

2020

In a Covid Era Voters Care About Health and Health Care Reform

Health and Health Care Reform are top issues of concern to voters in 2020. And, now more than ever, people trust their local health care providers. Formed in May 2018, the mission of **Ask Nurses and Doctors** is to organize local health care professionals on behalf of competitive Congressional candidates who have practical approaches to universal health insurance coverage. **AND** is also actively supporting the candidacy of Joe Biden for President. We need both a Democratic President and a Democratic Congress as we live through the Covid pandemic. **AND** has a track record that can help deliver.

In a Covid Era – America needs not just contact tracing and testing, but we need practical steps toward health care reform that at a minimum offers health insurance for the millions of newly uninsured. Joe Biden also has embraced these steps as a centerpiece of his campaign.

How Ask Nurses & Doctors Aims to Help Win in the 2020 Elections

In September 2019, Ask Nurses and Doctors contracted with the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee to expand our networks of health professionals across the country. **AND** is organizing local health care professionals in a number of Congressional districts in states such as Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania. We work, both remotely and in person, organizing town hall meetings, health care forums, video testimonials, and the publication of op-ed pieces and letters to the editor.

In addition, **AND** is organizing local health care professionals to organize them in the following swing states to win November electoral votes for Joe Biden. **AND** has established networks in Florida, Michigan and Pennsylvania and will be establishing networks in Arizona, Georgia, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania.

Lastly, we publish a regular summary of what is happening to patients exposed to Covid, practical action steps and policy initiatives in this pandemic. These activities all build on the public appreciation of health care professionals that has only increased in the Covid era.

Ask Nurses & Doctors Can Help

Ask Nurses and Doctors coordinates all aspects of local health professional efforts on behalf of candidates. Whatever the campaign needs that is related to health care, **AND** will deliver! Visit our website at www.asknursesdoctors.com.

Norbert Goldfield MD is founder/ CEO of Ask Nurses and Doctors or **AND** www.asknursesdoctors.com. Dr Goldfield is a practicing internist at a community health center in Springfield MA. Dr Goldfield edits a peer reviewed medical journal, the Journal of Ambulatory Care Management; has published more than fifty books and articles. Prior to founding **AND**, Dr Goldfield worked for 30 years as medical director for a private health care research group focused on health care delivery reform.

Case Study

Our 2018 and Ongoing Work in Maine - District 2

Maine District 2 covers a large area of rural Maine. In a close race, the 2018 congressional election pitted Jared Golden (D), who advocated specific national health system reforms, against the incumbent Bruce Poliquin (R), who vehemently opposed Medicaid expansion.

AND met regularly with Golden's communications director and other campaign staff. In response to the campaign's "asks", we:

- ▶ Formed a new organization, Health Professionals for Jared Golden, organizing, in a month, more than 100 health professionals from Maine – 2 in support of Jared.
- ▶ Produced op-ed pieces on many health care issues written by local physicians and published in the Bangor Daily News and other papers.



link to one of these op-eds:

<https://bangordailynews.com/2018/08/20/opinion/contributors/opioid-abuse-over-if-only-that-were-true/>

- ▶ Coordinated health professionals to participate in all aspects of public relations, including press events, print and You Tube endorsements.



Link to youtube video endorsements that we organized:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC10E1T2yMDZ8qPu1bWvQokA>

- ▶ Encouraged donations on the part of health professionals directly to the campaign. It was a close race, and **AND's** work contributed to Jared's successful election. Congressman Jared Golden was the first challenger to defeat an incumbent Congressman in the second district of Maine in 96 years. Now that Jared is in office, **AND** is continuing to work with him.

"Ask Nurses and Doctors was easy to work with – disciplined, well connected with excellent health care campaign suggestions and able to deliver on all asks from the campaign."

"In organizing over 100 local health professionals, Ask Nurses and Doctors brought the needed health care credibility and expertise to my campaign organization"

Congressman
Jared Golden,
Maine District 2



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