



the State of the NOMC 2013



The NOMC is currently striving to ensure that ALL New Orleans' **musicians and tradition bearers** eligible for NOMC medical care will enroll in our clinic by the end of 2013. The NOMC is in the process of securing the federal designation as a **Patient Centered Medical Home** so we can continue to provide **high quality occupational and comprehensive medical care** under NOMC's mission and our **Culture of Caring**.



Click [HERE](#) to see if YOU qualify to become an NOMC patient!

WITH YOUR SUPPORT NOMC WILL OVERCOME LOUISIANA'S HEALTH CARE APARTHEID FOR OUR 2400+ PATIENTS:



On May 1, 2013 we will celebrate the 15th year the New Orleans' Musicians' Clinic. We shake our heads at the irony that according to Governor Bobby Jindal, it is "prudent" for Louisiana to return to the "good old days" when the uninsured patients in Louisiana suffered the worst health care outcomes in the USA because their only health care option was to be treated in the Charity Hospital System ER. This urgent care, up until the US Army Corps of Engineer's post-Katrina floods closed Charity Hospital in September 2005, was well-funded by federal dollars from the Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) program. The only difference is that uninsured patients in 2014 have even fewer options as Charity has been replaced with the much smaller University Hospital [[which Jindal will transfer into private hands](#) in July 2013] and the public clinic at the former Lord & Taylor. The DSH dollars remain a federal "windfall" for Jindal as he "reforms" Louisiana's health care system by refusing the federal Medicaid money that would help us keep our patients alive. ([read more here.](#))



At the NOMC our goal will continue to be to keep New Orleans music **alive** by focusing on our patients' well being through preventative and clinical care. It's not going to be easy and we need your help.



Concurrent with the abandoning of Louisiana's statewide safety net hospitals, Governor Jindal is refusing to accept the federal expansion of Medicaid (Obama care). He has also proposed to the state legislature to [increase Louisiana's sales tax](#), inhibiting the working poor to afford medications and healthy food. Religious leaders from a cross-section of Christian faiths, including clergy from Baptist, Episcopal, Methodist and Unitarian churches from more than 70 Louisiana cities and towns [signed the letter opposing the governor's tax plan](#). Their letter states that even before Jindal's proposed changes, Louisiana already has a regressive tax structure in which families earning less than \$16,000 per year pay 10.6 percent of their income in state and local taxes, while families earning over \$1 million per year pay 4.6 percent.



WHAT JINDAL IS REFUSING:



Under the Affordable Care Act (ACA), all USA adults who earn 138 % or below of the federal poverty level would be eligible to enroll in Medicaid beginning in 2014, IF A STATE OPTS IN. The federal government initially pays 100 % for the first 3 years of ACA.



The Medicaid expansion is projected to provide health care coverage for between 200,000-400,000 of Louisiana's uninsured poor. That would mean eligibility for all in Louisiana earning up to \$1,285 a month, or, for a family of four, the earning level would be up to \$2,651. In other words, the majority of the NOMC's patients would be covered for their basic health needs by ACA, with NOMC donations funding additional care. **For more information, go [HERE](#).**



Please invest your support in keeping New Orleans' Music Alive by contacting your elected officials, getting the word out via social media, blogging, or emailing your networks and donating.



COMMENTS FROM BETHANY

SMH! Consider Florida where Gov. Rick Scott made his \$\$\$\$ fortune in the health industry. (At one point, by the way, his company pleaded guilty to criminal charges, paying \$1.7 billion in fines for Medicare fraud.) Nevertheless Gov. Scott got elected as a fierce opponent of Obama care. Florida even participated in the suit asking the Supreme Court to declare the whole plan unconstitutional. Nonetheless, Gov. Scott recently shocked Tea Party activists by announcing his support for Obama care, the Medicaid expansion. We at NOMC&AF implore Jindal to follow suit.



Read these articles from Forbes, the Examiner, and Mother Jones for more information!



New Orleans Musicians' Assistance Foundation

Hours: Monday - Thursday : 10 am - 4 pm
504-415-3514 : info@nomaf.org