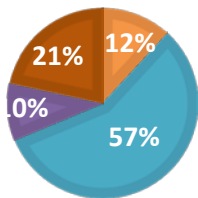Community health centers are non-profit, safety-net primary care providers that serve patient populations who face financial, geographic, language, and cultural barriers while accessing health care services. The community health centers in Rhode Island have a long history of providing the people of this state with high quality and low-cost primary health care. With 8 federally qualified health centers across 31 primary medical, dental, and behavioral sites throughout the state, they are able to provide such care.
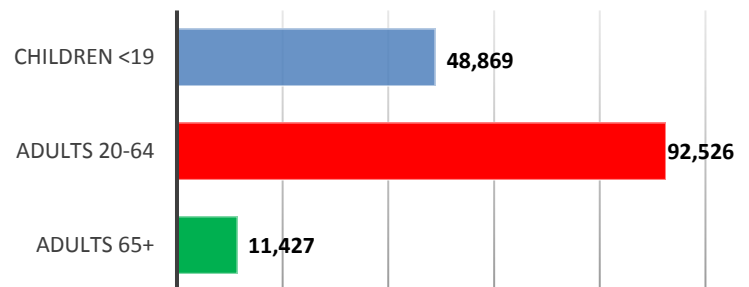
2015 Community Health Center Fact Sheet

The community health centers as a whole, continue to expand access to medical, dental and behavioral health services for all of their patients, whether they have public or private insurance or are uninsured. Across Rhode Island in 2015, community health centers served **152,822** patients and provided **630,812** patient visits, both increasing since 2014. All uninsured patients are able to pay for their health care on a sliding scale, based on their income. In 2015, Community health centers were able to provide over $7.35 million in discounted and free services to patients.

INSURANCE SOURCE

- Uninsured (18,102)
- Medicaid (86,856)
- Medicare (14,907)
- Private Insurance (32,957)

21% | 12%
0% | 57%

PATIENTS BY AGE

CHILDREN <19 — 48,869
ADULTS 20-64 — 92,526
ADULTS 65+ — 11,427

Health Center Staff

Rhode Island's community health centers contribute to the local economy through employment and purchases.

Rhode Island's community health centers employ **over 180 medical and dental providers** (doctors, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurse midwives and dentists).*

Rhode Island's community health centers employ **1,200 staff members**, including providers, medical assistants, case managers, dental hygienists and other staff necessary to serve our 152,822 patients.*

*Staff numbers are for full-time-equivalents, or FTEs; actual number of people employed is higher, as staff members may be part-time.

Investment in Community

Community Health Centers are responsive to their communities. By design, a majority of the governing boards of community health centers must be patients of the health center. In response to the need for our high-quality, affordable health care, community health centers have been growing at a steady rate. Since 2007, when the community health centers saw just under 100,000 patients, they have since expanded their capacity. More offices, increased evening and weekend hours, more patient rooms, more services have been added by the community health centers to meet their communities' primary healthcare needs.

Affordable Care Act

On January 1, 2014, Rhode Island expanded Medicaid eligibility to all Rhode Islanders with income under 138% of the federal poverty guidelines. The community health centers have seen their uninsured patients gain coverage. However, the community health centers continue to provide healthcare to over 18,000 uninsured patients

Health Center Funding

Community health centers, like all medical offices, receive payment for healthcare provided to their privately and publicly insured patients. As of 2014, the community health centers received about $16 million from a federal health center grant used to support the care community health centers provide to uninsured patients. These grants never fully covered the costs of this care. The federal funding is facing a cliff. Without action in Congress, the health centers are facing a 70% cut in this funding. In Rhode Island, this would mean an $11.5 million cut to community health centers, the loss of dozens (maybe even 100) of healthcare jobs and the loss of funding for care to about 14,000 of our patients.

Rhode Island's Community Health Centers

Blackstone Valley Community Health Care, Inc.
- Central Falls
- Pawtucket

Block Island Health Services
- Block Island

Comprehensive Community Action Program/Family Health Services
- Coventry
- Cranston
- Warwick

East Bay Community Action Program
- East Providence
- Newport

Providence Community Health Centers, Inc.
- Locations throughout Providence

Thundermist Health Center
- Wakefield
- West Warwick
- Woonsocket

Tri-Town Community Action Agency
- Johnston
- North Providence

WellOne Primary Medical and Dental Care
- Foster
- North Kingstown
- Pascoag

Wood River Health Services
- Hope Valley