Community Health Centers

Medical Homes for All America
Today’s Health Care Challenges

• Rising Premiums

• Rising Costs

• Growing Ranks of Uninsured

• Doctors opting for Specialty professions instead of primary care

• Governments Facing Deficits
Community Health Centers Are a Part of the Solution

• Affordable

• Access for all populations

• Low-cost alternative to Emergency Room Visits
Impact of Health Reform

• Improved Access – More than 95% of Americans likely insured
• Dramatic restructuring of insurance framework
• Increased demand for providers
• Cost containment still a challenge
History of Community Health Centers

• Roots in community-based economic development and community empowerment – War on Poverty
• Provide access to health care for underserved and uninsured
• The first federally funded health centers opened in 1965
  • Urban – Columbia Point Health Center (now Geiger-Gibson CHC) in Dorchester, MA
  • Rural – Mound Bayou, Mississippi (now Delta Health Center)
Community Health Centers

- Provide comprehensive primary and preventive health care services
- Community-based and governed by community boards
- Accessible to everyone, regardless of financial barriers, age, linguistic barriers, cultural barriers, and geographical barriers
- Sliding-fee scale
- Non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations
The Average Health Center

- has a total budget of $7.9 million
- employs 95 full-time-equivalent staff members;
- and provides 58,000 medical, dental and mental health visits to 15,000 patients annually.

*Health centers are vital members of their communities from both an economic development and health perspective.*
Community Health Centers: Then and Now

1965

Health Centers thrive in Rural and Urban communities

Mound Bayou, Mississippi - Delta Health Center  
The first Rural Health Center  
52% of Health Centers are rural

Columbia Point Health Center, Boston  
The first Urban Health Center  
Originated as a housing project

2005
Health Reform: What Will It Mean for

Current (2009) Patients by Payer Source

- Medicaid: 34%
- Private: 16%
- Uninsured: 39%
- Other Public: 1%
- Medicare: 8%
- CHIP: 2%

Post-Reform (2015) Patients By Payer Source

- Medicaid: 42%
- Uninsured: 26%
- Private: 12%
- Other Public: 1%
- Medicare: 8%
- CHIP: 4%

NOTE: Medicare patients will grow significantly over the next 10 years.
Health Centers Today

Where We Are
• More than 1,200 Health Center Organizations
• More than 7,500 delivery sites
  • Every State and Territory; Urban and Rural

Who We Serve
• 20 million patients
• 92% low-income (under 200% FPL)
• 38% uninsured, 36% Medicaid/SCHIP, 8% Medicare
• 941,000 farmworkers, 1 million homeless individuals
Accomplishments and Recognition

IOM recommended health centers as THE model for reforming the delivery of primary health care

GAO credited health centers for success and recommended expanding them further

OMB ranked Community Health Center program first among all HHS programs and one of the top 10 federal government programs for effectiveness

Dozens of scholarly and peer-reviewed journals have cited health centers for high-quality care and reducing health disparities
Health Reform: Investing in Primary Care

• Recently passed legislation includes $11 billion to support health center expansion and growth
• Medicaid enhancements will also increase patients served
• MA experience shows that newly insured will have limited provider options—expansion of health centers will be critical
Capital Needs of Health Centers

• Capital Link estimates that health centers will need to invest $10.5 billion into their facilities and equipment in order to serve 30 million people by 2015.
  • Health Centers received $1.5 billion in capital funding through ARRA
  • Health Centers will receive $1.5 billion in capital funding through health reform

…. But a sizable funding gap remains

United Health has supported Capital Link’s efforts to assist centers in utilizing the ARRA capital funds
Community Involvement is Key: *How to Help*

- Find and get to know your local health center(s) [http://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/](http://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/)
- Serve on a CHC community board of directors
- Support CHC Capital Campaigns
- Purchase federal or state tax credits to help fund CHC building projects
- Contribute to a loan pool developed by Capital Link to provide low-cost loans to CHCs
Where Can You Get More Information?

www.nachc.com

www.hrsa.gov

www.caplink.org

For specific questions, contact Joe McKelvey at 202-331-4602