



## ■ PUBLIC POLICY PLATFORM OVERVIEW ■

The Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease proposes the following public policy recommendations to focus our nation's leaders – including the 2008 presidential candidates – on the crisis of chronic disease and highlight common-sense reforms that will help the nation to address this challenge:

### **Advance sustainable “Next Generation” chronic disease prevention, early intervention, and management models throughout the health care system and public health infrastructure**

#### IDEAS FOR CHANGE:

- Offer access to comprehensive prevention, early detection and intervention, and disease management resources in public and private health plans
- Facilitate and reward the provision of quality preventive care and care management
- Promote proven approaches to greater coordination of care and integrate the primary care provider more completely into the care management process to increase quality and efficiency
- Encourage Americans to be pro-active about preventing, detecting, and managing chronic disease through education and targeted incentives, such as no or low cost-sharing on clinically-recommended preventive care
- Improve support for those with family caregiving responsibilities

### **Promote healthy lifestyles and disease prevention and management in every community**

#### IDEAS FOR CHANGE:

- Gather evidence about which wellness and prevention programs have demonstrated effectiveness and provide incentives for their accelerated diffusion in the workplace, schools, and communities
- Promote wellness in the workplace
- Incorporate health promotion and disease prevention and management into the everyday routines of American children and families
- Promote community-based programs for prevention, early intervention, and disease management



## **Encourage and reward continuous advances in clinical practice and research that improve the quality of care for those with prevalent and costly chronic diseases**

### IDEAS FOR CHANGE:

- Reward evidence-based practice with payments to providers tailored to promote the delivery of high-quality care that improves patient outcomes
- Bring clinical best practices to the bed side and promote greater knowledge-sharing between researchers and clinical practitioners
- Support greater opportunities for education on providing quality care to chronically ill patients
- Provide greater funding and support for research and innovation in the fight against the nation's most prevalent and costly chronic diseases
- Expand the research base on best practices in chronic disease prevention, early intervention, and management and use data to define and measure performance

## **Accelerate improvements in the quality and availability of health information technology (HIT) throughout the health care system**

### IDEAS FOR CHANGE:

- Provide incentives for providers to implement HIT improvements to improve the quality of care and help overcome cost barriers
- Ensure that HIT is seamless across health care providers and settings
- Encourage providers to use HIT in providing preventive and chronic health care and tracking quality of care
- Facilitate Americans' ability to track their own health and to obtain information on conditions, treatment options, and quality through technology
- Maximize use of HIT to expand consumer participation in clinical trials and health surveillance systems

## **Reduce health disparities by focusing on barriers to good health**

### IDEAS FOR CHANGE:

- Embrace models of care coordination and management shown to improve health among Americans of all backgrounds and situations
- Improve "cultural competency" in care
- Employ "community-based" approaches to addressing health disparities
- Fund research into the measurement of, causes of, and solutions to, health disparities