WELCOME!

- We'll get started momentarily.
- Your microphone, video, and chat features are not needed and will remain deactivated.
- To view closed captioning, select the *Show Captions* icon in the meeting controls toolbar.
- Please submit questions at any time in the Q&A feature.
- If you still have questions at the end of this session, please contact Health Center Program Support.

HRSA
Health Center Program

Bureau of Primary Health Care Program Updates

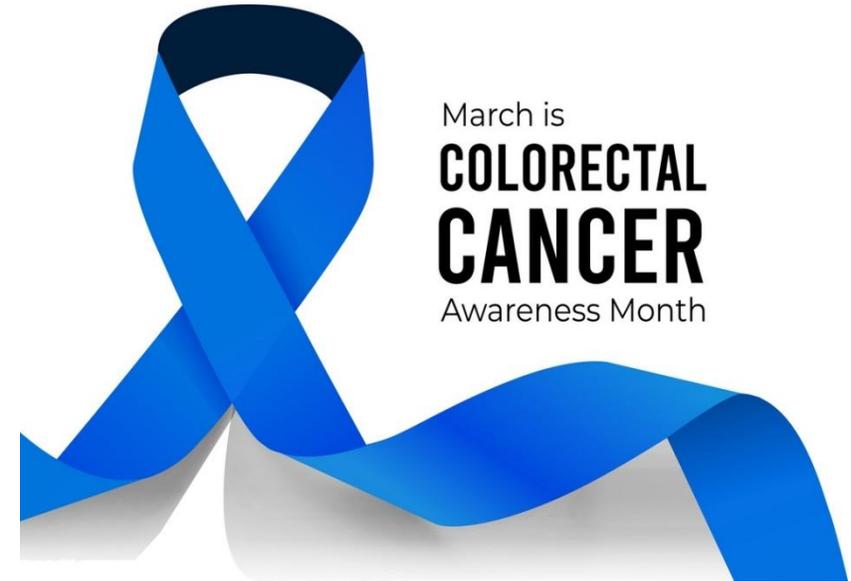*March 18, 2026*

Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People

Health Center Program Updates

AGENDA

- ❑ March Observances

- ❑ Patient Safety Awareness Week

- ❑ 2026 FTCA Deeming

- ❑ Upcoming Pilot: Operational Site Visit (OSV) Models

- ❑ Performance Period Shifts

- ❑ Funding and Policy Updates

- ❑ Bureau Updates

- ❑ Mark Your Calendar

- ❑ Q&A

HRSA
Health Center Program

March Observances

National Nutrition Month

Chronic Disease Prevention

Eat Healthy

Consume real foods that are whole or minimally processed.

Get Regular Physical Activity

At least 150 minutes/week of moderate exercise, with muscle-strengthening activities 2 days a week

Consume Less Alcohol

Realfood.gov

Colorectal Cancer (CRC) Awareness Month

Key numbers

- Every year around 150,000 Americans are diagnosed with CRC and 50,000 die from CRC[1]

- Fourth most common cancer in men and women[1]

- Men have higher incidence and mortality rates than women[1]

- Most effective way to reduce risk is to get screened regularly, beginning at the age of 45[1]

2024 UDS

- 43% of eligible patients were screened by health centers

- Over 3.6 million people screened for CRC
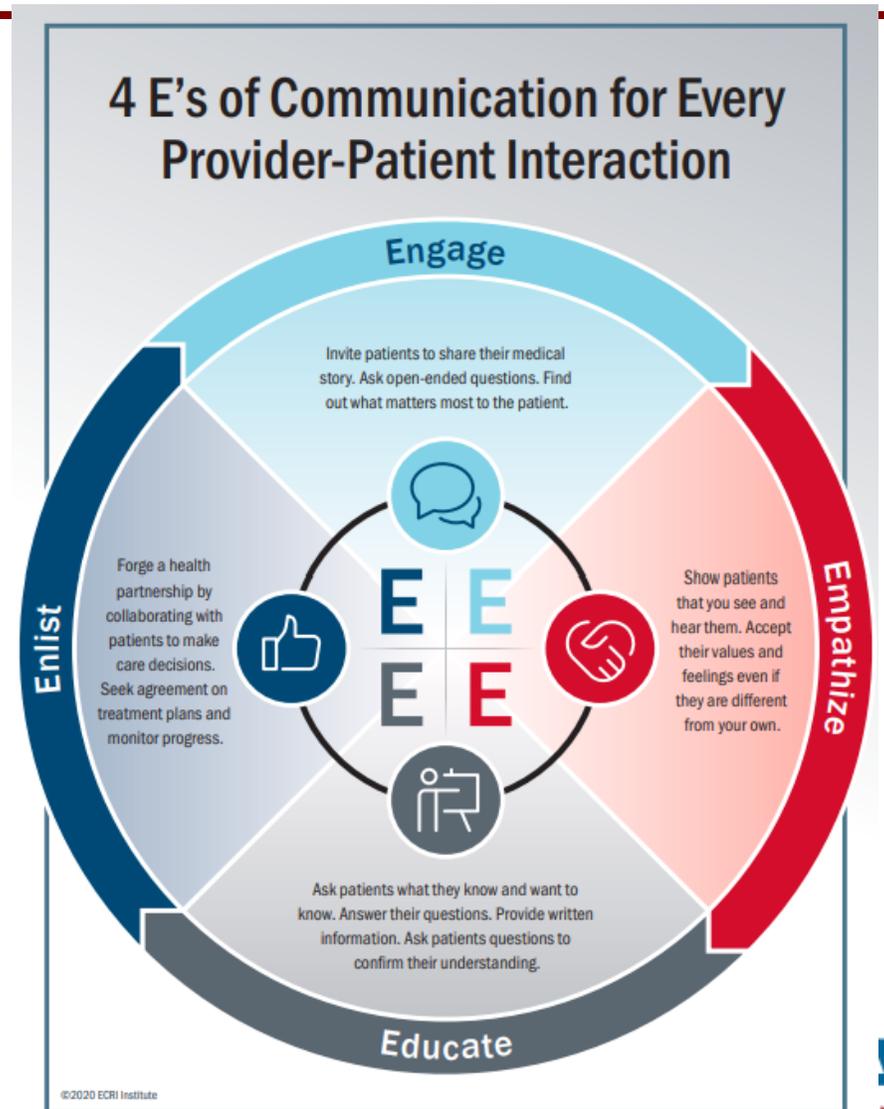
March is
COLORECTAL CANCER
Awareness Month

[1]Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. U.S. Cancer Statistics Colorectal Cancer Stat Bite. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; 2025.

HRSA Health Center Program

Patient Safety Awareness Week (3/8-3/14)

Focus on Communication

- New Get Safe! checklist: **Improving Provider-Patient Communication**
- Email campaign highlighting existing resources on communication
- Register for the for upcoming **Strengthening Patient-Provider Communication to Improve Safety, Trust, and Outcomes** webinar
  - Wednesday, April 15; 2:00-3:00 p.m. ET

4 E's of Communication for Every Provider-Patient Interaction

Engage — Invite patients to share their medical story. Ask open-ended questions. Find out what matters most to the patient.

Empathize — Show patients that you see and hear them. Accept their values and feelings even if they are different from your own.

Enlist — Forge a health partnership by collaborating with patients to make care decisions. Seek agreement on treatment plans and monitor progress.

Educate — Ask patients what they know and want to know. Answer their questions. Provide written information. Ask patients questions to confirm their understanding.

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Upcoming Risk Assessment Workshop Series

- Features **four sessions** plus office hours and "homework":
  - **April 23:** Identifying the topic and tool
  - **May 7:** Conducting the assessment and evaluating results
  - **May 14:** Office hours (1)
  - **May 28:** Ongoing monitoring and improvement
  - **June 11:** Preparing for the next assessment
  - **August 13:** Office hours (2)
- Facilitates the development of **two quarterly risk assessments**

Register for the Risk Assessment Workshop

Health Center 2026 Deeming: Important Dates

Coverage Period: January 1, 2027 – December 31, 2027

2026 FTCA Deeming Application Clinic

March 25 – 27, 2026

Scan to Register!

EHBs Open

- The EHBs system open to accept FTCA Health Center and VHP Program Deeming Applications.

February 27, 2026

EHBs Close

- Applications are due on or before June 26, 2026 to avoid potential gaps in coverage.

June 26, 2026

Upcoming Pilot: Operational Site Visit (OSV) Models

Purpose: Evaluate new, 1-day and 2-day Operational Site Visit models

Strengthen monitoring efficiency and effectiveness

Reduce time onsite and increase cost savings

Ensure reliable compliance determinations

Pilot: Operational Site Visit Models
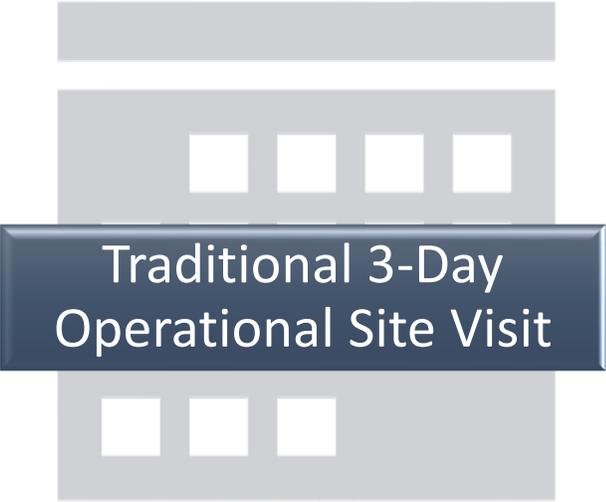
Traditional 3-Day Operational Site Visit

2-Day Operational Site Visit

- Full entrance/exit conference
- Traditional first day OSV
- Compliance Review
  - Pre-OSV Desk review
  - On-site review
- Board meeting
- Follow-up to desk review

1-Day Operational Site Visit

- Abbreviated entrance/exit conference
- Compliance Review
  - Pre-OSV Desk review
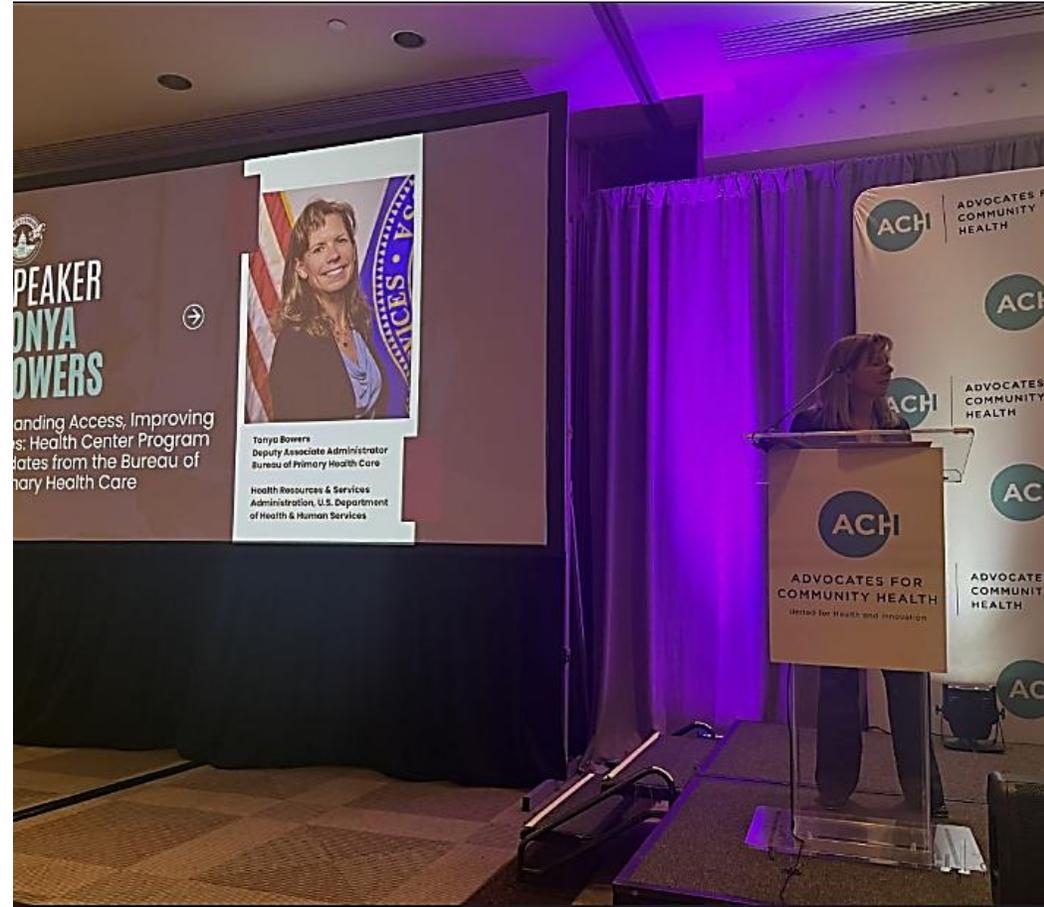 - On-site review
- Follow-up to desk review
- Board meeting

Operational Site Visit Resources

- **Health Center Program Compliance Manual**

- **Health Center Program Site Visit Protocol**

- **HRSA Site Visit Resources**

- **BPHC Contact Form**

Advocates for Community Health Conference Recap

Performance Period Shifts

Questions? Please reach out through the [BPHC Contact Form](#).
Under **Notice of Funding Opportunities**, select **Service Area Competition**

Funding and Guidance Updates

Program Funding and Designations

- [Service Area Competition – Additional Area](#) (SAC-AA)
- [National Technical Assistance Program](#) (NTAP)
- [Quality Improvement Fund](#)(QIF)

Program Guidance/Policy Implementation

- 340B Program

Capital Project Updates

Capital Assistance for Hurricane Response and Recovery Efforts (CARE – C16 – FY 2023)

- The next Semi-Annual Progress Report release is March 1, 2026.
- Project period end date for FY 2023 CARE awards is on August 31, 2026.

Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS – CE2 – FY 2023)

- The next Semi-Annual Progress Report release is May 1, 2026.
- Project period end dates for FY 2023 CDS awards are in July, August and September 2026.

Updates from the Associate Administrator

Primary Health Care Budget

Primary Health Care (dollars in millions)	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027 (1st Q)
Discretionary Budget Authority	1,858.772	1,858.772	1,858.772	
Mandatory Budget Authority	4,272.327*	4,259.673	4,600.000	1,159.452**
Total, Program Level	6,131.099*	6,118.445	6,458.772	

*Excludes approximately $1.07 Billion in Q1 FY 2025 funding from the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 which provided FY2024/FY 2025 funding through December 31, 2024
** Subject to sequestration of approximately $27.5 million

Mark Your Calendar

BPHC Program Updates

- Wednesday, April 29, 2 – 3 p.m. ET
- Tuesday, May 19, 2 – 3 p.m. ET

Questions?

Thank You!

Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC)

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

✉ Health Center Program Support

☎ 877-464-4772, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. ET, Monday – Friday (except federal holidays)

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bphc.hrsa.gov

✉ Sign up for the *Primary Health Care Digest*

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