Building Health Center Power

Mid-Western Forum for Migrant Community Health

4.25.23

In 2021, for the first time in a single year, health centers served over 30 million patients.
America’s Voice for Community Health Care
The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) was founded in 1971 to promote efficient, high quality, comprehensive health care that is accessible, culturally and linguistically competent, community directed, and patient centered for all.
The Migrant Health Act provides for financial and technical aid to public and private non-profit agencies that provide community health services to migrant farmworkers and their families.

1962: The Migrant Health Act
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1965: The first Community Health Center established with two sites in Columbia Point, Boston, MA & Mound Bayou, LA
The Growth of the Health Center Movement

Patients
Investing in a National Strategy…

NACHC
State Associations
Health Center Staff
Board Members
Patients
Allies
Other Stakeholders
Let’s Get Started

Organizing is leadership that enables constituency to turn its resources into the power to achieve its goals by:

Equipping **people** (constituency) with the **Power** (**story** & **strategy**) to make **Change** (**real outcomes**).

Credit: Marshall Ganz, Hauser Center Harvard Kennedy School Marshall.ganz@harvard.edu
Making the Implicit – Explicit: Share Your "Why"
Building Power to Sustainably Deploy Power

Organizing Train-the-Trainer in Jan 2023

- Storytelling – Challenge, Choice, Outcome

- Building reciprocal relationships – moving beyond transactional engagement
  - Leadership that is exponential
    *success = developing leadership of others
  - People most impacted – at the center

- Strategic goals based on change that needs to happen; shift power
Organizing Cycle

01. Awareness
02. Build Power
03. Deploy Power
04. Win! Celebrate! Learn!
Community Health Centers

Who is already building **trusted relationships** with migrant workers in your community?

*Promotoras & Outreach Workers

Where do you **see** change in your community?

How can this way of being **reduce fatigue** in the health center movement?

When and with whom will you **invite to join** you in building power to sustain the vital work and presence of health centers?
Legislative Strategy 2023

Health centers are the health care home for many of America's historically underserved communities, including:

1 in 5 uninsured Americans
1 in 3 Americans living in poverty
1 in 5 rural Americans

1.3 million people experiencing homelessness
8.6 million children
nearly 400,000 veterans
3.3 million elderly patients
Balance of Power in the 118th Congress

Senate

Democrats 51
Republicans 49
Republicans 222

House

Democrats 212
Dynamics of House Republican Conference

Balancing Act for Speaker McCarthy
The Speaker vote demonstrated that Republican Conference is not completely aligned, and the narrow majority will make big-ticket bills difficult.

Focus on Spending
“Spending fatigue” is real and will take center stage as part of debt ceiling discussions but will continue throughout the next two years.

Adjustment to Governing
Nearly 40 percent of House Republicans have never been in the Majority. They are from districts that are 10 points more likely to be Republican than the national average.

Oversight is a Priority
The House Republicans will need to balance oversight priorities with typical governing responsibilities.
Health Center Legislative Priorities for 2023

Health Center Funding
• Expand the reach of the program to serve new communities
• Deepen the services to existing health center patients
• Shore up existing health centers to address inflation and workforce challenges

340B Pharmacy Program
• Building consensus with likely allies and unlikely partners around a new approach that stabilizes the program and protects access for health centers.

Workforce
• Advocate for continued funding that supports primary care providers
2023 Legislative Priorities: Preparing The Message for Elected Officials

Health Center Funding
...To extend funding and outline growth opportunities if there was additional funding

340B
...To add protections specifically for health centers and address discriminatory practices

Workforce
...To grow, recruit and retain a vibrant health center workforce through apprenticeships, training, and career laddering programs

Working Together for America’s Health Centers
Join us this summer on a Community Health Center Road Trip across the US!

National Health Center Week
The Roadmap to a Stronger AMERICA
#NHCW23
www.healthcenterweek.org
August 6-12, 2023
In the weeks leading up to #NHCW23, we will be “visiting” and highlighting each state and territory, sharing their accomplishments.

Beep beep! The #NHCW23 road trip across the US arrives in Indiana today. Indiana health centers proudly serve over 600K Hoosiers annually in over 350 delivery sites. #ValueCHCs @PrimaryIndiana #Hoosiers

"Championing Primary Care for All Hoosiers!"

#NHCW23 Kickoff Webinar
*open to all advocates*

Wednesday, May 24 at 3PM ET
Register here: https://bit.ly/41m6FHN
Join Us in the Health Center Movement!

Retweet of the Week
Help amplify the health center message on Twitter by joining our **Retweet of the Week** group!

Become an Advocate
Strengthen your role as an advocacy leader, be inspired by the stories of others and get health center policy updates when you **subscribe** to our Washington Update newsletter.

Social Media Resources
Use our **ready-made** health center graphics, messaging and other social media resources to share, inspire and motivate others.
Let’s Stand Together!

Credit:
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&
Building for Mission (BFM)