

3/20/2015

To whom it may concern,

My name is Joshua Jaquith. I am a veteran of the Marine Corps, from a longtime Oregon family, a father and husband. Over the years my medical care has been complex and trying. Finding my current naturopathic doctor, Dr. Jeff Clark, has most likely saved my life. He has helped me to get my health under control before diabetes or the numerous other health problems I was headed toward because of my prior obesity. Because of his knowledge and intervention, I was able to drop sixty pounds and maintain a healthy BMI for the last year. I am now at a better weight than I was my entire five years as a U.S. Marine.

I am one of the lucky ones. My insurance is open and allows me to visit any specialist without referrals. I pay a higher co-pay but at least with a financial struggle he was still accessible. I have many friends that have asked about my massive weight loss and due to my recommendation and results have tried to see Dr. Clark for treatment. Time and time again I have heard back from them with statements like "My insurance won't cover him" or "It is too expensive because he is a specialist", or even "My insurance will not cover him without a referral".

It pains me that with all the success that I have had, that other people I care about cannot get help. They know how to improve their health. They know that the consequences will be great without intervention and yet due to a technicality in billing help is out of reach.

I implore you to consider opening access to these doctors for all Oregonians. Allow these doctors to lend their care and expertise to improving the lives of as many individuals as possible. My life will never be the same; I ask that you allow others the same chance at good health and peace of mind that I have been lucky enough to find.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joshua Jaquith', written in a cursive style.

Joshua Jaquith

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