



Paradise Center for Tolerance and Nonviolence

PCTN's mission is to promote respect for differences and human rights, foster alternatives to violence, and advocate for a safe, hospitable, and harmonious community for all.

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BETTER INFORMED ABOUT HEALTH CARE REFORM

- Seven million Californians are uninsured.
- Millions more are underinsured while trying to cope with dramatically rising costs for premiums, co-pays, and deductibles.
- Half of personal bankruptcies are caused by medical bills.
- Lack of insurance is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States.
- The World Health Organization ranks the U.S. healthcare system 37th in the world for quality.
- The United States is the only industrialized country without universal health care.

Reference: www.healthcareforall.org

The Paradise Center for Tolerance and Nonviolence (PCTN) believes that health care is a human right and should be accessible to all. On August 31, 2011, PCTN presented a community forum “Health Care Reform Affects Us All” to shed light on issues related to health care reform, to focus on facts related to recent national legislation in comparison to the potential benefits of a single payer plan in California, and to give the community the opportunity to question knowledgeable speakers. A panel of well-informed speakers addressed an audience of about fifty people at the Paradise Ridge Family Resource Center.

Forest Harlan, President of Butte County Health Care Coalition (BCHCC), described the elements of the Affordable Care Act, pointing out its flaws and shortcomings as well as benefits. David Welch, RN, and member of the Board of Directors of California Nurses Association, told us how universal health care can be achieved in California by way of SB810, the California Universal Health Care Act, reintroduced this year in the California Legislature by Senator Mark Leno. Their presentations were backed up by excellent slide shows.

UPDATE: CALIFORNIA SB810

California's Single-Payer Healthcare bill, SB 810, passed its first hurdle, successfully making it out of the Senate Healthcare Committee. Now the bill is in the Senate Appropriations Committee and will be voted on shortly. If you support SB810, it is critical to contact the senators on the Appropriations Committee and let them know.

SB810 maintains our private health care system, but it takes it out of the hands of private insurance companies, and places it under the administration of a State Health Agency with local branches. The cost of administration would be 2-3%, similar to the administrative costs of the Medicare program, compared to the 25-35% spent on administration by private insurance companies.

WELCOME

Click, Call or Visit Today!
You are always welcome at PCTN.

OFFICE HOURS:
10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Our office is staffed solely by volunteers. Every effort is made to honor our published office hours. Please call ahead to be sure we are open if you will be greatly inconvenienced by our absence.

PCTN
Paradise Center for
Tolerance and Nonviolence

6023 Skyway
Paradise CA 95969-4959
(530) 877-1856 Telephone
(530) 877-1822 FAX
info@pctn.org Email

Visit our website at:
www.pctn.org

MEETINGS

Regular meetings of PCTN are open to the public.

Call 877-1856 for the schedule.



Presenters of the PCTN Community Forum “Health Care Reform” in August 2011.

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THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS—WE'RE VERY GRATEFUL!

Thank
You

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Dan Johnson, *President*
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Connie Bassett
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Donna Dolinar
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Gwen Nordgren

PCTN's newsletter and
a list of events are
available online.

Visit our website:
www.pctn.org

graphix

graphic design services

530/872-0647

P.O. Box 305
Paradise CA 95967-0305
rmlocke@pacbell.net

The Annie B Fundraising Drive donations have been finalized. PCTN received \$882 from generous donors plus a \$70 match from the North Valley Community Foundation, for a grand total of \$952. We are thankful for the warm response from our community.

Community for All Major Donor Program:

This program has played a vital role in sustaining programs and services at PCTN. These individuals, organizations, and companies are donors at the Benefactor level (\$500 and above). From October 2010 to September 2011 PCTN received \$9,200. The donors are acknowledged here and on the 2010 and 2011 scrolls in our Center: Anonymous, Gary Bess Associates, Anna Davis, Bill and Donna Dolinar, Wendy Hartley, Gwen Nordgren, Paradise Community House (Paradise Community

Council, Inc.), Paradise Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund, Ridge Physical Therapy & Wellness Center, and The Shuken Family (plus corporate match from DIRECTTV, Seattle, WA).

Special thanks to those who donated July through September 2011 at the **Patron** (\$100-\$499) and **Sponsor** (\$30-\$99) levels, and to our **Sustaining Members** who make a generous monthly donation:

Patrons: George Gold, Rod & Karen Hass, and Paradise Elks Lodge

Sponsors: John & Lynn Eads and PG&E/Gary Shallenberger

Sustaining Members: David & Melissa Barnard, Connie & Robert Bassett, Mary Ann Brister, and Dan & Mimi Johnson

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PROP 8 UPDATE

The fate of Prop 8, Eliminates Rights of Same-Sex Couples to Marry, continues to play itself out in both State and Federal courts and PCTN continues to follow the outcome since we support the right to marry for same-sex couples. On May 26, 2009, the California Supreme court ruled that Prop. 8 was valid but at the same time upheld the marriages of same sex couples married before Prop. 8 was passed. At the federal level, on August 4, 2010, Judge Vaughan Walker of the U. S. District Court in San Francisco ruled that Prop. 8 was unconstitutional. This decision was later stayed (suspended) by the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court, which heard arguments in the case on December 6, 2010. The decision of this court is still pending. The Ninth District Court also requested that the California Supreme Court consider whether the groups that placed Prop. 8 on the ballot have standing to appeal the case. "Standing" refers to the concept that the party challenging the constitutionality of a case must show that they are sufficiently connected to the case and that they will be harmed by the decision. The California Supreme court heard arguments on this question in September and a decision on this issue is due in early December. Updated information can be found at the website www.eqca.org (select the "Marriage" tab.)

HEALTH CARE REFORM

Much more information is available at the website of the Butte County Health Care Coalition www.healthcareforall.org. We encourage you to explore and study the issue for yourself. If you choose to support SB810, contact your state legislators and Governor Brown.

PCTN extends our appreciation to all those who contributed to the forum. Tom Reed, past president of BCHCC, moderated the program and facilitated the Q&A. Dr. Ken Logan, member of Physicians for a National Health Program, spoke compellingly about the need for reform. We heard about his personal experience seeing patients who could not afford preventive care or early intervention and about his frustration with the obstacles of our present system when trying to give his patients the best care. Ed Schilling put together an excellent slide overview of U.S. and global health care. Donna Dolinar tested the audience's knowledge with a fun questionnaire. Our special thanks go to Mary Shallenberger, who coordinated the forum planning.

Audience members brought inquiring minds and some skepticism to the presentation. We were told by many that they appreciated the opportunity to acquire a clearer understanding of health care reform issues.

YOU HAVE THE POWER! EXPANDS TO MORE CHARTER SCHOOLS

All students at Achieve Charter School, grades K-8, are learning more about bullying and how to stand up for themselves and their classmates confidently, assertively, and non-violently.

PCTN's *You Have the Power!* (YHP) youth program has expanded this semester to Achieve Charter School and Paradise Charter Middle School where sixth grade students will be participating in the program. Josh Campos, Director of Paradise Boys & Girls Club (B&GC), has also invited us back to conduct the program for sixth grade students in the B&GC Afterschool Clubhouse.

Katie Berardinelli, our Youth Programs Coordinator, has revamped the program, adding new activities and thought-provoking video. Thanks to Katie's creativity, YHP now has two engaging versions, modified for lower and upper elementary grades. The upper-grade level program incorporates a cyberbullying section. Also in the works is an evening presentation about bullying prevention for parents and interested adults.

If your child does not attend one of the schools or the afterschool program described above, she or he can still participate in the program. As groups of five or six children are gathered, we will offer YHP at the PCTN office. The two to three hour program will be conducted in two afternoon sessions. Please contact PCTN at 877-1856 or youthprograms@pctn.org to get more information and to add your child to the interest list. You can also visit www.pctn.org for more information.

STRENGTHENING DIVERSE COLLABORATIONS

At PCTN's Annual Strategic Planning workshop on September 24, 2011, participants decided that in order to broaden public participation in PCTN and increase our volunteer base, we would focus on reaching out to more diverse groups such as students, veterans, ethnic organizations, local organizations who share the values of our mission, and various target populations. Several activities are being planned including publishing PCTN'S brochure in Spanish.



Karen Duncanwood shares her ideas with Ted Baca and Sue Bordelon at the Strategic Planning Workshop

PASS THE PASTA A DELICIOUS TIME HAD BY ALL!



Top left: Professional pianist Helen Tweedy tickles the keys to the delight of everyone. Lower right: PCTN Board Member Donna Dolinar's pleased expression says it all.

Our fourth annual pasta dinner, held on October 8, was a huge success! There were only a few seats open at 5 o'clock for more pasta lovers, and the 6:30 seating was sold out. The two folks who celebrated their birthdays with us enjoyed complimentary desserts for everyone at their tables.

Our heart-felt thanks go to Elvia Bockman, Paradise's own Pearl Mesta, who coordinated the event; and to Anneliese and Dan Cox, who not only prepared the sauces, but also donated the ingredients and helped cook.

Our lasting gratitude goes to pianist Helen Tweedy who played such beautiful music; to Rita Locke who helped cook; and to Geoffrey Greitzer of Juice and Java who again this year provided garlic bread, Caesar salad and fresh brewed delicious coffee, and who, along with his family, helped cook and serve all evening. As a token of our appreciation, PCTN has awarded 2011-2012 Honorary Memberships to Helen, Geoffrey, and Rita for their outstanding service.

Warm thank-you's to all of our hard-working volunteers and those who donated the beautiful (and tasty!) desserts. And to the pasta lovers who partook: THANK YOU! You helped us raise almost \$1600, not including a partial match we will receive from the Thrivent Care Abounds in Communities Program.

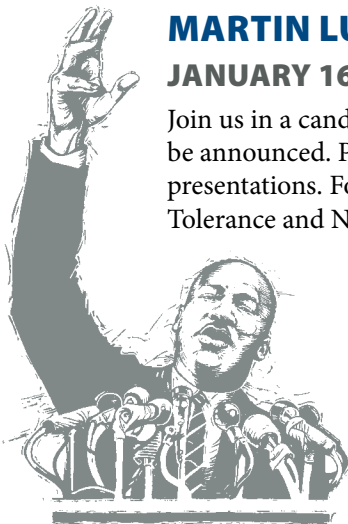


**Paradise Center for
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6023 Skyway, Paradise CA 95969

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HERE'S WHAT'S NEXT . . .



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. COMMEMORATION

JANUARY 16, 2012, 6:30–8:00 P.M.

Join us in a candlelight walk at 6:30, with the program beginning at 7 p.m., at a location to be announced. Past evenings have included speakers, musical performances, and dramatic presentations. For more information about this free program, call Paradise Center for Tolerance and Nonviolence at 877-1856 or visit www.pctn.org

MARDI GRAS FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2012, 7–11:30 P.M.

Time again for feathers, sequins and hurricanes! Enjoy an evening of music and dancing with *Big Mo and the Full Moon Blues Band* at the Paradise Senior Center. Place a bid at our huge silent auction while you indulge in luscious complementary snacks and, of course, visit the no host bar.

Tickets will be \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door.

Don't miss this very popular event!



Other activities in the planning process . . . watch for details:

- Educational Forum on Immigration—March 2012
- Bullying Prevention Help for Parents—April 2012