



2003 Health Care Conference

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Why: Washington's safety net is tattered. The 2003 state legislature, in dealing with a \$2 billion budget shortfall, cut health care access for thousands of people, including children. County health programs and local hospitals are under funded, understaffed and overwhelmed. Public health is one epidemic from collapse.

We at the Rainier Institute believe hope – and solutions – exists through community dialogue and innovative actions, despite crushing state and national budget cuts.

What: Not merely reciting our state and local health cost and access problems, the conference is a presentation and discussion of pragmatic steps toward solutions to health care access and cost. Participants will leave with real answers and tools, including strategies for action at the local and county level that can influence real reform for our state residents.

How: Renowned speakers will present legislative ideas and stratagems on health policy, followed by a lunchtime keynote presentation by Ron Pollack of Families USA on national health proposals. Policy experts will lead sessions on topics that include

- Diagnosing Washington's Health Care Problems
- Community & Public Health Problem Solving
- Medical decisions based on Evidence & Value
- Access to health care and demand for Services
- Gubernatorial forum

When: October 9, 2003, 7:30 am – 6:00 pm

Where: Red Lion 5th Avenue, 1415 5th Avenue, Downtown Seattle. Rooms are available at a special rate of \$136 for single or double; call 206-971-8000 and mention the Rainier Institute.

Who: The Rainier Institute is a public policy research organization that is committed to moving beyond endless discussions by generating real solutions to tough problems affecting Washington residents.

Founded by retired Governor Booth Gardner, former Congressman and Washington Department of Transportation Director Sid Morrison and former State Supreme Court Justice Phil Talmadge in 2001, its board consists of a bipartisan and geographically diverse array of public policy experts and current and former leaders from all three branches of state government.

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