

Bureau of Primary Health Care

Health Resources & Services Administration

The **Bureau of Primary Health Care's** (BPHC) goal is to improve the health of the Nation's underserved communities and vulnerable populations by assuring access to comprehensive, culturally competent, quality, primary health care services.



 **1375**
Health Centers

 **24,295,946**
Patients Served

BPHC oversees the Health Center Program, a national network of community health centers that exist in areas where economic, geographic, or cultural barriers limit access to primary health care for a substantial portion of the population.

These health centers provide comprehensive primary care services without regard for patients' ability to pay and charge for services on a sliding fee scale.

Health centers improve patient outcomes while reducing health disparities, despite serving a population that is often sicker and more at risk than the general population. They also reduce costs to health systems; the health center model of care has been shown to reduce the use of costlier providers of care, such as emergency departments and hospitals.

Health Center Program Fundamentals

- **Located in or serve a high need community**
- **Governed by a community board** composed of a majority (51% or more) of health center patients who represent the population served.
- **Provide comprehensive primary health care** services as well as supportive services (education, translation and transportation, etc.) that promote access to health care.
- **Provide services available to all** with fees adjusted based on ability to pay.
- **Meet other performance and accountability requirements** regarding administrative, clinical, and financial operations.

Health Centers Serve:



For more information on BPHC and health centers, visit: bphc.hrsa.gov

To locate a health center, visit: findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov