



*Working for a Better World*  
*a grassroots advocacy organization founded in 1984*

## January 2023 Newsletter

### Upcoming Meetings

Please join **Women For: Orange County** at our next meeting

**PNHP**  **Dr. Kathleen Healey**

presents

**Medicare Privatization:  
Medicare Advantage & ACO/REACH  
A threat to seniors and  
the future of Medicare**

**Monday, January 16, 2023**

**Zoom Only**

**2:00 pm - 3:30 pm**

**includes Question & Answer Period**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84257585252?pwd=SGZNMkVsQ1VhY3N0dmlyRnE5Y0JyUT09>

Meeting ID: **842 5758 5252**

Passcode: **978194**



Dr. Kathleen Healey

**Kathleen Healey, MD**, is a retired otolaryngologist (ENT) whose medical career ranged from military service as a flight surgeon to solo and group practices in Napa Valley, California. Her leadership roles included serving as hospital chief of staff and medical director of a multispecialty group. She currently serves on the National Board of **Physicians for a National Health Program**.

In this very timely presentation, Dr. Healey will be discussing:

- A brief history of Medicare
- The differences between traditional Medicare, Medicare Advantage and ACO/REACH (current replacement for Direct Contracting Model)
- A history of ACO/REACH and why most people have never heard of it
- Problems with privatization
- The opposition movement to privatization
- How we can help preserve traditional Medicare
- What we can do to oppose privatization

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We hope you will consider attending

**Americans United for Separation of Church and State-OC**  
**Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 4 pm via Zoom ONLY**

Screening of the **Film: Church & State**

*Church & State* is the improbable story of an inexperienced gay activist and a tiny Salt Lake City law firm that joined forces to topple Utah's gay marriage ban.

Join Zoom: Register at - <https://www.mobilize.us/au/event/546856/>

For more information, [www.au-oc.org](http://www.au-oc.org)

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**Due to issues beyond our control  
Our webpage is offline  
We will alert you when it is fixed**

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## **Year-End Report**

Despite the challenges of Covid isolation, **Women For: OC** managed to hang together for 2022. We had programs on white power, gun violence, American democracy, Critical Race Theory, pros and cons of statewide ballot issues, memory and aging, as well as others. We also had our annual Suffrage Day Luncheon in August. We reach a total of more than 700 people who are members or subscribers to our newsletters.

At the November board meeting it was decided to have meetings on a quarterly schedule for 2023 as well as to reinstate the Great American Write-In and to continue with our Suffrage Day celebration.

We currently have eight board members who meet monthly to plan and take care of the business of **Women For: OC**. Any member who might be interested in becoming part of our board should contact our president, Carol Tuch, at (949) or [womenforoc@aol.com](mailto:womenforoc@aol.com) for more information.

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## 2023 Calendar

We will continue to email our monthly newsletters and meeting flyers

Meetings will continue to be offered on the  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month**

**January 16, March 20, July 17 and October 16**

Topics will include

- the Dismantling of Public Education & Why you should care
- Justice in the criminal justice system (including the plight of women in prison)
- the Climate Crisis and how it is affecting us all.

Please note that meeting topics, locations, and/or dates may change if our speakers or panelists have unavoidable changes in their schedules.

Meetings will be via Zoom,  
hybrid or in-person meetings.  
Hybrid and in-person meetings will take place at the  
Irvine Ranch Water District Duck Club  
15 Riparian View, Irvine

**The Great American Write-In**  
at The Delhi Center in Santa Ana  
**May 6, 2023**

**41<sup>st</sup> Annual Suffrage Day Luncheon**  
at the Hacienda in Santa Ana  
**Saturday, August 26, 2023**

Meeting flyers, monthly newsletters, our webpage, and Facebook will provide meeting and event information.

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Available video from November 2022 meeting  
**White Power and American Democracy with Kathleen Belew**

[https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/cGVtqhvMF0g78M41QO2JgA21Bc5L5Y0q6EWdXMIGGQ34wsjjVjq3bKPdUiBvpJSp.ESsf3KoUV\\_jqR\\_Od](https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/cGVtqhvMF0g78M41QO2JgA21Bc5L5Y0q6EWdXMIGGQ34wsjjVjq3bKPdUiBvpJSp.ESsf3KoUV_jqR_Od)  
**Passcode: 8%ykn8PA**

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## Legislative Update 2023

Women For: Orange County supports the following legislative bills.

\*\* Denotes new legislation involvement since last Newsletter

### Ballot Petitions

Ballot petitions in California are most commonly used to get a proposed law or constitutional amendment on the ballot in an upcoming election. It is a process that gives citizens and groups of citizens a way to get these items on the ballot without the support of the governor or the state legislation.

The era of grass-roots, volunteer signature drives to qualify a ballot measure long ago gave way to a system that pays people to collect signatures.

Those collecting signatures are paid by the number of signatures they get. Some in the last election were paid as much as \$6 per signature. The pay varies among ballot petition issues and the timing of the signature collection.

**Be sure to read what you are signing when you are asked to sign ballot petitions. Only the written material is guaranteed by law to be accurate.**

If you find you have signed a petition you do not wish to support, you can revoke your signature. Look for the forms to do this online <https://www.sos.ca.gov/administration/regulations/current-regulations/elections/petition-processing-signature-verification-ballot-processing-and-ballot-counting#:~:text=Signature%20Withdrawal,name%20removed%20from%20the%20petition>.

Although not legislation, Women For: Orange County has also supported:

- \*\*We signed on to a Letter to stop the ACO/REACH pilot program
- Addressed to Honorable Xavier Becerra (Sec. of HHS) & Honorable Chiquita Brooks-LaSure (Admin for CMS)
- Thanking them for efforts to protect the Medicare program
- Expressing concerns about ACO REACH pilot program & rebranding of Direct Contracting healthcare model.

## Membership

If you would like to renew your membership or are not a current member and would like to join, go to <http://www.womenfororangecounty.org> *membership*, then print the membership application, fill it in, and mail it with your check to:

**W4OC**  
P.O. Box 5402  
Irvine, CA 92626-4502

Annual membership dues remain at \$40.00 and \$20.00 for students/low-income individuals.

As always, any donation will be gratefully accepted and are much appreciated. Thank you for your continued support.

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[womenforoc@aol.com](mailto:womenforoc@aol.com)  
<http://www.womenfororangecounty.org>

Please 'like' our WF:OC Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/Women-For-Orange-County-180712315298354/](http://www.facebook.com/Women-For-Orange-County-180712315298354/)