



We urge Congress to invest \$10.75B in Community Health Centers in Fiscal Year 2027

Including both Mandatory and Discretionary Funds

History: Health centers are mission driven

The Health Center Program is designed to ensure a comprehensive medical home for all patients, regardless of ability to pay. Community health centers (CHCs) are governed by a 51% consumer majority board, are key employers in their communities and have a proven track record of impact and success in fulfilling this mission for 60 years.

Reality: Health centers are in fiscal crisis

Today's CHCs are facing unprecedented financial challenges, administrative burdens, and severe workforce shortages - compounded by federal funding uncertainty, looming coverage changes, and persistent erosion of the 340B program. Now is the time to strengthen our nation's health care safety net by securing long-term funding and providing the resources CHCs need to continue delivering high-quality primary and preventive care to rural and underserved Americans.

Community health centers are model stewards of federal funds, providing quality care to all who need it, regardless of ability to pay.

- For every \$1 invested in primary care like the care provided at health centers, \$13 is saved in downstream costs through the prevention of expensive complications and emergency room visits.
- For Medicaid patients, health centers save 24% per patient compared to other providers.
- For Medicare patients, costs for health centers are 10% lower than physician office patients and 30% lower than outpatient clinics.
- The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) notes that although it is not scorable, funding community health centers leads to more cost-effective patient care than the care that patients would otherwise receive and could save the federal government billions of dollars.

Unprecedented need requires bold action

Our FY 2027 Asks Include:

\$10.75 billion for combined mandatory and discretionary funding for Community Health Centers:

- \$7.87 billion/year through the Community Health Center Fund, expiring Dec 31, 2026, and
- \$2.88B through the FY27 appropriations process

A meaningful increase for the National Health Service Corps (NHSC):

- \$950 million for the National Health Service Corps in FY27.

How would this funding help community health centers fulfill their mission?



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1

EXPAND ACCESS

Sustained funding enables health centers to meet growing mental health, maternal health, and substance use needs in rural and underserved communities, delivering timely, preventive care that reduces avoidable utilization of high-cost settings like emergency departments and hospitalizations.

2

ADVANCE PREVENTIVE CARE

This funding will allow CHCs to continue to address the root causes of poor health outcomes through comprehensive nutrition-based interventions and chronic disease management services. Proven to save the system billions in chronic disease management and improved health outcomes.

3

GROW WORKFORCE

Primary care clinicians experience high rates of burnout, driven by high patient volume and burdensome administrative responsibilities, among other factors. Investment allows health centers to recruit, retain, and invest in their workforce, from front-line staff to clinicians, supporting workforce stability and continuity of care.

4

DRIVE INNOVATION

Health centers have a proven track record of innovating to meet the needs of their unique communities. Increased investment will allow them to expand telehealth and value-based care models, as well as expand the use of AI and other emerging technologies. This can help improve outcomes by addressing patients' underlying and complex health needs while simultaneously saving our health care system billions.



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