



Minnesota's Community Health Centers are Federally Qualified Health Centers (CHCs/FQHCs) that provide a health care home to low-income, uninsured and under-insured Minnesotans. These 17 centers are part of Minnesota's safety net, with clinics located throughout the state, providing high quality comprehensive health care in more than 70 locations ranging from isolated rural communities to small towns to inner-city neighborhoods.

Each health center is truly community-based. Over half the members of each CHC's Board of Directors are patients who receive care at the clinic.

Why We Matter

Minnesota ranks as one of the healthiest states in the nation. But statewide data often mask health disparities in underserved populations. In reality, there are pockets of poor health across Minnesota, particularly among low-income and culturally diverse communities.

CHCs serve as a safety net for these underserved Minnesotans who tend to be low-income, uninsured, culturally diverse and often at greater risk for poor health.

Like other Minnesota health care providers, CHCs offer primary and preventive care, chronic disease management and support services. But there are distinct differences: CHCs also work to reduce barriers to access - such as language, cost, literacy and lack of transportation - that inhibit our patients from getting the care they need. CHCs have the cultural proficiency to help these populations achieve better health.

Who We Serve

Everyone is welcome at Community Health Centers, from pregnant women and infants to older adults, from poor to well-off. Last year CHCs served roughly 190,000 Minnesotans, an increase of more than 93% since 2001.

The number of uninsured patients receiving health care at Minnesota's Community Health Centers increased by 96% between 2001 and 2010. Compared to the general Minnesota population, CHC patients are more likely to be:

Culturally-Diverse: Roughly 70% of those receiving care at CHCs belong to communities of color; only 15% of all Minnesotans do.

Low-Income: 95% of CHC patients have household incomes under 200% of the poverty level (i.e., <\$44,100 for a family of 4); fewer than 30% of all Minnesotans do.

Uninsured & Under-served: 40% of those receiving care at CHCs have public health coverage and 42% have no health insurance; the uninsurance rate in Minnesota is approximately 9%.

Non-English Speaking: 28% of CHC patients are best served in a language other than English.

Community Health Centers care for nearly one in six of the uninsured in Minnesota.

www.mnachc.org