

PREPARATORY MATERIALS STUDY CIRCLE #5

Reading Materials:

- *Priority Pie: Allocate the Federal Budget*,
<http://www.benjerry.com/americanpie/allocate.cfm>
- *Paying More but Getting Less: Myths and the Global Case for US Health Care Reform*, Tom Daschle, Center for American Progress
- *What Do Voters Want?* The Herndon Alliance
- *The Logic of the Health Care Debate*, George Lakoff, et al, The Rockridge Institute, Oct. 22, 2007
- *How We Talk about Health Care*, The Herndon Alliance, January 2007
- *Most Docs Favor National Health Insurance*, Business Week, March 2008

Preparation for Next Meeting • Barriers to Reform

Preparatory Activity (Bring results to the session):

1. On your computer go to <http://www.benjerry.com/americanpie/allocate.cfm>
2. Prepare and print out your own Federal Budget to share with the group. How does your budget compare with the real one?
3. If a computer is unavailable make your notes on the Budget Page of this section of the Guide.

Questions to Consider: MYTHS and MESSAGES • FICTION and FACTS

- What in our cultural mythology limits our ability to find viable health care solutions? Has it changed over the years? If so, in what ways and to what effect?
- What characteristics of the American Character detract from or engage our problem-solving abilities in matters of health care?
- What role does language and framing play in maintaining our dysfunctional system? How might language and re-framing help steer us into a system that works?
- What new “frames” and language are developing around the health care reform movement that will help us as a people design a system that works for all?