



# Introduction to Community Health Centers

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February 28, 2022

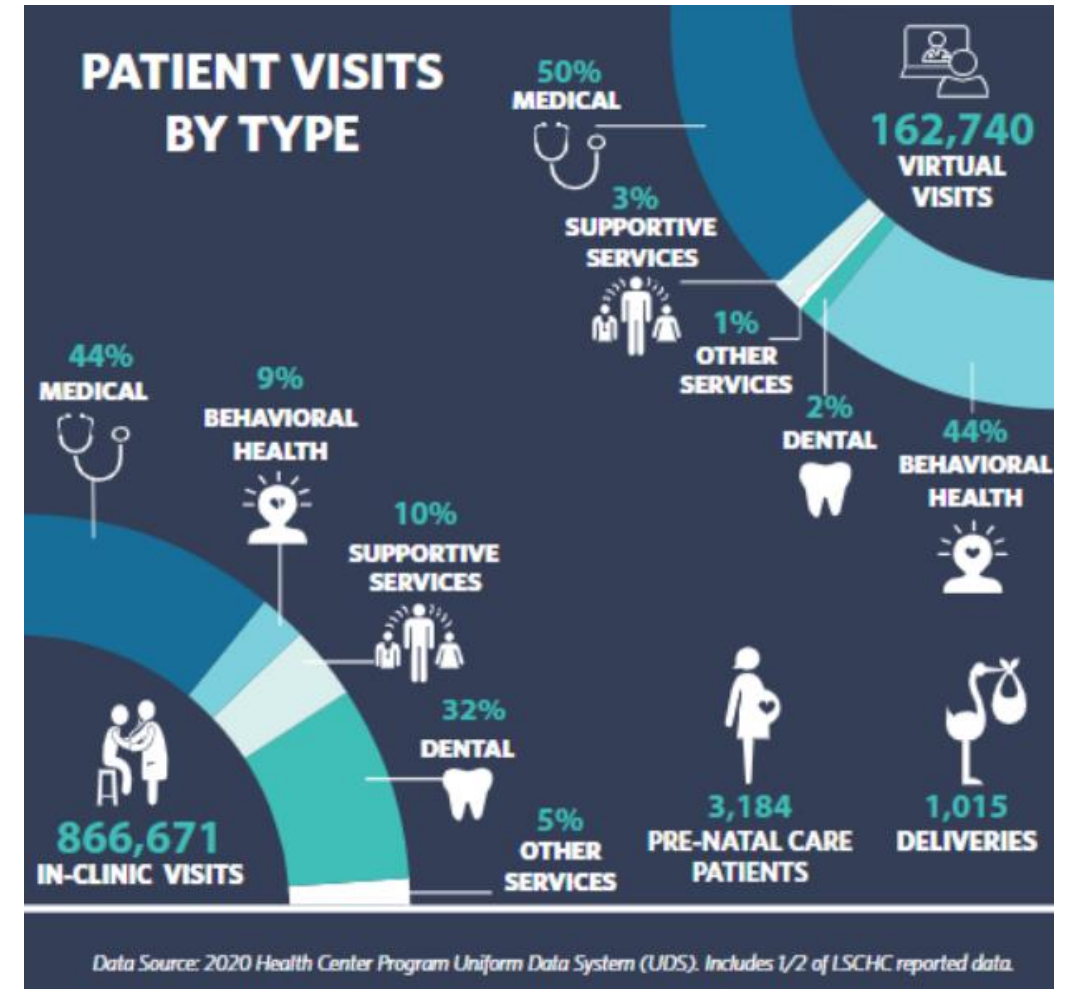


# What is a Community Health Center?



Community Health Centers (CHCs) are clinics that provide primary, behavioral, and dental services regardless of a person's ability to pay for those services.

They are also known as Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs).





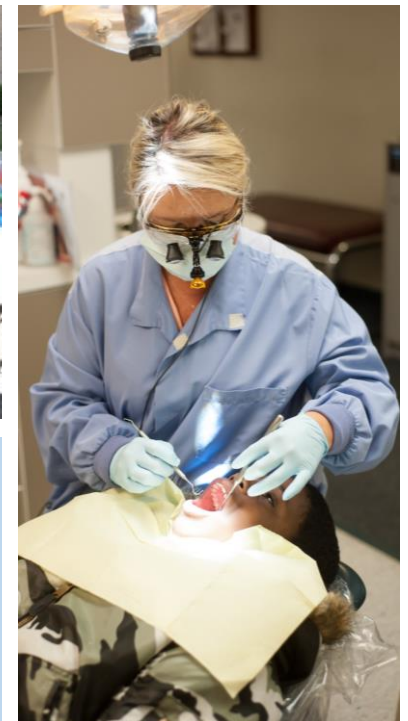
# History of the Community Health Center Movement

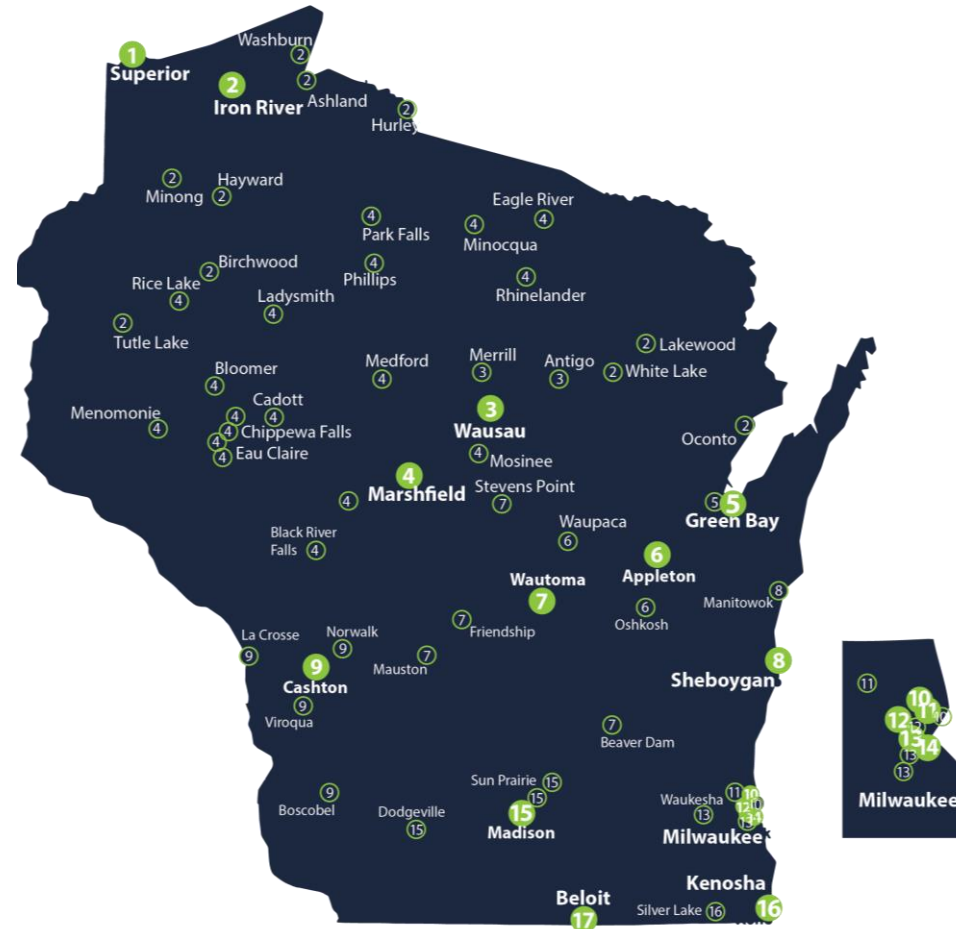


# What are the requirements of Community Health Centers?

Community health centers must be:

- A nonprofit tax-exempt organization or public entity
- Located in a Medically Underserved Area (MUA) or serving a Medically Underserved Population (MUP)
- Apply for, and receive, a competitive federal CHC grant to offset the cost of serving patients that are uninsured
- Governed by a community-based board, meaning 51% must be health center patients!





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|---|---|
| 1. Lake Superior Community Health Center  | 10. Outreach Community Health Centers     |
| 2. NorthLakes Community Clinic            | 11. Milwaukee Health Service, Inc.        |
| 3. Bridge Community Health Clinic         | 12. Progressive Community Health Centers  |
| 4. Family Health Center of Marshfield     | 13. Sixteenth Street                      |
| 5. N.E.W. Community Clinic                | 14. Gerald L. Ignace Indian Health Center |
| 6. Partnership Community Health Center    | 15. Access Community Health Centers       |
| 7. Family Health La Clinica               | 16. Kenosha Community Health Center       |
| 8. Lakeshore Community Health Care        | 17. Beloit Community Health Systems       |
| 9. Scenic Bluffs Community Health Centers |   |



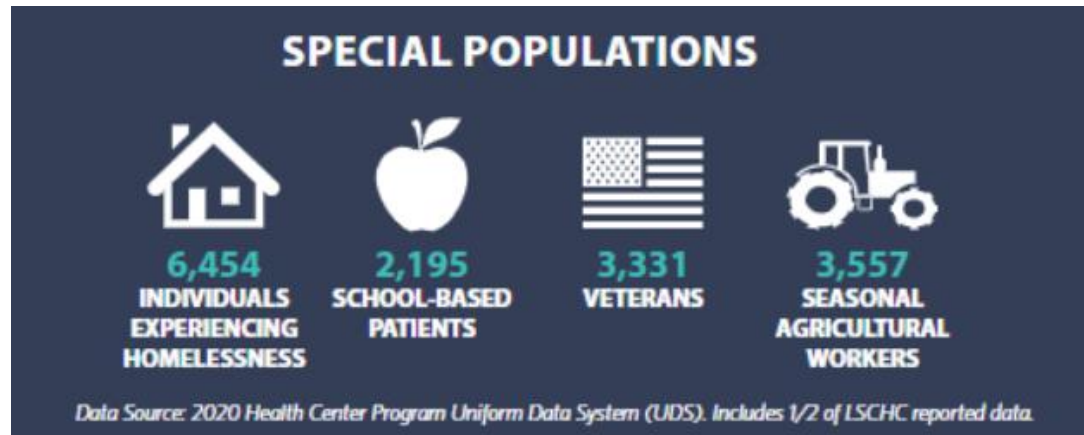
# How do Community Health Centers improve access to care?



CHCs take a holistic approach to care and provide services that address the social determinants of health (SDoH). Below are some examples:

- Sliding scale fees for low-income and under-insured patients
- Legal services
- Transportation
- Food assistance programs
- Health literacy/patient education
- Community outreach

# What patients do Community Health Centers serve?



- Most common patient populations:
  - People with income below 200% FPL
  - Medicaid
  - Uninsured/underinsured
- Special populations
  - As defined by Sec. 330 PHS Act

# What unique services do Community Health Centers provide?



Wisconsin Seal-A-Smile



Mobile Dentistry





# What Makes Health Centers Unique?



- Mission-mindedness
  - Provide care in high need communities
    - I.e., medically underserved areas, medically underserved populations
- Public health sensibility & impact on patient care model
  - Patient-centered
  - Cultural humility
  - Trauma-informed
  - Team-based/integrative

# What Makes Health Centers Unique?



- Patient-ready practice
  - CHCs have an established client base and office space with the tools and support to start seeing patients right away
- Skill development
  - Unique populations with medical/dental/behavioral needs
- Loan repayment options
  - State: Wisconsin Office of Rural Health
  - Federal: National Health Service Corps (NHSC)

# Thank you!

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