

NYS COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS FACTS 2026



Invest \$300M in Community Health Centers

Community Health Centers (CHCs) = Healthy New York

- Every year, 2.5 million New Yorkers rely on Community Health Centers for care. That includes 1 in 8 residents statewide, 1 in 3 uninsured New Yorkers, and 1 in 5 Medicaid beneficiaries.
- CHCs are the primary care safety net for NY's most underserved populations. CHCs fill the gaps others cannot, ensuring that every New Yorker has access to care, regardless of insurance status or ability to pay.
- The CHC mission is about keeping people healthy, not just treating illness. By removing barriers to care and meeting patients where they are, patients get timely care, emergency rooms are less strained, and communities are healthier.

CHCs in Crisis: Mounting Financial Pressures Threaten Stability

- CHCs depend on Medicaid to keep their doors open. It is the single largest source of CHC revenue, accounting for 42% of total CHC revenue statewide.
- New York's outdated Medicaid reimbursement system—based on costs from **1999/2000**—has failed to keep pace with inflation, workforce costs, and growing demand, undermining CHCs' ability to operate.
- The Result: Decades of underfunding are leaving CHCs struggling to sustain services amid rising costs and workforce shortages—putting access to care for millions of New Yorkers at risk today.

HR1 Pushes Primary Care Safety Net Toward Collapse

- HR1 will leave CHCs with more uninsured patients and fewer resources. The new requirements HR1 imposes on Medicaid, the Essential Plan, and Marketplace coverage will increase eligibility redeterminations, impose Medicaid work requirements, threaten the Essential Plan, and reduce Marketplace subsidies. The impacts are disastrous:
 - 1.5 million New Yorkers could lose coverage
 - Uninsured patients at CHCs projected to triple
 - CHCs lose \$300M annually (~11% of all revenue)
 - 1,700 CHC jobs lost statewide, including more than 1,000 clinical staff.
 - Mission-critical services at highest risk include school-based health centers, OB/GYN programs, dental care, and urgent care/same-day access

The Fix: \$300M Investment in CHC Medicaid Rates

- Legislative action is the only path to stability. CHCANYS urges lawmakers to invest in CHCs so they can remain open, serve growing number of uninsured New Yorkers, and continue delivering high-quality care.
- Investing \$300M in CHC Medicaid rates (\$150M state share) will provide needed support.
- CHCs save New York money. By preventing avoidable emergency room visits and hospitalizations, CHCs reduce long-term Medicaid and public program costs.

***Investing in community health centers is investing in a healthier New York.
Our patients count on us. Can we count on you?***