

# 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 30 million Americans including over 310,000 Oklahomans in 2021. 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-two health centers serve Oklahomans at over 160 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 trailblazers!**

CHCs have been doing patient-centered primary care for decades! CHCs are data-informed private-public partnerships that provide integrated primary, dental, vision, substance abuse, and behavioral health care services alongside interconnected enabling services like transportation, education, and case management.

## **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 care cancer and depression. CHC patients have lower rates of low birth weight than non-CHC patients.

## **CHCs drive down health care spending!**

The CDC reports that chronic diseases account for 7 in 10 deaths in America. By encouraging physical activity, nutrition, and substance abuse cessation, CHCs help patients avoid costly, preventable chronic illnesses that drive up health care spending.



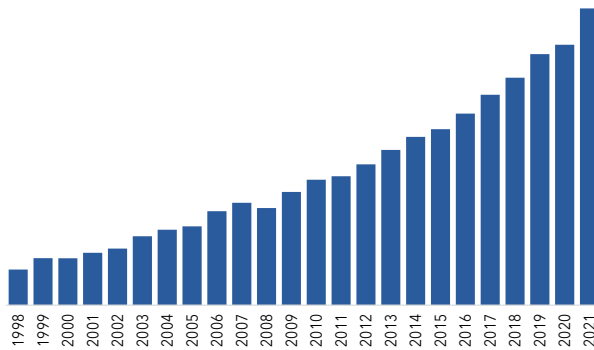
# Oklahoma Community Health Centers

## STATEWIDE OVERVIEW

### PATIENTS SERVED

**311,306**

patients served in 2021



### 2021 HEALTH CENTER PATIENT VISITS

**1,120,875** total patient visits

**861,250** medical visits

**121,039** behavioral health visits

**67,595** dental visits

**16,911** substance use disorder visits

**14,220** vision visits

**32,433** enabling services visits

**7,427** other professional visits

**5,359**

veterans served in 2021

**2,446 FTEs**

employed in 2021

**5,087**

patients experiencing homelessness served in 2021

**\$45,457,554**

sliding fee discounts in 2021 provided to patients with incomes below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level

**\$19,195,187**

collected in self-pay in 2021 from patients with incomes below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level

### Oklahoma Community Health Center Patients

