

Treatment: UNINSURABLE

Synopsis

UNINSURABLE is a series of short documentaries that explores the challenges of healthcare in America through telling the stories of people across the country. UNINSURABLE sheds light on the work that needs to be done to ensure that everyone has access to affordable and quality healthcare. This will provide a visual record of the current state of healthcare in America. As we live through this tumultuous political climate, it aims to cut through politicians' gesturing and tell real stories of people's experiences.

UNINSURABLE will have two major impacts. Our short documentaries will generate empathy through the personal and intimate portrayals of individuals' struggles with healthcare.

UNINSURABLE will connect and build relationships through storytelling by creating a concrete social media engagement and impact campaign to invite people to share their own stories. This empathy building will activate viewers of UNINSURABLE to participate in changing the American healthcare landscape for the better.

UNINSURABLE was created by Anya Solotaire, Mimi Wilcox, and Clare Austen-Smith.

Main Characters

Each short will revolve around one person's story. The subjects will be chosen based on their unique experience and perspective on healthcare in America. These could include, but are not limited to, stories relating to Medicaid and Medicare, pre-existing conditions, the cost of reproductive healthcare, mental health, or issues dealing with insurance bureaucracy. Other characters interviewed in the documentaries will be close friends or family, who have been directly impacted by the subjects experience with the healthcare system. The inclusion of these people will help create a comprehensive view of the subject's life, and illustrate how our healthcare not only has a great effect on our lives, but the lives of the people around us.

Story Structure

Each story will be told by the subject themselves using interviews, verite footage, home videos and photographs, interviews with people close to the subject, and news footage. The short will start with an introduction to the subject and their personal struggle with healthcare. It will go through a brief timeline of their experiences, what healthcare needs they have, and what their

concerns are for the future. Every person's story is different, and the basic structure may change in order to tell the subjects' stories as effectively as possible. We intend to keep the narrative straightforward and accessible in order to appeal to a wide range of audiences.

Style

These documentaries are intimate portraits of everyday Americans. Their primary goal is to generate empathy, through the inclusion of home videos and verite footage. Interviews are shot largely with natural light. Shooting handheld, with a crew of only 3 people, allows us to intimately connect with our subjects without creating an intimidating environment. We are most focused on capturing real human interactions between our subjects, and in giving them a platform to share their stories in the most genuine and sincere way possible.

Format and Other Production Information

UNINSURABLE will be shot with a Sony A7Sii and Canon C300. Each location will be determined by the subject. The first installment is a story of a family from Kirtland, OH. The goal for the next documentaries is to shoot in cities and towns across the country. We are looking for stories in major metropolitan areas, as well as small towns in order to provide a wide array of perspectives. Since the content is so personal to the subject, we intend to shoot in and around the subject's home and neighborhood. The music will be original compositions created by local Chicago musicians.

Distribution & Impact

A key element of UNINSURABLE's distribution will be creating a concrete social media engagement and impact campaign to invite people to share their own stories. Our short documentaries will serve as "building blocks" to encourage these conversations. We envision these conversations primarily taking place on existing social media platforms so that they remain shareable and participatory. Utilizing hashtags and the viral nature of social media, we will meet our audience where they already are online - Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

Our website will serve as a platform for the documentaries as well as to aggregate the conversations taking place on social media. Along with each documentary, infographics, essays, and other materials will be included to help the reader to contextualize the stories. Additionally, the UNINSURABLE website will provide tangible tools for constituents to use to

lobby their representatives by connecting users to resources like “Find Your Representative” so that politicians are held accountable to lived experiences of their constituents.