New Jersey’s Federally Qualified Health Centers

Quick facts

Our Community, Your Health, Our Commitment.

NJPCA 2015 edition
Federally Qualified Health Centers

- Federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), often called community health centers are in every state across the nation. FQHCs are authorized under Section 330(A) of the Public Health Services Act to provide healthcare to the underserved and uninsured.

- FQHCs are required to fulfill 19 stringent operational and clinical guidelines established by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), United States Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

- FQHCs provide comprehensive primary and preventive care services in a unique and innovative way. FQHCs offer a sliding fee scale, have an ongoing quality assurance program, and have a governing board of directors consisting of a majority of FQHC users.

- FQHCs are required to report annually on HRSA performance measurements and are subject to HRSA review.

- FQHCs must be open to all, regardless of their ability to pay. FQHCs are special because they tailor their services to meet the specific needs of their communities and special populations which include the homeless, migrant and seasonal farm workers, residents of public housing, HIV/AIDS patients, the underserved and the uninsured.

A Snapshot of NJ FQHCs

20 Health Centers and 122 Sites

484,406 patients served
and over 1.7 million patient visits provided.

25,439 homeless patients
and 13,740 migrant/seasonal farm worker patients served.

15 medical homes
of New Jersey’s 20 FQHCs, 75% are recognized as Patient Centered Medical Homes (PCMH).

186,658 individuals assisted
including 68,826 applications submitted, and over 53,100 have been enrolled from FQHC Outreach and Enrollment efforts.

2,724 clinicians
and other professionals currently employed at NJ FQHCs.
New Jersey has 20 FQHCs located in 21 Counties of the State. These FQHCs, also known as health centers, provide comprehensive and high quality primary and preventive health care to the most vulnerable New Jersey residents—the uninsured and the medically underserved. The majority of the health centers operate satellite sites at multiple locations; which allows for care to be delivered at underserved communities throughout the State. Several centers and many sites are specially designated to serve the needs of special populations including homeless populations, public housing residents, migrant and seasonal farm workers and school-aged children.

New Jersey’s Community Health Centers

NJ FQHCs Provide Comprehensive Care

One-Stop for Healthcare

• New Jersey’s Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) provide comprehensive, culturally sensitive, high quality primary medical, dental and behavioral health services for all ages.
• Services include prevention services as well as management of acute and chronic medical conditions.
• FQHCs offer services such as health education, care management, translation, eligibility assistance, transportation, and after hours coverage.

Access

• There are 20 FQHCs in New Jersey with 122 satellite sites located in all 21 counties of the State.
• NJ FQHCs provide healthcare services to over 484,000 New Jerseyans with more than 1.7 million visits annually.
• FQHCs are non-profit organizations governed by consumer-based Boards where at least 51% of the members must be patients of the health center.
• The majority of FQHC patients (85%) are either Medicaid enrollees or uninsured (56% Medicaid, 29% Uninsured).
• About 96% of patients have incomes at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).\(^1\)

Affordable

• Fees are based on patient’s ability to pay-FQHCs must offer a sliding fee discount and individuals are expected to pay what they can afford.
• Average cost per medical patient per year is $442; cost per dental patient per year is $334; and total cost per patient is $551 (as per 2013 data).
• Discounted medications are available either on site or through arrangement with a pharmacy.

Quality

• FQHCs follow strict standards with transparent and accountable quality outcomes reported annually to Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).
• 75% of NJ health centers are recognized as Patient-Centered Medical Homes (PCMH), a model of care coordination focused on continuous quality improvement and strengthening the primary care clinician-patient relationship.
• NJ FQHCs are using electronic Medical records to improve quality outcomes and deliver more personalized, coordinated and cost-effective care.

\(^1\) Low income patients are those patients that have incomes at or below 200% of the federal Poverty Level (FPL). As per 2015 Federal Poverty Guidelines, 200% of FPL is $47,700 for a family of four.
FQHCs Are New Jersey’s Healthcare Safety Net

Despite recent changes in the State’s healthcare marketplace, NJ FQHCs remain the safety net providers for the State’s medically underserved. As anticipated, New Jersey’s Medicaid expansion under the ACA has dramatically shifted the percentage distribution between the Medicaid and uninsured patient categories at NJ FQHCs.

In 2013, 43% of NJ FQHC patients were Medicaid beneficiaries and 42% were uninsured. As per 2014 data, 56% of NJ FQHC patients now have Medicaid as their insurance and 29% are uninsured. These numbers represent a 31.2% increase in Medicaid patients and a 30.9% corresponding decrease in uninsured patient numbers.

NJ Health Center Patients at a Glance

- Of NJ FQHC patients have Medicaid as their insurance source; and 29% are uninsured
- Of NJ FQHC patients are low income; and 77% are members of racial/ethnic minorities
- Of FQHC patients are children, 64% are adults, and 5% are elderly

Uninsured Patients’ Growth Trend

- 2004: 124,441
- 2009: 169,707
- 2014: 291,962

Medicaid Patients’ Growth Trend

- 2004: 113,676
- 2009: 185,743
- 2014: 275,391
Savings for NJ’s Healthcare System

FQHCs save the state and hospitals millions of dollars when patients are seen in community health centers rather than in emergency rooms. FQHCs’ cost of care is substantially lower than other types of providers, despite the fact that Health Centers provide a wide range of ancillary services not offered in other health care settings.

According to the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality (AHRQ), health centers’ average per patient per day cost is almost a dollar less than other physician settings ($1.67 vs. $2.64). ²

According to 2013 Uniform Data System (UDS) data, NJ FQHCs’ average per patient per day cost is only $1.51.

Aside from providing high quality primary and preventive care services at a lower cost, health centers also promote local economies through job creation and purchase of goods and services. The economic impact of NJ FQHCs is estimated to be $382,432,656 on the State economy. ³

Funding NJ FQHCs

Medicaid funds account for more than one-third of FQHC budgets. Other sources of income include patient fees, third party payments (private insurance), Medicare, federal categorical program, State and local funding.

As New Jersey’s largest provider of primary care services, FQHCs annually receive State funds to provide comprehensive primary healthcare to uninsured New Jerseyans.

A Medical home is a nationally known healthcare standard that is based on a partnership between the patient, family, and primary provider in cooperation with specialists and support from the community. The patient is the focal point of this model. These guidelines stress that care under the medical home model must be accessible, family-centered, continuous, comprehensive, coordinated, compassionate, and culturally effective.

- Atlanticare Health Services
- CAMCare Health Corporation*
- CompleteCare Health Network*
- Eric B. Chandler Health Center
- Jewish Renaissance Medical Center
- Henry J. Austin Health Center*
- Horizon Health Center*
- Metropolitan Family Health Network
- Monmouth Family Health Center
- Newark Community Health Centers, Inc.
- North Hudson Community Action Corporation Health Center
- Ocean Health Initiatives, Inc.
- Southern Jersey Family Medical Centers, Inc.
- Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey Community Health Center
- Zufall Health Center

* Denotes FQHCs that have achieved both Joint Commission Medical Home certification and National Commission for Quality Assurance (NCQA) Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) recognition.
Our Legislative Priorities

New Jersey Priorities
NJPCA’s State legislative priorities are established annually by the NJPCA Board of Directors. NJPCA’s mission guides the legislative priorities for New Jersey’s 20 Community Health Centers and 122 health care delivery sites. Our work on behalf of our communities and patients seeks to achieve comprehensive quality health care for all New Jerseyans. We strive to:

• maintain resources to continue our high quality health care services for our patients;
• develop innovative, cost efficient methods to increase access to primary care services;
• secure the necessary resources and regulatory assistance to allow our centers to expand access;
• integrate behavioral health care into the full spectrum of services; and
• improve Medicaid and NJFamily Care enrollment, eligibility and delivery systems.

Federal Priorities

Maintain Community Health Center Funding and Avoid the Fiscal Cliff
Stable federal funding ensures that more than 23 million patients served by community health centers nationwide have access to the most efficient primary and preventive care available; saving the healthcare system over $24 billion a year. Funding stability is undeniably vital to our centers. Without it, the ability of Health Centers across the country and in New Jersey to effectively plan for the future, attract talented staff and clinicians, and operate efficiently is at risk.

Currently, Community Health Centers are facing the risk of a significant loss of federal grant funding unless Congress acts to preserve funding for the Health Center Program and avoid a potential 70% cut. New Jersey Health Centers will experience a significant reduction in funding at the end of September 2015 unless Congress votes to support the President’s budget proposal to renew the appropriation supporting the mission of our centers.

Without Congress’ support, a massive reduction in funding will be extremely difficult to overcome. Many health centers and sites nationwide will be forced to close their doors. Providers and staff will be laid off. Most significantly, our patients will be turned away without the health care they need.

Aligning Our Mission and Goals in 2015
NJPCA is committed to its mission of planning, promoting and facilitating equal access to quality health care for individuals and their families. NJPCA seeks to maintain cost effective, affordable primary, dental and mental health services as well as meeting the cultural health needs of New Jersey’s diverse populations.

We ask that Congress and the President avoid the fiscal cliff and ensure that Community Health Centers continue to have the resources needed to provide care to their patients and millions of others who still need access to care.

Maintain the National Health Services Corps Funding
The National Health Service Corps (NHSC) provides financial and other needed support to primary care providers and sites in underserved communities. The President’s Budget proposes a significant investment in the primary care workforce. If Congress acts, the NHSC will experience an increase in capacity by doubling the workforce of NHSC providers. This increase in capacity is vital to meeting our Centers’ urgent demand for more clinicians. Without more providers, services are at risk.

We ask that Congress maintain NHSC funding so that Community Health Centers will be able to hire needed healthcare providers.
## 2014 NJ Community Health Center Patients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FQHCs</th>
<th>Medicaid (Family Care included)</th>
<th>Uninsured</th>
<th>Medicare</th>
<th>Private Insurance</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlanticare Health Services</td>
<td>1,615</td>
<td>1,429</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>310</td>
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<td>CAMCare Health Corporation</td>
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<td>Center for Health Education, Medicine &amp; Dentistry (CHEMED)</td>
<td>15,763</td>
<td>2,158</td>
<td>557</td>
<td>5,519</td>
<td>23,997</td>
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<td>CompleteCare Health Network*</td>
<td>34,730</td>
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<td>5,482</td>
<td>8,532</td>
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<td>200</td>
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<td>Horizon Health Center</td>
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<td>Jewish Renaissance Medical Ctr.</td>
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<td>Metropolitan Family Health Network</td>
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<td>Neighborhood Health Services Corporation</td>
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<td>Newark Community Health Centers, Inc.</td>
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<td>10,234</td>
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<td>Project H.O.P.E.</td>
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<td>1,310</td>
<td>1,870</td>
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<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
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<td><strong>140,962</strong></td>
<td><strong>22,394</strong></td>
<td><strong>45,624</strong></td>
<td><strong>484,406</strong></td>
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</table>

* CompleteCare Health Network serves 35 patients with public insurance from other sources who have been added to the totals.

The New Jersey Primary Care Association (NJPCA) is a not-for-profit organization that represents the 20 federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) and their 122 sites throughout New Jersey.