

Health Equity Collaborative 2025 Highlights



HEALTH EQUITY COLLABORATIVE

The Health Equity Collaborative (HEC) is a diverse community comprised of more than 50 national, public health, patient advocacy, civil rights, and multicultural organizations that are committed to supporting equity and combatting disparities experienced by underserved communities.

Policy Outreach and Congressional Engagement

Health Equity Guidelines for the 119th Congress and Trump Administration

An Open Letter

Dear 119th Congress and the Trump Administration,

We, the undersigned organizations that represent communities of all backgrounds across the country, are committed to improving the health and well-being of underserved populations. Despite the widespread recognition and documentation of health disparities between population groups, many still exist and have even widened over time.¹ These disparities often stem from broader social and economic inequalities and are driving a variety of adverse health outcomes in our communities including higher rates of premature death, infant mortality, and chronic health conditions.

The U.S. healthcare system needs to be significantly reformed to address rising costs, simplify its complex structure, and improve access to quality care. As policymakers, your leadership is crucial to ensuring constructive reforms are implemented and our communities are empowered to overcome pervasive health disparities. We urge your consideration of the following information and guidelines as you and your colleagues advance future healthcare initiatives and policies. The issues that affect diverse communities in America today.

Confront the Rising Cost of Healthcare

The rising cost of healthcare in the United States translates into higher out-of-pocket costs and a lack of quality healthcare access for underserved populations.² To truly lower costs and achieve better outcomes for every patient, all healthcare stakeholders must be held accountable for the rising cost of care. Predatory practices such as surprise and unfair medical bills, exploitation of federal program loopholes, lack of competition in healthcare markets, and rampant profiteering by Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) middlemen in the drug supply chain must end. Increased government oversight and fundamental reforms are necessary to curb existing waste, fraud, and abuse and lower costs for every patient.

Protect Critical Federal Healthcare Programs

Protecting federal healthcare programs like Medicare and Medicaid is crucial for ensuring the health and well-being of millions of Americans. These programs provide essential coverage to vulnerable populations, including seniors, low-income individuals, and people with disabilities. They help to reduce healthcare costs for families, improve access to preventive care, and provide a safety net for those who might otherwise go without necessary medical treatment. For example, while private insurance remains the primary source of coverage across racial and ethnic groups, programs Medicaid helps fill coverage gaps for underserved patients who are disproportionately impacted by chronic conditions.³ Widespread cuts to these and other critical government health programs can result in disruptions in services our communities rely on and make the government less efficient and effective.

Health Equity Guidelines for the 119th Congress and Trump Administration

43 organizations signed HEC's Health Equity Guidelines Letter. Seven new organizations joined HEC's growing community.

- Association of Minority Health Professions Schools
- Autism Society of America
- Consumer Action
- Financial Services Innovation Coalition
- National Down Syndrome Society
- National Hispanic Health Foundation
- Organization for Latino Health Advocacy

Priorities include:

- Confront the Rising Cost of Healthcare
- Protect Critical Federal Healthcare Programs
- Promote Patient Empowerment Across the Healthcare Sector
- Support Breakthrough Medical Technologies and Innovation
- Improve the Representation of Diverse Populations in Clinical Research and Data Sets
- Build a Representative Healthcare Workforce
- Modernize Value-Based Treatment and Clinical Care

HEC Coalition Letter: Secretary Kennedy's Decision to Remove ACIP Members Undermines Scientific Integrity and Threatens the Health of Vulnerable Populations

HEC Coalition Letter: House of Representatives Must Pass 340B Reforms to Ensure the Program Delivers for Low-Income Patients, Not Large Hospitals and Insurer-owned PBMs

HEC Letter: Congress Should Oppose 340B PATIENTS Act, Preserve the Intent and Integrity of the 340B Program

HEC Letter: U.S. Senate Must Pass 340B Reforms to Support Vulnerable Populations

Events

2025 Latino Congressional Forum

Tuesday, May 6, 2025
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

National Press Club
529 5th Street NW, Washington, DC

Latino Health Policy Mixer

Join us for a special event featuring a panel discussion with leading experts in Latino health policy. The event will focus on the challenges and opportunities for improving health outcomes for the Latino community.

H.R. 1 Could Create Hardships for Medicaid Enrollees in Three Chronic Disease Areas

An Analysis by Hispanic Member Access
September 6, 2025

H.R. 1 Could Create Hardships for Medicaid Enrollees

Halloween Health Policy Mixer

Join us for a special event featuring a panel discussion with leading experts in health policy. The event will focus on the challenges and opportunities for improving health outcomes for the Latino community.

Halloween Health Policy Mixer

Digital Advocacy

The 340B Promise Is Broken;

It's time for Congress to Pass Patient-Centered Reform

LEARN MORE



HEC's 2025 340B Reform Digital Advocacy Campaign received 250k+ impressions.



Podcast & Infographic

340B REFORM: STOP THE TRICKS. DELIVER THE TREATS!

- THE CHARMY COSTUME: LARGE, WEALTHY HOSPITAL SYSTEMS GET MASSIVE DISCOUNTS ON PRESCRIPTION DRUGS UNDER THE 340B PROGRAM, BUT ARE NOT REQUIRED TO REINVEST PROFITS IN VULNERABLE PATIENT CARE.
- A SILENCE FOR OTHER PATIENTS: INSTEAD OF AFFORDABLE MEDICINE, OUR MOST VULNERABLE PATIENTS FACE SCARY HIGHER OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS, LEADING TO MISSED DOSES AND WORSENING HEALTH OUTCOMES.
- THE SUBURBAN CREED: THE PROGRAM'S BENEFITS ARE ONLY AVAILABLE TO A FEW WEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS TO MAXIMIZE HOSPITAL SYSTEM PROFITS.
- THE CRONY OF CASH: THERE IS A SEVERE LACK OF TRANSFERABLE CAREERS BEYOND AND HOW BILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN 340B REVENUE ARE BEING SPENT.

IT'S TIME FOR CONGRESS TO PASS 340B REFORM!


WE CAN DO THIS!

With the National Consumers League

Stop the Tricks, Deliver the Treats!

Dr. Ge Bai, Amy Hinojosa, and Sally Greenberg on "Why the 119th Congress Needs to Prioritize 340B and PBM Reforms"


HEC Member Activations and Partnerships



2025 NBIC
unity
WEEK
NOV 17-19


INTERACTIVE
— ONLINE —
EXPERIENCE

2025 National Business Inclusions Consortium Discussion: “Beyond the Middleman: Essential Policy Insights for Small Business Owners.” Discussion led by Angela Dingle, President and CEO of Women Impacting Public Policy



MANA
A National Advocacy Group

MANA Fast Facts
One-Pager:
The 340B
Drug Pricing
Program



White Papers & Special Reports









Blog Posts

New HEC Community Member Podcast Highlights Why the 119th Congress Needs to Prioritize 340B and PBM Reforms

January 7, 2025

Minority Communities Need Access to GLP-1s. Congress and President-elect Trump Must Deliver

January 14, 2025

Policymakers Need to Empower Black Communities to Overcome Health

February 11, 2025

Bridging the Healthcare Gap: Addressing Disparities in Women’s Health During Women’s History Month

March 24, 2025

Congress Can Protect Healthcare Access and Equity by Passing the EPIC Act

March 27, 2025

During Autism Awareness Month, Let’s Focus on Funding Research

April 14, 2025

The 340B Program’s Uneven Expansion: A Health Equity Crisis?

May 22, 2025

Pride Month: A Call to Advance Health Equity for LGBTQ+ Communities

June 11, 2025

New Health Policy Guidelines Letter Outlines Clear Message for the 119th Congress and Trump Administration

June 16, 2025

HEC Leads Coalition Letter to Protect Vaccine Policy from Politics

July 2, 2025

35 Years of the ADA: The Promise of Accessible Healthcare is Still Unfulfilled

July 10, 2025

Navigating the New Era of Vaccine Guidance

August 5, 2025

Congress Should Reject the 340B PATIENTS Act and Protect Vulnerable Patients

August 6, 2025

New Issue Brief: H.R. 1’s Medicaid Changes: A Threat to Health Equity for Chronic Disease Patients

August 7, 2025

H.R. 1 Could Create Hardships for Medicaid Enrollees in Three Chronic Disease Areas

September 22, 2025

The Cost of Complacency: Funding Cuts, Misinformation, and the Threat to Vaccine Progress

October 14, 2025

Why Intellectual Property Matters for Health Equity

October 30, 2025

November is National Diabetes Awareness Month: The Race for a Cure Must Include All Americans

November 17, 2025

HEC to Congress: The 340B Promise Is Broken; Pass Patient-Centered Reform

December 1, 2025

Health Empowerment on the Hill: Choose Healthy Life’s Three Pillars for Legislative Action

December 1, 2025

Health Equity Collaborative Welcomes Bipartisan PBM Accountability Legislation

December 12, 2025

Press Coverage & Media









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