



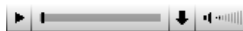
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## TN Business Journal Recognizes Healthcare Leaders

August 22, 2011

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - Business journals across the state of Tennessee are honoring Health Care Heroes this month. Tony Garr, founding director of the *Tennessee Health Care Campaign*, and Gordon Bonnyman, co-founder of the *Tennessee Justice Center*, received Lifetime Achievement Awards for their years of service to low-income and disabled Tennesseans.



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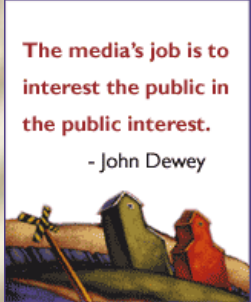
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Garr, who joined *Tennessee Health Care Campaign* 22 years ago, says the mission to guarantee affordable choices in health care continues today. With more rights, protections and benefits for Americans on the way, through the Affordable Care Act, he is excited about what's ahead for Tennesseans.

"Think about this: January 1, 2014, you'll be able to go to the health insurance exchange, and you'll be able to purchase the same health insurance as members of Congress."

Garr says small-business owners and their employees will likely see the greatest benefits. New studies show the Affordable Care Act also will have a positive economic impact on Tennessee by creating new jobs, he adds.

Bonnyman with the *Tennessee Justice Center* says many people are still not aware that benefits are already available through the Affordable Care Act.

"We are trying to get the word out now about provisions in the Affordable Care Act that are already helping people. For example, adult children up to age 26 have the ability to retain coverage under their parents' insurance."

Bonnyman says health care costs are very high right now, but he feels the Affordable Care Act will help bring the costs down and help improve care as a whole. Self-help resources are available online at the *Tennessee Justice Center* website, [www.TnJustice.org](http://www.TnJustice.org).

Garr says a recent study conducted by Dr. David Mervis of U.T. Memphis highlighted the impact the Affordable Care Act will have on Shelby County.

"It will create 3,400 new jobs, \$600 million of economic stimulus and it's going to cover 80,000 Memphians. Just those three numbers, just for Shelby County - we're not talking about the State of Tennessee."

Garr adds that a new study is currently under way to show the overall impact the Act will have across the entire state. That report could be published as early as Dec. 1, 2011.

More information is available on the *Tennessee Health Care Campaign* website, [www.thcc2.org](http://www.thcc2.org).

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