HEALTH CENTERS are consumer-driven and patient-centered organizations that serve as a comprehensive and cost-effective primary health care option for America’s most underserved communities. Health centers serve everyone, regardless of ability to pay or insurance status. They increase access to health care and provide integrated services based on the unique needs of the communities they serve.

There are **four key components** that define health centers & help them reach America's most underserved communities.

1. **Located in Areas of High Need**
   Designated as medically underserved areas or populations by the federal government.

2. **Comprehensive Set of Services**
   Based on community needs, health centers offer medical, dental, vision, behavioral health, and enabling services.

3. **Open to Everyone**
   Regardless of insurance status or ability to pay, and offer sliding fee scale options to low-income patients.

4. **Patient-Majority Governing Boards**
   At least 51% of every health center’s governing board must be made up of patients.

**Who do Health Centers Serve?**

In 2018, health centers will serve **over 28 million patients** including:

- **over 13 million** people in poverty
- **8.4 million** children
- **1.4 million** homeless patients
- **nearly 1 million** agricultural workers
- **over 350,000** veterans

Most Health Center Patients Are Uninsured or Publicly Insured (2017)

Most Health Center Patients Are Members of Racial & Ethnic Minority Groups (2017)

Most Health Center Patients Are Low-Income (2017)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uninsured</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Public</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At the Federal Poverty Level (100% FPL) or Below

- **63%**

Above 200% FPL

- **22%**

91% are Low-Income

101% FPL to 200% FPL

- **9%**
Health Centers Reach Into America's Most Underserved Communities

There are nearly 1,400 health center organizations operating over 11,000 service delivery locations in every state and territory. Of these, 44% are rural health centers.

Health Centers' Impact On Patients

Many patients present to health centers with chronic conditions. And health center patients perform better on ambulatory care quality measures compared to private physicians and are narrowing health disparities.

Health Centers Create Savings & Promote Economic Growth

Health centers employ over 220,000 people of all skill & education levels, including health professionals, administration & facility & support staff. In total, these staff provide over 110 million patient visits annually. Health centers create $45.6 billion in total economic activity each year within America's most underserved communities.

Health Centers Save The Health Care System $24 Billion Annually

Health Centers' average daily cost per patient is lower, saving over $2,300 (24%) per Medicaid patient.