

HEALTH CARE

HEALTH & WHOLENESS

United Methodists envision a society where each person is afforded health, wholeness and human dignity. We demand:

Access for All

God’s vision for abundance creates conditions that allow all people to thrive and live out the fullness of their days. The United Methodist Church calls upon “...Hospitals, physicians, and medical clinics to provide access to primary health care to all people regardless of their health-coverage or ability to pay for treatment.” *United Methodist Social Principles, ¶162V*

When people — especially women, people with disabilities, communities of color, and those who live in small towns and rural communities — don’t have access to quality health care, we see higher rates of:

Infant mortality
Diabetes
Tuberculosis

Preventable deaths
Cervical cancer
Heart disease

Quality Care

Jesus’ commitment to healing the sick and John Wesley’s vision for ensuring health and well-being teach us that the health of the community must not be neglected. “Providing the care needed to maintain health, prevent disease, and restore health after injury or illness is a responsibility each person owes others and government owes to all...” *United Methodist Social Principles, ¶162V*

United Methodists call for care that maintains health, prevents disease, and restores health after injury and illness by including:

Immunizations
Pregnancy checkups
Mental health care
Birth control
Annual physicals for men, women and children

STD testing and counseling
Mammograms
Nutrition counseling
Domestic violence screenings
Addiction rehabilitation and recovery services

Stewardship of Resources

United Methodists call for health care based on a system that values human beings first and does not treat health as a commodity. “Like police and fire protection, health care is best funded through the government’s ability to tax each person equitably and directly fund the provider entities.” *United Methodist Social Principles, ¶162V*

“Health Care is a basic human right.”

United Methodist Social Principles, ¶162V

