

State Funding For Community Health Centers - 2008



Source: State Policy Report #18, gaining Ground II: State Funding, Medicaid Changes and Health Centers NACHC, August. 2007; NCSL direct research, 2008



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State Funding for Community Health Centers (CHCs)

- As the backbone of the nation's primary care safety net, 1,150 community health centers will serve more than 17 million low-income and uninsured people in 2008.
- Through the President's Health Center Initiative, federal funding for CHCs increased from \$1 billion in 2000 to nearly \$2 billion in 2007.
- To help meet the growing demand for health services, many states supplement federal funds with state dollars. Thirty-five states and the District of Columbia fund health centers for a total of \$590 million in 2008; 26 increased their funding in 2008.
- A 2007 study showed that medical expenses of patients who used CHCs as their medical homes were 44% lower than expenses of patients seen elsewhere, saving the health care system between \$9.9 billion and \$17.6 billion per year.
- Health Centers have improved screening rates and health outcomes, and have reduced disparities for their patients by providing a comprehensive medical home, engaging in quality improvement initiatives, delivering patient-centered care, and using a "team approach" to care.

Sources: *State Policy Report #18, Gaining Ground II: State Funding, Medicaid \ Changes and Health Centers*, National Association of Community Health Centers, August 2007; *The Primary Care Payoff*, The Robert Graham Center, Aug. 2007; *Health Care Quality Survey*, The Commonwealth Fund, 2006.