Impact of COVID-19 on Community Health Centers

July 24, 2020
We are a non-partisan, nonprofit that aims to improve health, social and economic conditions through nonpartisan research, policy analysis, communications and advocacy.

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Advocates for Ohio’s Future

Advocates for Ohio’s Future (AOF) is a nonpartisan coalition of over 500 Ohio organizations that promotes health and human service budget and policy solutions so that all Ohioans live better lives.

Our coalition believes in investing in our state’s most valuable resource—our people—to ensure that they are safe, healthy, and can access pathways to prosperity for themselves and their families.

Kelsey Bergfeld, Coalition Manager
kbergfeld@communitysolutions.com | www.advocatesforohio.org
175 S. Third Street, Suite 350 | Columbus, OH 43215
614-745-0740 ext. 305
Ohio Association of Community Health Centers

- Non-Profit membership organization representing Ohio’s Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) & FQHC Look-Alikes (FQHCLAs) – commonly referred to as Community Health Centers

- **Mission:** To ensure access to high-quality affordable health care for all Ohioans through the growth and development of Ohio's Community Health Centers
What is a Community Health Center?

- Community-based and patient-directed organization, delivering comprehensive, culturally competent, high-quality primary health care services

- The **LARGEST primary care network in Ohio** (and the country)!
  - Comprehensive care to 1 in 14 Ohioans
  - 850,000+ unduplicated patients
  - 56 Organizations with 400+ sites
  - In 71 of Ohio’s 88 counties

Image source: Centerpoint Health
Mission Driven

- **Mission**: To provide accessible, comprehensive, and quality primary health care services to medically underserved communities and vulnerable populations

- **Cornerstones**
  - Independent, non-profit or public community-based
  - High-quality and affordable primary care and preventive services
  - Open to all regardless of insurance status or ability to pay
  - Must serve a high-need, medically underserved area or population (MUA/MUP)
  - Governed by the community (>50% board members must be patients)
Ohio Patient Demographics

**Ages Served**
- Under Age 21
- Aged 21 - 44
- Aged 44 - 64
- Aged 65+

**Income Levels**
- 100% and Below
- 101 - 150%
- 151 - 200%
- > 200%

Source: 2018 UDS data
Required Services

- **Primary, Preventive, Enabling**: Provided onsite or through established written agreements and referrals

  - Mental Health
  - Substance Abuse
  - Pharmacy
  - Immunizations
  - Well Child
  - Gynecology
  - Obstetrics
  - Family Planning
  - Pre/perinatal
  - Preventive Dental

  - Diagnostics
  - Screenings
  - Specialty
  - Case Management
  - Health Education
  - Outreach
  - Transportation
  - Translation
  - Emergency Medical Services

90+ Onsite Dental Centers
Types of Providers & Visits

- **Providers**
  - Primary Care Physicians
  - OB/GYNs & Certified Nurse Midwives
  - Pediatricians
  - Nurse Practitioners
  - Physicians Assistants
  - Dentists
  - Psychiatrists
  - Optometrists
  - Pharmacists
  - Behavioral Health Providers
  - Nurses
  - Dental Hygienists

- **Visits**
  - Medical
  - Dental
  - Mental Health
  - Substance Use Disorders (SUD) including Opiates
  - Pharmacy
  - Vision
  - Enabling (care coordination, translation, financial eligibility)

Ohio CHCs currently employ more than 6,500 FTE staff: from 2013-2018, that number DOUBLED!
COVID-19 Impact on CHCs
### Number of Patients Tested

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patients Tested for COVID-19, Any Test Type</td>
<td>6,289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Racial and/or Ethnic Minority Patients Tested for COVID-19, Any Test Type</td>
<td>31.26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patients Tested Positive for COVID-19, Any Test Type</td>
<td>516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Racial and/or Ethnic Minority Patients Positive for COVID-19, Any Test Type</td>
<td>55.23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data source: [Ohio Health Center COVID-19 Survey Summary Report](https://example.com)

For one week only (week ending July 10, 2020). 38/56 health centers reporting.
### Operations and Staff

#### CHC Weekly Visits Compared to Pre-COVID 19 Weekly Visits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHC Weekly Visits Compared to Pre-COVID 19 Weekly Visits</td>
<td>81.32%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Health Center Sites Temporarily Closed

- Number of sites temporarily closed: 27

#### Staff Tested Positive for COVID-19, Virus Detection (PCR, antigen)

- Number of staff tested positive: 4

#### Health Center Staff Unable to Work (due to site/service closure, exposure, family/home obligations, lack of PPE, etc.)

- Percentage of staff unable to work: 7.89%

#### Average Percent of Health Center Visits Conducted Virtually

- Average percent of visits conducted virtually: 36.97%

Data source: [Ohio Health Center COVID-19 Survey Summary Report](https://example.com).

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CHCs and Testing
State of Testing: General Overview

- **Capacity** – Private or State?
- **Types** – Diagnostic (Viral/PCR or Antigen) or Serology (Antibody)
- **Methods** – Ongoing, Popup with National Guard, Community Events, Combination
- **Challenges**—Supplies/PPE/Turnaround times/Patient or Community testing

- **Caveat** – A CHC testing strategy depends on community and patient needs. Additionally, their use of types of testing, methods of testing, and challenges are all a bit different. It is important to call a local CHC to find out about testing capabilities.
State of Patient Care: Inside Health Centers

- Importance of calling first
- COVID screening on arrival
- In-person vs virtual visits
- Telehealth expansion
- Access to comprehensive services
- Concern over delayed care
- Using COVID and need for COVID testing to link patients needing ongoing care
Policy Reforms: During & After the Pandemic
State and Federal Priorities

- Preservation of Medicaid: coverage and services
- FMAP to 14%
- Telehealth (state and federal)
- 340B: federal discount drug pricing program
- Emergency Funding: community testing, PPE, testing supplies, underutilization
- Long-term CHC funding
Keeping Community In Community Health

- Ohio’s Community Health Centers:
  - Are fully integrated, team-based care practices
  - Excel at implementing evidence-based models
  - Are held to the highest quality standards
  - Accept all, regardless of ability to pay or insurance status
  - Are laser-focused on data analytics and positive patient outcomes
  - Provide wraparound services to support patients’ SDOH

Are locally-cultivated, patient-centered, and OPEN and SAFE for all Ohioans!
Contact Information

Julie DiRossi-King, COO | jdirossi@ohiochc.org
Dr. Dana Vallangeon, CMO | dvallangeon@ohiochc.org
Kelly Carey, Director of Policy & Public Affairs | kcarey@ohiochc.org
Become a CHC advocate: www.ohiochc.org/advocates

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Questions?

A recording of today’s webinar and the slides will be available at CommSols.com/WebinarCHCImpact