

# Protect Our Care: Announces nationwide bus tour with stops in Wisconsin in sprint to expand and improve health care and lower costs for the American people

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WISCONSIN — Throughout the August Congressional recess, Protect Our Care will be running its third nationwide bus tour to demonstrate the urgent need for lowering health costs, expanding coverage, and reducing racial disparities in care. Kicking off in Bangor, Maine, on August 9th, Care Force One's "Lower Cost, Better Care" bus tour will travel throughout the Northeast before making stops across the Midwest and Southeast, and concluding with stops on the West Coast.

Care Force One will roll into key districts and states for events with Members of Congress, local elected officials, health care advocates and storytellers to ensure critical health care measures supported by President Biden remain in upcoming budget reconciliation legislation. Specifically, Protect Our Care is fighting to give Medicare the power to negotiate for lower drug prices for all Americans, create a federal solution to close the Medicaid coverage gap, expand Medicare benefits to include vision, dental and hearing, and make permanent the premium reductions included in the American Rescue Plan so millions of people can continue to access low-cost coverage.

The tour will promote the work of President Biden and dozens of Democratic lawmakers who are leading the charge to advance American health care and hold Republicans accountable for continuing to reject measures to improve care and lower costs for the American people. Protect Our Care will ensure Americans know if

their elected officials are working for the American people or if they are working to protect health care industry profits.

“While Members of Congress go home to their districts this August recess, they’re going to have a chance to show their constituents whether they stand by President Biden’s agenda to improve health care for millions or if they side with Big Pharma and other special interests,” **said Protect Our Care Executive Director Brad Woodhouse.** “Throughout this tour, Americans from all walks of life will speak out about the pressing need to lower prescription drug prices, close the Medicaid coverage gap, expand Medicare benefits to include hearing, dental, and vision, and further reduce health costs for people purchasing coverage on their own. When Congress returns this fall, we have a once in a generation opportunity to transform health care for the American people, and Care Force One will crisscross the country this summer making the case for getting this critical job done.”

Protect Our Care’s Care Force One will make stops in:

**Bangor, Maine** on Monday, August 9, 2021

**Portland, Maine** on Monday, August 9, 2021

**Burlington, Vermont** on Tuesday, August 10, 2021

**Manchester, New Hampshire** on Tuesday, August 10, 2021

**Concord, New Hampshire** on Wednesday, August 11, 2021

**Boston, Massachusetts** on Wednesday, August 11, 2021

**Teaneck, New Jersey** on Thursday, August 12, 2021

**Allentown, Pennsylvania** on Thursday, August 12, 2021

**New York, New York** on Friday, August 13, 2021

**New Brunswick, New Jersey** on Monday, August 16, 2021

**Scranton, Pennsylvania** on Monday, August 16, 2021

**Burlington County, New Jersey** on Tuesday, August 17, 2021

**Wilmington, Delaware** on Tuesday, August 17, 2021

**Dover, Delaware** on Tuesday, August 17, 2021

**Morgantown, West Virginia** on Wednesday, August 18, 2021

**Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania** on Wednesday, August 18, 2021

**Youngstown, Ohio** on Thursday, August 19, 2021

**Columbus, Ohio** on Thursday, August 19, 2021

*Milwaukee, Wisconsin on Friday, August 20, 2021*

*Madison, Wisconsin on Friday, August 20, 2021*

**Parkersburg, West Virginia** on Monday, August 23, 2021

**Charleston, West Virginia** on Monday, August 23, 2021

**Raleigh, North Carolina** on Tuesday, August 24, 2021

**Charlotte, North Carolina** on Tuesday, August 24, 2021

**Columbia, South Carolina** on Tuesday, August 24, 2021

**Atlanta, Georgia** on Wednesday, August 25, 2021

**Savannah, Georgia** on Wednesday, August 25, 2021

**Orlando, Florida** on Thursday, August 26, 2021

**Tampa, Florida** on Thursday, August 26, 2021

**Denver, Colorado** on Monday, August 30, 2021

**Flagstaff, Arizona** on Tuesday, August 31, 2021

**Phoenix, Arizona** on Tuesday, August 31, 2021

**Tucson, Arizona** on Wednesday, September 1, 2021

**San Diego, California** on Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Anaheim, California** on Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Las Vegas, Nevada** on Friday, September 3, 2021

By the Numbers: What Democratic Health Care Priorities Would Mean for Americans

- **Lowering Prescription Drug Prices.** [53 percent](#) of American adults, or roughly 130 million people, take prescription drugs in the U.S. and stand to benefit from legislation to lower drug prices. Allowing Medicare to negotiate drug prices would save patients [\\$158 billion](#) at the pharmacy counter. [Nine in 10](#) Americans support legislation to give Medicare the power to negotiate for lower drug prices.
- **Closing The Coverage Gap.** More than [2 million Americans](#) living in the 12 holdout states would have access to affordable, quality health coverage through Medicaid expansion. People of color make up [60 percent](#) of those living in the health insurance coverage gap.
- **Expanding Coverage.** [4.2 million](#) uninsured people would gain coverage if the American Rescue Plan's subsidies are made permanent, and millions more would continue to save on health care costs.
- **Expanding Medicare To Include Dental, Vision, and Hearing.** Nearly [38 million](#) traditional Medicare enrollees would gain dental, vision, and hearing coverage. Due to lack of coverage, [nearly half](#) of Medicare beneficiaries did not seek dental care in the past year, with people of color, individuals with low-incomes, and residents of rural areas experiencing the lowest access.