers about the money-saving benefits of employer-paid health care benefits (**Independent Business Association**)

16. **Promote Evidence-Based Medicine**

- Advance evidence-based medicine using collaborative efforts to learn what works and shaping the delivery of medicine to reduce variation from evidence-based guidelines (**Premera**)
- Support uniform federal standards in areas such as evidence-based guidelines, information technology standards, and cost-benefit analyses of new medical treatments (**Premera**)
- Adopt evidence-based treatment guidelines (**Puget Sound Health Alliance**)
- Make a statutory change in tort law to accept evidence based medicine as an acceptable standard of care (**Snohomish County Medical Society**)
- Continue adoption of evidence-based medicine guidelines, pharmaceutical use, technology assessments, and pay-for-performance that is based on physicians' input and expertise (**Washington Academy of Family Physicians**)
- Develop performance measures based on national guidelines (**Washington Association of Naturopathic Physicians**)
- Enact laws that mandate the collection and dissemination of evidence based medical data (**Steve Critchlow**)
- Partner with GSK to analyze Washington state employee claims data for adherence to evidence-based treatment (**GlaxoSmithKline**)
- Maximize cost savings that can be achieved through making evidence-based medicine the standard for health care (**America's Health Insurance Plans**)
- Make use of evidence-based protocols and measurement of outcomes (**Jefferson County Committee for Health Care Access**)
- Understand and act on unwarranted statewide variations that reflect the under-use, misuse and overuse of medical treatments and technologies (**Group Health Cooperative**)
- Create a mechanism for promulgating guidelines for care, together with incentives for following the guidelines (**Roger Collier**)

- Build incentives into all public programs that incentivize best practices (**Washington Fair Share Health Care Coalition**)

17. **Encourage Quality, Cost Effective Care**

- Establish a nonprofit institute to support payer, provider and supplier efforts to improve the delivery of health care in Washington through health care process improvement (**Gemba Research**)
- Restructure the health care delivery system to focus on providing the best value for a patient's health rather than focusing on how to reimburse for treatment of a particular medical condition (**Washington Policy Center**)
- Improve productivity/efficiencies of the current health care system (**Association of Washington Business**)
- Require administrative efficiencies in the health insurance system (**Office of the Insurance Commissioner**)
- Link provider pay increases with commitment to expand access and increase quality (**Spokane Alliance**)
- Develop provider and/or facility incentives (**Washington Association of Naturopathic Physicians**)
- Develop patient incentives (**Washington Association of Naturopathic Physicians**)
- Invest in outcomes-based healthcare (**Office of the Insurance Commissioner**)
- Create incentives for best practices and evidence-based care (**Community Health Network/Washington Association of Community & Migrant Health Centers**)
- Change the way health care organizations and providers are evaluated and paid (**Group Health Cooperative**)
- Provide incentives for cost effective health care delivery (**Independent Business Association**)

18. **Promote Health Information Technology**

- Provide information tools to guide health care decision-making (**Puget Sound Health Alliance**)
- Support adoption of health information technology (**Puget Sound Health Alliance**)
- Promote the use of health information technology, including registry systems and electronic health records (**Snohomish County Medical Society**)
- Provide incentives and funding for all physician practices to adopt electronic health records (**Washington Academy of Family Physicians**)
- Support more widespread use of The Shared Care Plan – a free, easy to use personal health record that lets a person organize and store vital health information (**Accounting for Health**)
- Support community health center electronic health record conversions (**Community Health Network/Washington Association of Community & Migrant Health Centers**)
- Continue to encourage patient centered information technology (**Group Health Cooperative**)
- Expand oral health care services by utilizing teledentistry and formalizing relationships between dental hygienists with consulting dentists (**Smiles for Life Project**)

- Require administrative efficiencies in the health insurance system -- create a non-profit organization to carry out a centralized credentialing program and a single uniform claims processing system (**Office of the Insurance Commissioner**)
- Subsidize health information technology for small practices that agree to meet performance targets and to participate in cost and quality initiatives (**State Board of Health Access Committee**)

19. Provide a Medical Home/Care Coordination

- Develop a statewide system of children's advocacy centers for a coordinated response and treatment approach to child victims of crime (includes medical/mental health diagnosis, foster care assessment, legal advocacy, and crisis intervention) (**Partners with Families & Children**)
- Reduce costs through improved coordination between various disciplines including the medical system, law enforcement, child protection, prosecution, mental health, and advocacy teams (**Partners with Families and Children**)
- Promote integrated care that consolidates mental health, substance abuse, and medical treatment (**Snohomish County Medical Society**)
- Integrate primary, behavioral, and dental health care (**Community Health Network/Washington Association of Community & Migrant Health Centers**)
- Focus on care delivery systems and approaches that encourage patient-centered team care (**Group Health Cooperative**)
- Expand medical home concept (**Snohomish County Medical Society**)
- Ensure Washingtonians have a medical home (**Washington Academy of Family Physicians**)
- Reduce ER utilization through investments in primary care (**Community Health Network/Washington Association of Community & Migrant Health Centers**)
- Commit to ensure that children in the State of Washington have a medical home (**Washington Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics**)

20. Enhance Chronic Care Management

- Collect outcomes and cost-effectiveness data for key chronic diseases/risk-factors (**Washington Association of Naturopathic Physicians**)
- Implement the Intensive Chronic Care Management program model statewide (**Association of Area Agencies on Aging**)
- Utilize managed care for expensive populations (**Community Health Network/Washington Association of Community & Migrant Health Centers**)
- Implement an Ashville diabetes management program, based on a counseling partnership with pharmacists, to create incentives (through waived co-pays) and eliminate barriers to diabetes control for state employees (**GlaxoSmithKline**)
- Promote effective care for chronic illness (**Group Health Cooperative**)
- A collaborative research project that measures the health care benefits and savings produced in the course of administering medical nutritional therapy to low-income King County residents with chronic illnesses (**Lifelong Aids Alliance**)
- Develop evidence-based, chronic disease prevention programs (**Washington Association of Naturopathic Physicians**)

- Enhance and increase funding to the Family Caregiver Support and Respite programs to support the growing number of unpaid family caregivers who provide chronic care to a loved one (**Association of Area Agencies on Aging**)

21. Enhance Public Health

- Provide adequate funding for public health and preventative care, and reintegrate medical care and public health with a focus on wellness (**State Board of Health Access Committee**)
- Increase support for the public health system (**Washington State Medical Association**)
- Adequately fund an accountable public health system (**Group Health Cooperative**)
- Support the forthcoming recommendations of the Joint Select Committee on Public Health Financing (**Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials**)
- Provide public health the capacity to: document local problems in access to health care; build coalitions for policy development, pilot programs, advocacy and leadership; and help people find medical and dental homes (**Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials**)
- Provide public health increased capacity to: promote healthy behaviors, establish linkages with medical providers, and emphasize self-care strategies for chronic disease prevention (**Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials**)

22. Improve Prevention and Health Promotion Generally

- Incorporate specific prevention messages that the Commission would like to encourage through the Health Bowl (**Washington Health Foundation**)
- Use the WHF Healthiest State Report Card database to identify measures to improve Washington's ranking to become one of the top 10 healthiest states (**Washington Health Foundation**)
- Engage individuals and communities in evidence-based prevention and intervention using a web-based health assessment to motivate sustained healthy living (**Accounting for Health**)
- Provide adequate funding for an effective prevention program: require that effective preventive care be included as part of the coverage for all State programs, and fund an effective public campaign to encourage healthy lifestyles (**Roger Collier**)
- Considering building a governmental healthcare model where wellness is expected, curtailing drug advertising (**Evolving Ideas Institute**)
- Encourage nutritionally balanced diets throughout the state, in school lunch programs, emphasizing physical and mental exercise as a necessity. Be a guiding light. (**Evolving Ideas Institute**)
- Use the power of positive thoughts as a guiding principle. Wellness is everyone's birthright and should be encouraged. (**Evolving Ideas Institute**)
- Give individuals new tools for health and lifestyle improvements (health risk assessments, nutrition, and healthy lifestyle information and support) (**Group Health Cooperative**)
- Increase focus on improving health verses "episodic" care model treating sickness – specifically, a shift in emphasis toward preventing costly and traumatic medical conditions that can be avoided via lifestyle changes (**Premera Blue Cross**)
- License and regulate a new entity, to compete with traditional health care providers, whose sole mission is risk assessment, counseling patients on risk reduction, and encouragement for better health (**Harold Petersen**)

- Develop evidence-based, chronic disease prevention programs (**Washington Association of Naturopathic Physicians**)

23. Improve Prevention and Health Promotion for Specific Persons or Conditions

- Develop education and outreach strategies for oral health promotion and disease prevention (**Smiles for Life Project**)
- Leverage our statewide health improvement campaign – targeting obesity and smoking (**Group Health Cooperative**)
- Purchase the IHI book series “What to do for Health” and distribute it through agencies dealing with the birth of newborn babies (**Institute for Healthcare Advancement**)
- Develop a statewide falls prevention campaign to reach the systems and professionals who serve older adults, their families, and caregivers, including: a social marketing campaign, the integration of falls reduction strategies into the emergency medical system, implementation of evidence-based best practice exercise programs for older adults, integration of falls prevention best practice education, information and resources into health professional training programs, and the integration of falls prevention risk assessment screening and education into the health care system (**Pierce and Thurston County Falls Prevention Coalition/Physical Therapy Association of Washington**)
- Develop falls prevention infrastructure at the state and local levels (**Pierce and Thurston County Falls Prevention Coalition/Physical Therapy Association of Washington**)
- Support community-based wellness activities for older adults, particularly those age 70 and older (**Association of Area Agencies on Aging**)
- Ensure more people receive the health benefits of fluoridated water (**Washington Dental Service Foundation**)
- Take action to encourage good nutrition (**Washington Dental Service Foundation**)
- Engage more primary care medical providers to provide preventive dental care during well-child checkups (**Washington Dental Service Foundation**)

24. Assure an Adequate Health Care Workforce

- Expand the WWAMI program and create a new regional dental program at a new first-year site in Spokane for medical and dental students (**UW Medicine**)
- Focus on new priorities in medical education (**Group Health Cooperative**)
- Increase state support of medical student scholarships and loan forgiveness to facilitate increased entry by medical students into family medicine (**Washington Academy of Family Physicians**)

25. Reduce Health Disparities

- Support the Seattle & King County REACH Coalition to reduce diabetes related health disparities through community partnerships, outreach, and culturally-appropriate diabetes education (**REACH Coalition**)
- Provide cultural competency training to the executive group in Washington (**Able’n Consulting**)
- Reduce health and health care disparities (**Community Health Network/Washington Association of Community & Migrant Health Centers**)

- Improve screening rates for cancer, oral health, diabetes, heart disease and hypertension among non-English speaking members of Asian and Pacific Islander communities **(International Community Health Services)**
- Develop and disseminate research tested intervention materials promoting evidence based preventive care to limited English speaking Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese consumers **(International Community Health Services)**
- Address disparities in health care by adopting approaches that encourage ethnic minorities to pursue health care careers **(Washington Dental Service Foundation)**
- Implement existing legislation to reduce health care disparities **(Washington Fair Share Coalition, State Board of Health Access Committee)**

26. Provide for Greater Health Care Oversight and Planning

- Establish a Cost/Quality Oversight Commission to implement cost and quality measures **(Spokane Alliance, Washington Fair Share Health Care Coalition)**
- Revise the certificate of need process to tie it to a State health resource plan **(Roger Collier)**
- Conduct a health care cost study **(Group Health Cooperative)**
- Establish a state office of health information and planning to make systematic improvements in information and data used to make health care decisions in Washington, and promote the use of that information and data in support of: (i) the proper allocation of financial and human resources within the health care system; (ii) intelligent purchasing and reimbursement decisions by those responsible for financing medical treatment; and (iii) treatment decisions by health care providers that result in the best health care outcomes at the lowest possible cost. **(Senator Jim Kastama)**