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
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.