

The US spends 2x on healthcare as comparable countries. We rank 35th in global health standards, including life expectancy, infant, maternal mortality, & death from preventable diseases.

Inability to pay medical bills is a leading cause of personal bankruptcy.

The pandemic has led millions to lose their jobs & health insurance. Our healthcare system discriminates on race, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, & socioeconomic status.

High-deductible insurance plans shifted responsibility for care costs to patients and are the dominant model in NF. Between 2008-18 deductibles grew more than 212%, while wages rose 26%; our Hospital's debt obligation for unpaid care was \$1-\$1.5 million from 2015-18.

Northfield's economic development is handicapped, with small businesses unable to compete & grow w/o affordable health insurance for their employees & themselves. Full-time city employee family coverage costs \$13,417/person in 2020 for a total of \$1,167,305, with the city paying 74% (\$885,292).

A single-payer system could contain costs, improve efficiency, & reduce prescription drug prices.