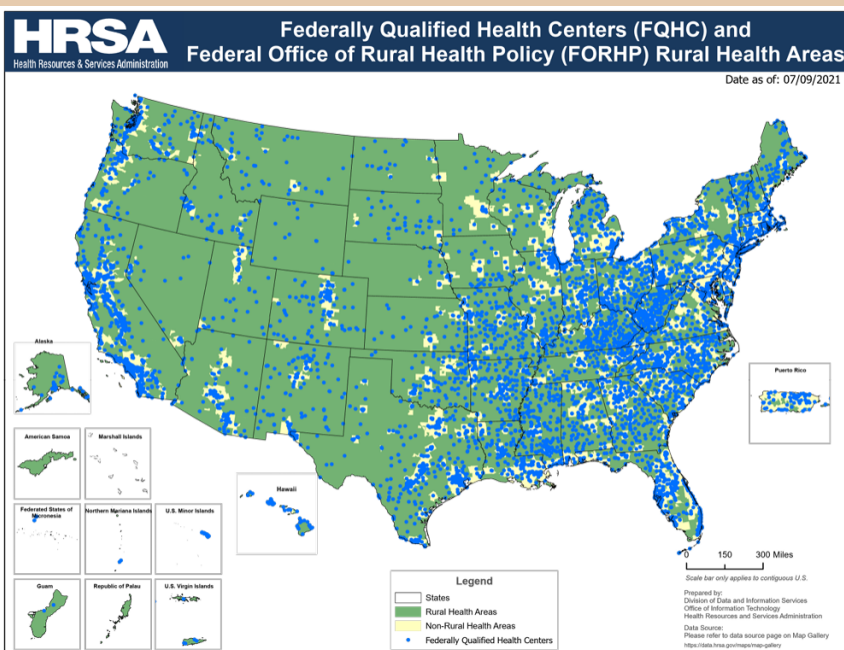


Rural Community Health Centers

Community Health Centers are nonprofit safety net providers in rural areas providing high-quality, affordable primary care, which includes oral health, mental health, substance use, and enabling services such as transportation or translation services.



Community Health Centers

- Offer an income-based sliding fee schedule regardless of patients ability to pay.
- Employ interdisciplinary teams.
- Deliver care coordination and other enabling services that facilitate access to care.
- Are patient-governed, community organizations.

Nationally, there are over 15,550 health center sites including:

- Community Health Centers
- Health Care for the Homeless
- Migrant Health Centers
- Primary Care in Public Housing
- School-Based Health Centers



1 in 7 rural residents
served

Benefits of health center status include:

- 330 PHSA Grant Funding
- FTCA Malpractice Coverage
- FQHC PPS Medicare and Medicare Payment
- 340B Drug Pricing Program Eligibility
- National Health Service Corps Eligibility



9.6 million rural patients
served annually

NRHA Supported Legislation

Extension of Federal Funding for CHCs

Support extension of mandatory federal funding for community health centers, through either H.R. 5378 Lower Costs More Transparency Act or S.2840 Bipartisan Primary Care and Health Workforce Act, to ensure high-quality low-cost preventive care in rural areas.



EASE Act (H.R. 7149)

Create a virtual specialty network demonstration that offers integrated services in rural communities to test the effectiveness of increasing access to specialty care and facilitating transitions to value-based payment.

CONNECT for Health Act of 2023 (S. 2016/HR 4189)

Expand coverage of telehealth services through Medicare and making permanent COVID-19 telehealth flexibilities for community health centers and Rural Health Clinics.



Health Care Workforce Innovation

Scale up promising community-based workforce development programs by authorizing partnerships between Community Health Centers, high schools, community colleges, and Area Health Education Centers to develop preceptorship training-to-practice models for medical, behavioral, and oral health care professionals in integrated community-driven settings.