PRELIMINARY
FACT SHEET

# Washington State Community Health Centers

2014

26 COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS | OVER 210 SERVICE DELIVERY SITES 877,824 TOTAL PATIENTS

# INSURANCE STATUS 1% Uninsured Medicaid Private Insurance Medicare Medicare Basic Health and Public Insurance

## Key Safety Net Providers

Washington's Community Health Centers (CHCs) are local, non-profit, community-owned health care providers serving low-income and medically underserved communities.

In 2014, CHCs were the health care home for **877,824** individuals. Of these patients:

- 21% of patients were uninsured (187,608)
- 57% of patients were on Medicaid (499,624)
- 35% of patients were age 19 and under (308,265)

CHCs form a statewide network of thousands of staff exchanging information, ideas, and best practices. In this way, CHCs leverage their resources to expand health care access to more patients, creating Washington's largest primary care safety net.

ESSENTIAL ESSENTIAL

## Experienced

Washington health centers have over 40 years of experience delivering quality primary care tailored to the needs of underserved populations in each community. Services include education, prevention and early intervention services that help patients lead full and productive lives.

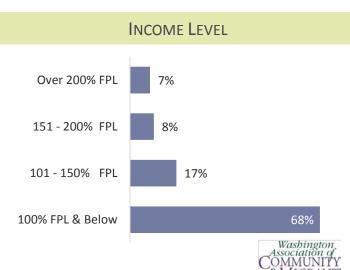
By investing in quality patient care on the front end, and encouraging a regular doctor/patient relationship, health centers prevent new health problems and minimize costs. CHCs continue to improve access to care by providing culturally sensitive care, health education, outreach, and case management in multiple languages. CHCs were instrumental in assisting uninsured patients to enroll in Medicaid during 2014.

CHCs are a positive and significant economic engine for Washington State. In 2013, Washington CHCs injected \$692 million in operating expenditures directly into local economies. These expenditures produced additional indirect and induced economic activity of \$620 million for an overall positive impact of \$1.3 billion. In addition, CHCs directly generated 6,483 full-time jobs and supported an additional 4,040 jobs in other industries<sup>1</sup>

### Essential

Washington health centers provide *access to all* patients who walk through the door, regardless of their ability to pay. The statewide network of CHCs:

- Reduce health care disparities. The majority of patients (68%) live at, or below the federal poverty level (FPL) and nearly one half of patients (49%) are visible minorities.
- Community Health Center staff in-person assisters enrolled nearly two-thirds of all Washington State uninsured patients into Medicaid<sup>2</sup>
- Provides a health care home for 30% of the state's Medicaid children (231,614).<sup>3</sup>



# WASHINGTON CHCs Provide A Wide Array of Services...

**PRIMARY CARE SERVICES** 

General primary medical care

Prenatal care

Dental care

Mental health treatment/

counseling

Substance abuse treatment/

counseling

Hearing screening

Vision screening

**Pharmacy** 

**PREVENTIVE SERVICES** 

Pap smear

Smoking cessation

HIV testing and counseling

Diabetes screening

**Maternity Support Services** 

Blood pressure monitoring

Blood cholesterol screening

Weight reduction programs

### WRAPAROUND SERVICES

Outreach

Case management

Eligibility assistance

Health education

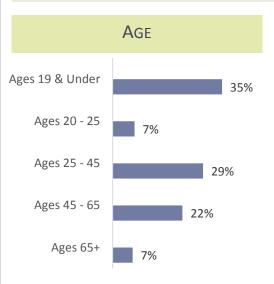
Interpretation/translation services

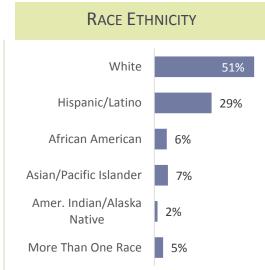
Transportation

### Efficient

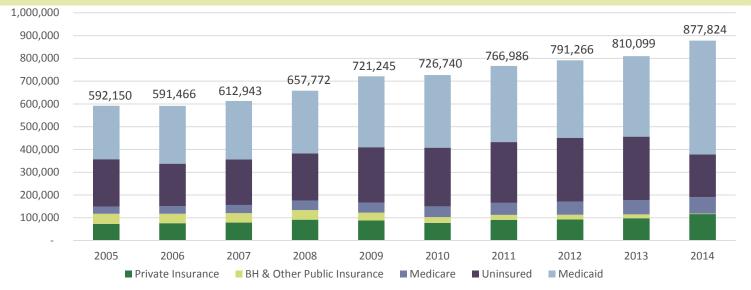
CHCs are part of the health care solution. More than 1 in 10 of all visits by Medicaid patients to Washington State emergency rooms could have been avoided.<sup>4</sup> Community Health Centers work to reduce the non-emergent visits by providing health homes to their patients and actively engaging them in their care. From providing effective chronic disease management to patients and receiving evidence based clinical practice from their providers, CHCs deliver good health outcomes in their communities and are extremely efficient.

By zeroing in on conditions that significantly drive up costs - such as asthma, diabetes, and hypertension - health centers simultaneously improve patient health and control unnecessary spending. This model reduces the need for more expensive hospital in-patient and specialty care and produces significant savings for the health care system.





### ALL CHC PATIENTS BY INSURANCE STATUS - WASHINGTON STATE, 2005-2014



Data Source – The data used in this fact sheet comes from the Uniform Data System (UDS), a core system of information appropriate for reviewing the operation and performance of health centers. UDS is a reporting requirement for Health Resources and Service Administration grantees, including community health centers. The following methodology was utilized:

- Total patient, demographic, and insurance data: 2014 data is from 24 of Washington's Community Health Centers.(CHCs)
- All Patient Insurance Status data 2005-2014: Numbers include 22 original WACMHC members in 2005, expanded to 24 current CHCs in Washington



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>"The Economic Impact of Washington's Community Health Care Centers." Capital Link, December 2013.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> CHC enrollments compiled by Health Benefit Exchange for the Medicaid program from October 2013 to October 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Health Care Authority enrollment figures for the Medicaid program: 758,080 Total patients children 0-19 December 2014.

<sup>4 &</sup>quot;Right Care, Right Setting, A Report on Potentially Avoidable Emergency Room Visits in Washington State." Washington Health Alliance, Jan. 2015.