

ARRA Funding: Community Health Center Grants

Funding available in Virginia for Community Health Center grants

- **\$5.7 million**
- **24,390 additional patients**
- **180 jobs needed**

On March 2, President Barack Obama announced the release of \$155 million in grants authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to support 126 Community Health Centers across the country. These New Access Point grants alone will help provide health services to 750,000 Americans and create 5,500 jobs.

Over the next two years, a total of \$2 billion in ARRA funding will be invested in Community Health Centers to support renovations and repairs, investments in health information technology, and critically needed health care services. There are [117 health care centers in Virginia](#).

Federally-funded health centers care many Virginia citizens, even if they have no health insurance. Patients pay what they can afford and is based on income. Health centers provide:

- checkups when citizens are well
- treatment when citizens are sick
- complete care during pregnancy
- immunizations and checkups for children
- dental care and prescription drugs for families
- mental health and substance abuse care when needed

Health centers are in most cities and many rural areas.

Key Facts about Community Health Centers

One of every 19 people living in the United States now relies on a HRSA-funded clinic for primary care.

Nearly 1,100 health center grant recipients operate more than 7,000 community-based clinics in every state and territory, giving geographically isolated or economically distressed people access to preventive and primary health care.

HRSA-supported health centers treated more than 16 million people in the United States in 2008.

Nearly 40 percent of patients treated at community health centers have no health insurance and one-third are children.

Community Health Centers are a key source of local employment and economic growth in many underserved and low-income communities. Centers across the country support

over 105,000 jobs, including physicians, nurses, dentists, and other health professionals; leveraging over \$9 billion in needed health services. According to a [recent study](#), Community Health Centers injected \$7.3 billion of operating expenditures directly into their local economies; produced additional indirect economic activity of \$5.3 billion; and created an estimated additional 53,000 jobs for local communities.

VACo will continue to monitor grant opportunities, deadlines and key information as it develops.

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