



PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION of COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

Pennsylvania's Community Health Centers
— also known as federally qualified health centers or FQHCs —
are unique nonprofit primary care facilities
that are able to provide a wide array of
services to Pennsylvanians in underserved areas of the state.



FQHCs HAVE FOUR UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS

Fees based on **ability to pay** (FQHCs must offer a sliding fee scale and individuals pay what they can afford)

“Community Health Center services are not free but their fees are reasonable and fair, which allows me to share in the responsibility for my care.”

— Linda Cammack,
Board Member,
Hamilton Health Center

Quality primary health care open to **all** (FQHCs are open to all and must meet federal reporting, performance and accountability requirements)

“Community Health Centers are invaluable partners in our efforts to expand access to quality preventive care and reduce the use of expensive emergency and hospital services. They’ve adapted to the new health care marketplace, implementing electronic medical records, integrating and expanding services and providing outreach and education. Health foundations could not accomplish our missions without them.”

— Frances M. Sheehan,
President and CEO,
Brandywine Health Foundation

Highly competent **health professional team** (FQHCs offer comprehensive, culturally competent, quality **medical, dental and behavioral health care**. Staff must be appropriately licensed, credentialed, and privileged)

“I came to work here 8 years ago to help give care to people who truly appreciated it and I am proud to still be here with such a professional staff that meets high healthcare standards every day.”

— Dr. Brian Foulk,
Family Medicine Physician,
Primary Health Network

Community governed and **patient-centered** to ensure they are responsive to their population (at least 51% of people serving on the governing board of an FQHC must be patients served by the FQHC)

“I am both a patient and Board member at Delaware Valley Community Health, Inc. When I go to see my doctor at our Fairmount site, I like to sit in the waiting room and listen to all of the positive comments from other patients. I feel very proud of being part of such a wonderful organization that provides excellent medical care in our community.”

— Nilsa Gonzalez,
Board Chair,
Delaware Valley Community Health, Inc.

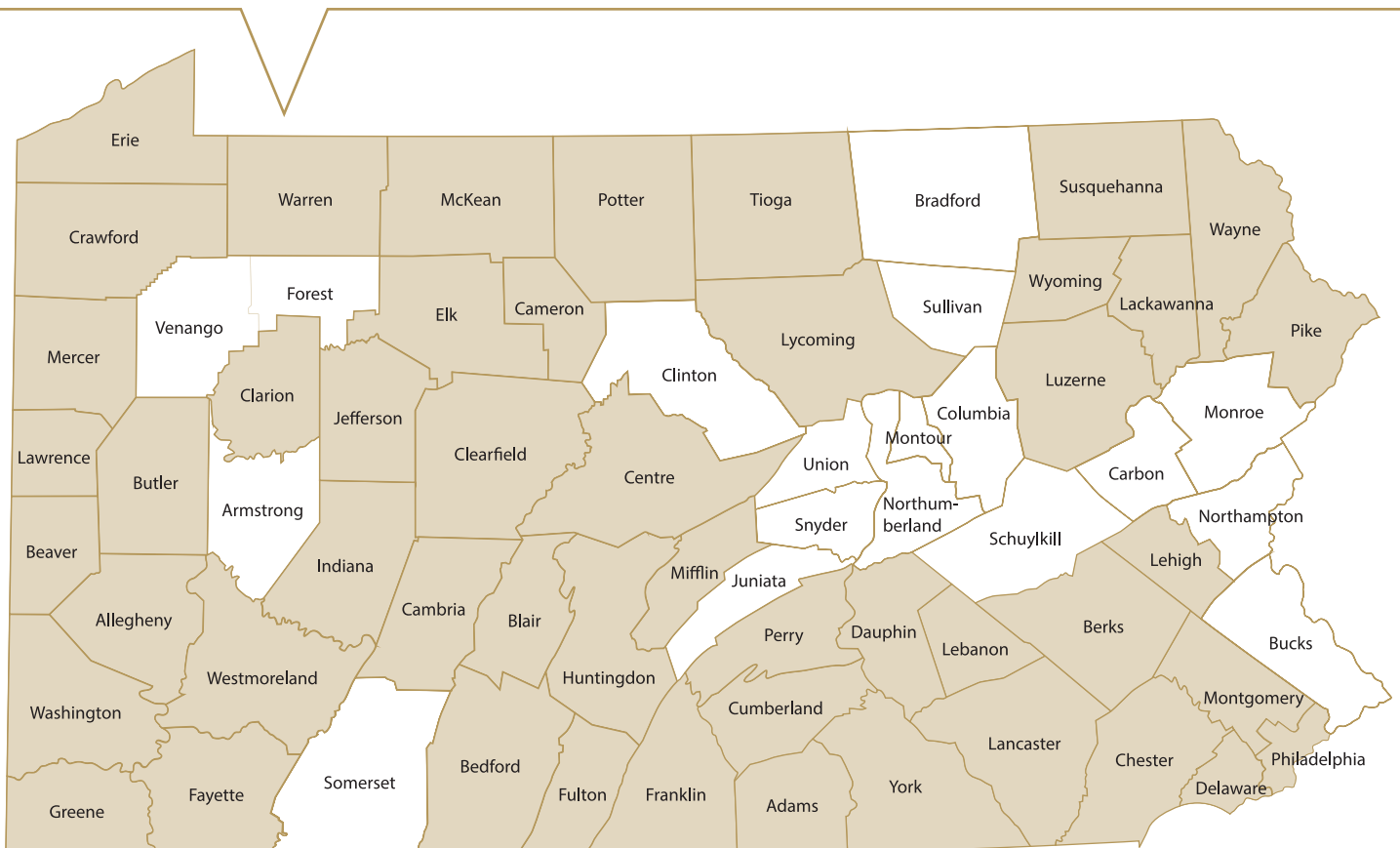
BY THE NUMBERS



Pennsylvanians Are Health Center Patients



COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS have more than 250 sites in 49 rural and urban counties throughout Pennsylvania.



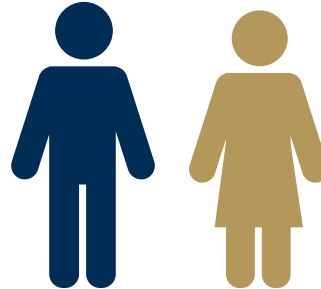
* Counties without health centers appear in white

BY THE NUMBERS

93%

of patients at health centers are struggling financially and many have been squeezed out of the middle class in the economic downturn

700,000+
patients are served in
49 counties
through
2.5 million
patient visits a year



294,447 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

178,164 UNINSURED

133,963 COMMERCIALY INSURED

73,441 MEDICARE

7,399 CHIP

RANGE OF SERVICES OFFERED BY HEALTH CENTERS

Community Health Centers provide a wide range of services to improve and maintain the health of their patients.



DENTAL

- Oral dental exams (adult and pediatric)
- Cleanings
- Fluoride
- X-rays
- Restorations
- Extractions
- Root canals
- Dentures
- Oral hygiene education
- Mobile services



MENTAL HEALTH/ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- Behavioral health screenings and counseling for all ages
- Crisis intervention
- Medication management
- Substance abuse screening and counseling for all ages



PRIMARY MEDICAL

- General primary medical care
- Prenatal and perinatal care
- Chronic disease management
- Preventive health services and screenings
- Immunizations
- Women's health
- Pediatric services
- HIV testing and counseling
- Cancer screenings
- Smoking and tobacco use cessation counseling
- School-based health centers
- Vision
- Pharmacy



ANCILLARY SERVICES

- Eligibility and enrollment assistance
- Health education
- Interpretation / translation services
- Transportation
- Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- Classes to promote healthy lifestyles
- Care management services for high-risk patients

* Services may vary by Community Health Center

See our Pennsylvania Community Health Center Directory at PACHC.org for a list of sites and services by site



DID YOU KNOW ...



DID YOU KNOW? Community Health Centers are dedicated to improving access to quality, affordable primary health care

“Community Health Centers” **FQHC** refers to federally qualified health centers (FQHC) and FQHC Look-Alikes. They are non-profit organizations created by individuals in a community coming together with a mission to improve access to primary medical care in underserved areas. Every Community Health Center is different but they all care for patients in a community-oriented, culturally competent setting. And they contribute to the local economy by employing area residents and purchasing products and services. They are not operated by government entities.

DID YOU KNOW? Community Health Centers are different from other primary care organizations

Community Health Centers **FQHC** have more federal standards and oversight placed on them than do other primary care providers. FQHCs must meet specific program requirements and offer core services to the people they serve. They must meet 19 specific program requirements set by the federal government that help promote the best care for their patients. These include a patient-majority board, specified hours of operation and staffing, mandated quality assurance and improvement programs, and public transparency of performance measures. FQHCs must demonstrate that they continue to meet these requirements to maintain their designation.

DID YOU KNOW? Community Health Centers treat a wide variety of patients

You can see almost anyone in the waiting room of an FQHC. While 93% of patients have low incomes, the high-quality service also attracts many privately insured patients who could go elsewhere. FQHCs are required to treat anyone who seeks care regardless of insurance or ability to pay. Each FQHC must develop a sliding fee scale to help uninsured patients afford the care.

DID YOU KNOW? Community Health Centers meet the highest standards of quality care

Community Health Centers **FQHC** not only provide a wide range of services in one location but they also do so with a mission mindset that sees all patients as equal and deserving of high quality care. Their outcomes are proven and they also have exceeded healthcare industry rates for attaining Patient-Centered Medical Home recognition and use of Electronic Health Records. FQHCs are leaders in performance transparency. The performance data for each and every FQHC in the country is posted online for public viewing.



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