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?
Health centers currently serve over 29 million patients including:

- over 13 million people in poverty
- 8.7 million children
- 1.4 million homeless patients
- over 385,000 veterans
- 65,000 patients receiving MAT for opioid use disorder

Most Health Center Patients Are Uninsured or Publicly Insured (2018)

- 82% are Uninsured or Publicly Insured
- 18% MediCare
- 10% Other Public
- 23% Uninsured

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

Racial / Ethnic Minority

Most Health Center Patients Are Low-Income (2017)

- 68% At the Federal Poverty Level (100 FPL) or Below
- 23% Above 200% FPL
- 9% 201% FPL to 200% FPL
- 91% are Low-Income
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, 45% are Rural Health Centers.

Health Centers' Impact On Patients

Many Patients Present to Health Centers With Chronic Conditions

And Health Center Patients Have Higher Rates of Diabetes & Hypertension Control

Health centers perform better on ambulatory care quality measures compared to private physicians & are narrowing health disparities.

Health Centers Create Savings & Promote Economic Growth

Health centers employ over 236,000 people of all skill & education levels, including health professionals, administration & facility & support staff.

In total, these staff provide over 115 million patient visits annually.

Health centers create $54.6 billion in total economic activity each year within America's most underserved communities.