

America's Community
Health Centers
DELIVER VALUE



Value matters in terms of the **quality of care** delivered. Value matters in terms of the health care **savings produced**. Most importantly, value matters in **making people and communities healthier and stronger**, even in challenging times.

VALUE MATTERS IN HEALTH CARE

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

comprise the largest independent system of affordable, quality primary care in the nation.

Through well earned public and private support, health centers serve as the medical home for **nearly 29 million people of all ages**, including nearly 400,000 veterans, 9 million children, and 1.5 million homeless people. These nonprofit organizations operate in more than 14,000 medically underserved communities in every state, U.S. territory, and the District of Columbia. Nearly half of health centers (42 percent) are located in rural communities, where the nearest doctor or hospital can be as far as 50 miles or more away. One of every 11 Americans depends on a Community Health Center as a trusted and regular source for affordable health care—91 percent of patients are low-income, and two-thirds are members of racial or ethnic minorities. As required by Federal law, health centers are governed by local, patient-majority boards and are transparent, accountable stewards of taxpayer dollars.





COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

are drivers of health equity.

Born in the 1960s out of America's struggle for equality, social and economic justice, health centers have always worked to improve not only the health and well-being of underserved people, but also to empower people to become actively involved in solving issues unique to their needs and communities. Increasing equity and reducing health disparities are not aspirations but rather, are daily practices.

Health centers are innovators, healers and problem-solvers who reach beyond the walls of the conventional health care delivery system to not only prevent illness, but to address the environmental causes of it in peoples' lives—the social determinants of health.

In the fight against COVID-19, the health center mission of driving equity in the broad pandemic response is critical now more than ever. Health centers have been on the ground in force, fighting the

spread of the virus in hard-to-reach communities and among the most vulnerable people, including communities of color and among special populations—the elderly, homeless and agricultural workers. They have tested, vaccinated, diverted non-acute cases from overwhelmed hospitals, connected affected patients with housing, food and other critical services. Caring for COVID patients is more than a shot to the arm—it is continuous care and a range of services to meet local needs. It is evidence-based medicine that generates results, narrows health disparities and mitigates the negative impacts of chronic diseases. Health centers work in partnership with government at all levels, health care payers, the private sector and entire health systems to address and respond to the critical public health crises of our time—pandemics, natural disasters, the national opioid crisis, maternal mortality—and much more.

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

break down barriers to care.

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced America's health care system to adapt and rethink health care delivery beyond the stethoscope. During the pandemic, health centers, in some cases overnight, rapidly ramped up telehealth visits for everything from wellness checks and disease management to behavioral health services. Today, 98 percent of health centers nationwide offer telehealth services. By law and by mission, health centers offer enabling services to assist patients with specific barriers such as transportation, translation, food security and accessing other social services.

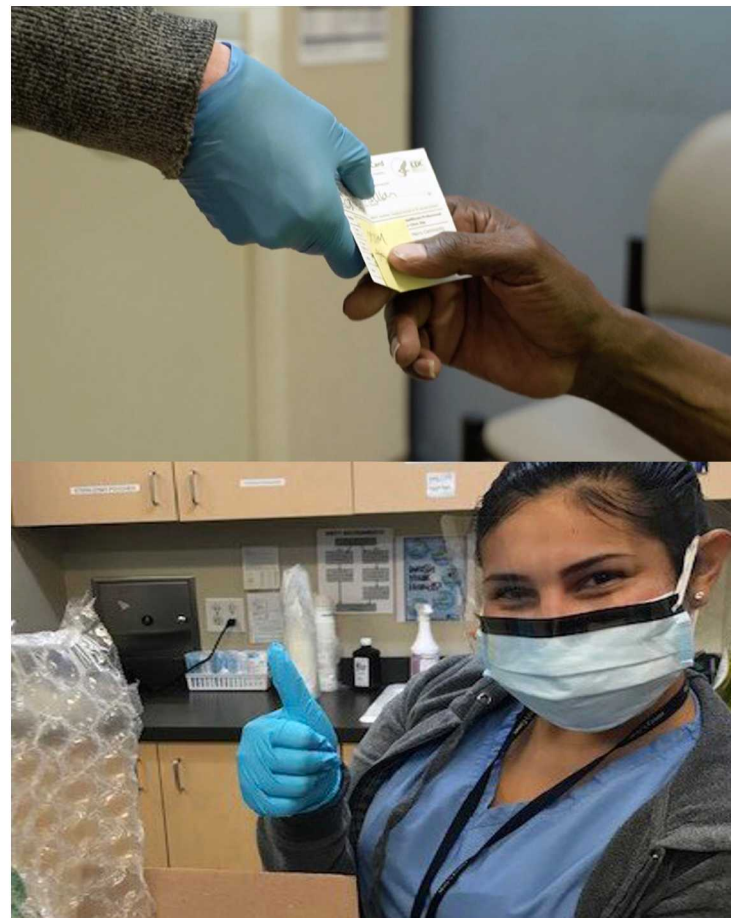
Studies have shown that the quality of care at health centers is as good as or even better than what a patient may experience while visiting a private practice—from healthier newborns to better health outcomes for adults with chronic illnesses. Care is delivered in a manner that is affordable for everyone. Patients pay for services based on income and **no one is denied care based on ability to pay.**



COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

are partners in reopening the economy.

Health centers are on the frontlines, testing and vaccinating America's essential workers—the people who harvest our food, work in factories and clean our public spaces. They are working hard to help put America back to school and back to business. They do not just generate a healthier workforce, but also healthier economies, producing \$63.4 billion in economic activity in some of our most distressed communities. They directly employ well over 300,000 people, with 253,000 full time jobs, including many of our nation's veterans. **Community Health Centers produce a high return on public investment**, saving the health care system tens of billions annually.



At a time of growing need for **effective** and **affordable** solutions to some of the country's most challenging health care issues—as they have for more than 55 years—**America's Health Centers stand ready to serve.**



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CompleteCare Health, Bridgeton, NJ,

Urban Health Plan, NY, NY

CCI Health & Wellness Services, Silver Spring, MD

Mercy Community Healthcare, Franklin, TN

Mary's Center, Washington, D.C.

HOPE Clinic, Houston, TX



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