

My goal is to have a healthy diverse population, workforce, community, neighborhood, and academic educated future citizens in my native state: one plan for all. One excellent plan available for all! We need to expand assisted coverage to care to reach every child in school and out, every mentally or physically disabled adult ineligible for to coverage, adults unemployed once health care benefits expire, our college students, studying hard to improve themselves to become a greater asset to our state and to our country. We need to provide the same opportunity for treatment to the new mothers and infants that our executives have for insured health care. We need to extend the hospice benefits available to our elite class of executives in this state who are dying in lovely surroundings with the top comfort measures to our youth in the schools, in group homes and on the streets when they are victims of early disease and violence.

I studied for my RN at our great University of Connecticut! I worked as an RN in our state of Connecticut! I worked with the dying, with the mentally disabled, with those fortunate to receive the best care in post surgical joint replacement in Connecticut. I worked in hospitals, in skilled nursing facilities and in patients' homes. **Everywhere those with private money to pay had access to better care.**

Then I worked with youth in group homes. I worked with children that we took from unsafe, deplorable conditions and we placed in group homes for their safety and well being. The state of Connecticut, you and I, provided lovely homes, caring workers, and lots of access to activities and benefits not to be had in their former places of residence. But, when I tried to secure a medical doctor for our youth in protective care it took days to find a practitioner who would accept our complicated offerings of coverage with Husky care. These youths needed school physicals, dental exam, eye glasses. At times they needed more than routine health care: with an illness, an infected a skin condition, an orthodontist consult, or oral surgery. Most of the time I had to use clinics. No other doctor had room in their practice for another Husky client. The clinics were overburdened with patients. The children waited for hours with a staff member in the uncomfortable waiting halls. There were many different practitioners. The follow through was often difficult. The one to one relationship of trust was compromised with these young people who already have been subject to failed adult relationships. These kids are very vulnerable and acutely alert to trust issues with others, especially adults. They may not have known one or both of their birth parents. There may have been

violence at home. The children often have a parent with a mental disorder. The family has access to less than average if any, disposable income. Some children may have immigrated from other countries like Mexico, South American countries or from Puerto Rico. They are often from biracial city families. Often the primary language is not English. The medical practitioners also often speak a different language than English, such as Hindi, Farsi, Urdu, Arabic or Spanish. There are added communication difficulties. These children in our group homes, whose closest adult is an overburdened state social worker a public school teacher, or a volunteer church, member are the ones that we abandon to waiting hours in chaos, afraid, without birth family in an overcrowded clinic, afraid and alone. These youth are tomorrow's leaders. **Please give them access to the same care you have! It is our responsibility for tomorrow's leaders. And, it is the right thing to do. You know it and so do I!**

There are times when one or more of these children needed a specialist. At those times it took months just to receive a call back, once I identified myself.. It got so I would word it so the medical offices thought I was the mother and this youth was my own child. Then came the insurance questions. Many medical staff felt bad, and shared it. We had to wait for the new funding to come in. We had to see if they could squeeze in one more teenaged girl who wanted birth control. My heart broke for these kids who are under our care and deserve the same quality of care that working able professionals have access! **They are trusting us to provide for them, as their parental guides. Is this how we want to be remembered?** Shoving them into crowded clinics? Not getting prompt care when a neurologist, or an oncologist, or a gynecologist is desperately needed? Is this how you treat your children?

We need one plan for all; on excellent care with the same access for every person in this state! **Suste Net is the right thing to do. You know it and so do I!**

Thank you.