

We urge Congress to reauthorize the Community Health Center Fund with a Meaningful Increase in 2026

Community health centers need sustained, increased funding to continue their lifesaving work

Unprecedented need requires bold action

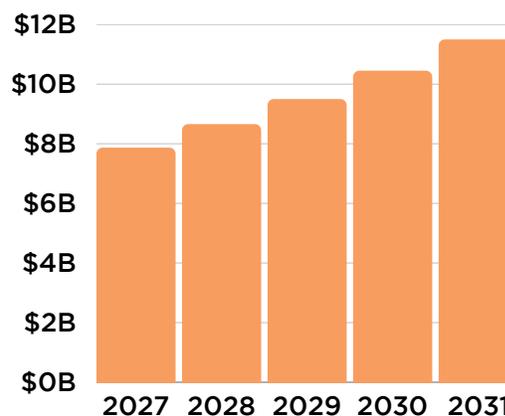
Community health centers (CHCs) reached a record breaking 34 million patients in 2024, providing the gold standard of primary care in America’s rural and underserved communities. CHCs are the best investment you can make in health care, saving money by preventing costly complications, creating jobs, and keeping Americans healthy.

A bold investment in community health centers ensures quality primary care for veterans, older adults, working families, and other vulnerable populations. CHCs are non-profits as well as community-owned and operated, with patient-led boards that ensure the needs of the local community are a part of the health center’s governance.

Congress must reinvest in the Community Health Center Fund with a strong baseline and regular increases to shore up this critical safety net when it expires on December 31, 2026. This funding would allow health centers to grow in four key areas: operations, infrastructure, workforce, and innovation.

ACH is deeply grateful for the increase in funding for the Community Health Center Fund enacted in 2026. We urge Congress to continue this progress by enacting a five-year authorization with 10% year-over-year increases for the Community Health Center Fund as follows:

- **2027: \$7.87 billion**
- **2028: \$8.66 billion**
- **2029: \$9.5 billion**
- **2030: \$10.45 billion**
- **2031: \$11.5 billion**



Over a third of Americans do not have access to primary care, which has been shown to prevent and control chronic diseases. A bold investment in the Health Center Program fills a very real need – greater access to primary care for healthy American communities.

Together with annual appropriations, this funding can ensure a strong health care network and access to primary care for all who need it, regardless of their ability to pay.

What This Investment Delivers

A reinvestment on this scale can allow for:

Developing and expanding value-based care at health centers, which improves patient care and promotes innovation.

Providing population health management specific to the communities FQHCs serve, estimated at \$25/month per patient.

Making capital improvements and expanding to new sites, in order to sufficiently care for centers' patient populations.

Recruiting and retaining the healthcare workforce FQHCs need to provide comprehensive care to patients, from frontline staff to highly trained clinical professionals.

