



Rhode Island's Community Health Centers

2017 Facts and Figures



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. With 8 federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) across more than 30 primary medical, oral health, and behavioral health sites throughout Rhode Island, they are able to provide such care. The community health centers in Rhode Island have a long history of providing high-quality, low-cost primary medical, dental and behavioral health care to Rhode Islanders.

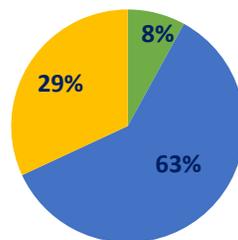
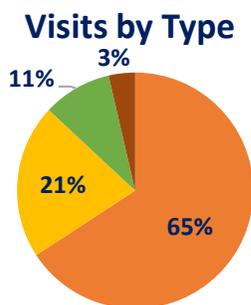


Impact on Rhode Island Communities

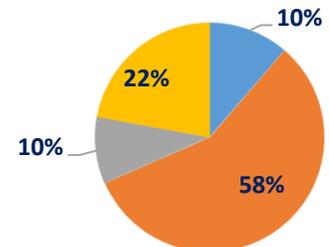
Together, the community health centers are one of the largest networks of primary, behavioral and oral health care providers in the state. Rhode Island's FQHCs serve a unique role in the health care delivery system within the state. Rhode Island has no county government, no municipal health departments, and no public hospitals; the FQHCs serve as the public primary care delivery system in the state. They provide primary care for more than one-third of the state's Medicaid beneficiaries, over 99,000 Rhode Islanders in 2017. In addition, the FQHCs also cared for approximately 17,000 uninsured patients during that time, offering ability to pay for health care on a sliding scale based on income. In 2017, community health centers provided over \$11 million in discounted and free services to patients.

Patients by Age

■ Adults 65+ ■ Adults 20-64 ■ Children



Insurance Source



■ Medical ■ Dental
 ■ Mental Health ■ Enabling/Vision/Other

■ Uninsured ■ Medicaid ■ Medicare ■ Private

Impact on Rhode Island Economy

Rhode Island's community health centers have a positive impact on the health care system, generating an estimated annual savings of over \$216 million in 2017.¹ They also contribute to the local economy through employment, tax revenues, and purchases of goods and services. The state's RI's FQHCs employ:

- Over 198 medical and dental providers (doctors, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurse midwives and dentists).²
- More than 1500 staff members, including providers, medical assistants, case managers, dental hygienists and other staff necessary to serve our 171,208 patients.²

¹NACHC. *Community Health Centers: The Local Prescription for Better Quality and Lower Costs.* <http://www.nachc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/LocalPrescriptionBrief.pdf>, March 2011.

²Staff numbers are for full-time-equivalents, or FTEs; actual number of people employed is higher, as staff members may be part-time.

Innovators in Integrated Care

Rhode Island's community health centers are innovators to meet needs identified by their communities, developing new ideas into meaningful programs and services. The demand for primary medical, dental, and behavioral health care has increased dramatically in recent years. Each FQHC provides dental services, serving 58,130 dental patients in 154,154 visits in 2017. The FQHCs also continue to invest in behavioral health services, serving 14,148 patients in 76,125 visits. RI's FQHCs have been innovative in their efforts to meet growing needs for this broad range of services in order to best serve their patients. They have renovated their space, provided more access points for care, and are constantly adjusting to meet their patients' unique needs.

Health Center Funding

Community health centers, like all medical offices, receive payment for healthcare provided to their privately and publicly insured patients. They also serve everyone regardless of ability to pay or insurance status. In 2017, the FQHCs received approximately \$26.9 million from federal health center grants used to support care provided to uninsured patients. Congress voted to extend current level funding for health centers for two years, which is set to expire in September 2019. Federal investment in health centers helped to insure access to healthcare for over 170,000 people in Rhode Island in 2017.

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

Coventry, Cranston and Warwick

East Bay Community Action Program

East Providence, Newport

Providence Community Health Centers, Inc.

Locations throughout Providence

The Providence Center

Cranston, Pawtucket, Providence, Wakefield, Warwick, Wyoming

Thundermist Health Center

Wakefield, West Warwick and Woonsocket

Tri-County Community Action Agency

Johnston, North Providence

WellOne Primary Medical and Dental Care

Foster, North Kingstown, Pascoag and Scituate

Wood River Health Services

Hope Valley