

PREPARATORY MATERIALS STUDY CIRCLE #2

Reading Materials: There are both *summary* and *full text versions* of eleven health care stakeholder stories. Read about and reflect upon the needs, concerns, experiences and perspectives of *all* the individuals below. What is it like to “stand in their shoes?”

1. a union member
2. a veteran living in a rural area
3. an employer in a large company offering HSA or HMO benefits
4. a self-employed person with a chronic illness
5. a family physician
6. an independent insurance agent
7. a 10-year employee in the claims department of an insurance company
8. a student entering a master’s program
9. a retiree
10. a legislator
11. a parent on Medicaid with a child in the SCHIP program

Thought Questions:

1. From the stakeholders’ vantage points what are the issues and challenges they face?
2. Are you optimistic about their futures? Why or why not?
3. Which of the stakeholders is least vulnerable? Most vulnerable?
4. When you “stand in their shoes” are you surprised by anything that you “learn” about their lives? Explain.

NOTE: The use of the Stakeholder Advocate Assignment Sheet in this section is optional. You may want to use it should you choose to assign an individual “advocate” to read the full text version of one or more of the stakeholders stories and represent them in discussion.