



Calling Congressional Offices | February - March 2025

Call Your Legislator | CHC Fund Reauthorization

Helpful Tips

- To contact your Senator or Representative's office, you can call the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121 and ask for your Senator or Representative's office, or find Representatives' direct office lines here and Senators' direct office lines here.
- Your call should be quick, direct, and convey urgency. Please see below for a sample phone script to use when calling your representative and advocating for their support for increased health center funding.

Phone Script:

My name is _____ and I'm from [town/city]. I am both a constituent of [Senator] / [Congressman/woman] and the [position] of [name of health center/PCA] in [state].

I'm calling to urge [Senator] / [Congressman/woman] to ensure that the Community Health Center Fund does not lapse, as it expires on March 31st and must be extended.

We are relying on your support for a long-term reauthorization of the Community Health Center Fund, because increased, sustained funding for community health centers is critical in order to continue providing high quality care and services to the people of [Name town/county/region].

Community health centers are experiencing unprecedented financial challenges and workforce shortages while providing care for more than 32 million patients in underserved communities nationwide.

Investing in health centers has been a long-standing nonpartisan priority and I appreciate all that [Senator] / [Congressman/woman] has done to support health centers. We look to their continued leadership to ensure the fund's reauthorization provides health centers with the robust funding and long-term security we need.

If You'd Prefer Not to Use a Script:

For those who prefer to not use a script, we suggest using the following format and have included example talking points.

- **Your name and where you're from**



- "I'm a constituent in [name of town]"
- "I work at a health center in [town/county/state]"
- **Health center professional credentials**
 - "I'm the CEO/COO/Director of Operations, etc. of [name of health center]"
 - "I'm the Director of Government Affairs/Policy/Clinical Integration etc. at the [name of PCA]"
- **Issue & Importance**
 - Please ensure the Community Health Center Fund is extended by the March 31 deadline.
 - Support the highest possible levels of funding for the Community Health Center Fund Reauthorization
 - Health centers are already facing financial and operational challenges
 - Health centers rely on federal funding to continue providing high-quality primary care.
 - Health centers serve patients regardless of ability to pay, high under/uninsured patient population
 - Community impact and public health benefits health centers provide
- **Expected Action from Representative**
 - Support, urge, push for a sustainable increase in funding
- **Thank You & Persuasive Reiteration**
 - Nonpartisan issue receiving widespread support
 - Constituents rely on care provided by health centers in the state (or your specific center)
 - Invite member to visit

Additional Tips for Going Off Script

- Share a detailed example of specific innovative programs or community outreach, preventative health screenings, etc. in your health center, or health centers in your state
- Invite your member on to visit your health center when they are back in the district
- Provide the specific number of constituents/patients that receive care from your health center or health centers in the state
- Share the percent of your budget that is funded through the Community Health Center Fund, and what services/programs/sites would have to be cut without securing increased funding needed to meet the demands of higher costs and increasing numbers of patients
- Elaborate on other fiscal challenges - erosion of 340B, costs associated with recruiting and retaining workforce, federal funding instability, inflation, etc.



Email Script:

Dear [Senator, Representative, or Staff Member],

As a constituent and [title] of [health center], I am writing to ask that you ensure that the Community Health Center Fund does not lapse on its expiration date on March 31st and support reauthorizing the Community Health Center Fund at the highest possible level.

I am deeply grateful for the bipartisan work that has been done in the House and the Senate to increase funding levels for health centers. It is critical that the Community Health Center Fund be reauthorized in March at the highest possible level, given the difficult financial circumstances many community health centers are experiencing. Some of these circumstances include the ongoing erosion of the 340B program, high medical inflation, workforce shortages, uncertainty around federal funding, and other issues.

Per the [Congressional Budget Office](#), community health centers save money for the Medicaid and Medicare programs and lead to lower spending in emergency departments and other high cost settings. They do this while providing comprehensive, quality primary care to more than 32 million Americans each year, regardless of patients' ability to pay. We urge you to do all you can to make an increase a reality.

Health centers are also economic engines for under-resourced communities. For every dollar of federal funding invested in community health centers, \$11 is generated in total economic activity through increased spending on related health service expenses, food services, transportation, and more.

Thank you for your consideration and all you do for community health centers in [state].

Sincerely,