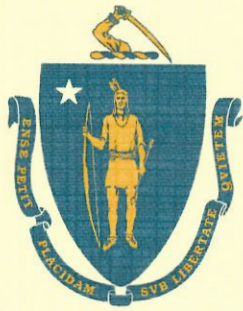


The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

Whereas, For over 60 years, community health centers have provided high-quality, affordable, comprehensive primary and preventive health care in our nation's communities. The first community health center in the nation, Geiger Gibson Community Health Center, was founded at Columbia Point in Dorchester, right here in Massachusetts; and

Whereas, As the country's largest primary care network, community health centers are the trusted medical providers for over 52 million Americans, with 50 community health centers in Massachusetts. Governed by patient-majority boards, community health centers ensure patients are engaged in their health care decisions; and

Whereas, Community health centers are on the front lines of emerging health care crises, providing access to care for our nation's veterans, addressing the opioid epidemic, and responding to public health threats in the wake of natural disasters; and

Whereas, Community health centers are locally owned and operated small businesses that serve as critical economic engines, helping to power local communities by generating \$3.6 billion of economic impact in the Massachusetts; and

Whereas, Community health centers develop new approaches to integrating holistic services beyond primary care, including nutrition, oral health, vision, behavioral health, and pharmacy services, to provide comprehensive care that allows each patient to thrive. The model continues to be an effective means of overcoming barriers to health care access, including geography, income, and insurance status. In 2025, Massachusetts health centers conducted 3.2 million clinic visits to over 870,000 patients, 45% of which received care in a language other than English; and

Whereas, National Health Center Week offers the opportunity to celebrate the legacy and impact of America's over 1,500 Community Health Center organizations. We honor their dedicated staff, board members, patients, and all those responsible for their continued success and growth,

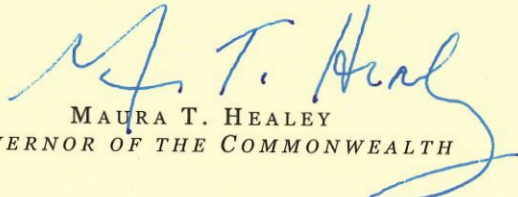
Now, Therefore, I, Maura T. Healey, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim August 2nd through 8th, 2026, to be,

NATIONAL HEALTH CENTER WEEK

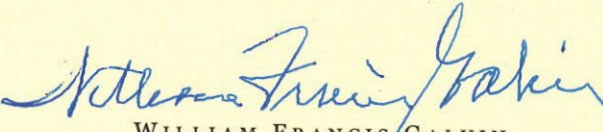
And urge all residents of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this first day of August, in the year two thousand and twenty-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and fiftieth.

BY HER EXCELLENCY


MAURA T. HEALEY
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH


KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH


WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts