

Oklahoma Community Health Centers

Community health centers (CHCs), also known as Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) or health centers, are nonprofit health care providers that deliver comprehensive primary health care services to medically underserved communities. To best serve their patients, CHCs offer a one-stop-shop of integrated services like medical, dental, vision, transportation, case management, behavioral health, substance use disorder services, and more.

The health center program is the largest network of primary care in the country, providing health care to over 31 million Americans including over 340,000 Oklahomans in 2023. For decades, CHCs have been a bipartisan solution to issues concerning health care access, quality, and cost. In Oklahoma, where many families and individuals lack access to primary care, health centers provide much-needed cost-effective primary care that saves the health care system money by preventing expensive, avoidable emergency department visits and chronic illnesses. Twenty-three health centers serve Oklahomans at over 180 sites.

CHCs treat all patients regardless of ability to pay or insurance status. CHCs use sliding fee scales based on patients' income, have after-hours coverage, meet extensive performance and accountability requirements, and are governed by patient-majority boards that reflect the communities they serve.

CHCs are economic engines!

According to a Matrix Global Advisors (MGA) analysis, which quantifies the direct and indirect economic impact of Community Health Centers in Oklahoma, health centers supported 4,869 jobs, \$822.7 million in economic output, and \$362.1 million in labor income in Oklahoma in 2021.

CHCs are efficient!

Studies show Medicaid patients treated in CHCs are 25 percent less likely to seek expensive, avoidable emergency room care than non-CHC Medicaid patients and have lower utilization of other services resulting in 24% less health care spending overall.

CHCs are effective!

Although their patients tend to have low incomes and complex chronic conditions, CHCs consistently deliver top notch results! CHC patients are more likely to receive primary services like screenings for cancer and depression. CHC patients have lower rates of low birth weight than non-CHC patients.

CHCs decrease health care spending!

Oklahoma health centers participating in the Medicare Shared Savings Program saved \$15 million last year by driving down the cost of care by \$1,000 per patient. Since 2019, community health centers in Oklahoma have saved Medicare nearly \$40 million.

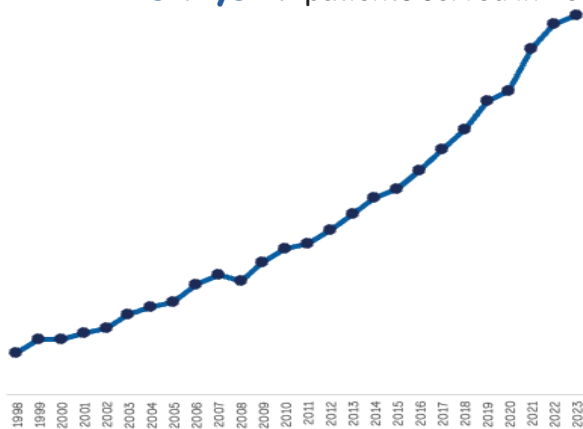


Oklahoma Community Health Centers

STATEWIDE OVERVIEW

PATIENTS SERVED

341,317 patients served in 2023



2023 HEALTH CENTER PATIENTS

1,384,441 total patient visits

1,049,156 medical visits

157,217 behavioral health visits

77,624 dental visits

10,125 substance use disorder visits

6,083 vision visits

43,860 enabling services visits

40,376 other professional visits

6,671

veterans served in 2023

2,991 FTEs

employed in 2023

10,121

patients experiencing homelessness served in 2023

\$56,005,168

sliding fee discounts in 2023 provided to patients with incomes below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level

\$18,936,811

collected in self-pay in 2023 from patients with incomes below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level

Oklahoma Community Health Center Patients

