Value of Colorado's Community Health Centers
Providing over 50 years of accessible & affordable primary care to Coloradans

**CHCs are leaders and innovators in:**

**Quality**
Colorado CHCs seek to lead the nation in quality health care, focusing on established quality metrics, including:
- Prenatal Care
- Cervical Cancer Screening
- Tobacco Use Screening and Cessation
- Childhood Immunizations
- High Blood Pressure
- HIV Linkage to Care

**Access**
CHCs provide a health care home for over 847,000 Coloradans, or one in seven people in the state. Located in high need urban and rural areas with limited access to affordable care, CHC patients receive comprehensive, patient-centered primary care including medical, behavioral, dental, and pharmacy services.

**Cost Savings**
Research shows the Community Health Center model results in lower per-patient spending compared to non-CHC patients. A 13-state study including Colorado found that CHC Medicaid patients had 24% lower total costs of care when compared to similar patients cared for in other settings.

**Workforce**
CHCs are vital to the economic health of Colorado communities as employers and businesses. CHCs train the next generation of health care providers and team members to serve in rural and underserved areas of the state. In 2020, CHCs provided 5,889 full-time jobs to Coloradans.

Community Health Centers (CHCs) provide affordable and high quality care to working families and communities that would otherwise not have adequate access to health care services. Colorado’s 20 CHCs are an important part of the state’s health care system, promoting wellness, and preventing and treating illness, including helping patients and communities respond to COVID-19.

**Colorado CHCs provided 2.6 million patient visits in 2020**

CHCs provide care for thousands of people who would otherwise slip through the cracks of our health care system, including 38% of Colorado’s uninsured and 22% of the state’s Medicaid population.

**CHC Patient Insurance Status**

- Medicaid 48%
- Private Insurance 18%
- Medicare 9%
- Uninsured 22%
- CHP+ 2%

**Partners in Medicaid**
Colorado CHCs are critical to Medicaid’s statewide reach, providing comprehensive care in underserved urban, rural and frontier communities. CHCs work closely with Colorado Medicaid and have played a large role in the Accountable Care Collaborative, Colorado’s regionally based Medicaid delivery system focused on access to primary and behavioral health care.

Fact Sheet Sources
1. Fact source: CHC data on patients served over an 18-to-24 month period of time, reported to CCHN in April 2021.
2. 2020 Uniform Data System Quality Metrics Reporting
3. Colorado CHC Statewide Market Share based on 2020 UDS
4. 5 Robert S. O’Connor et al., “Health Care Use and Spending for Medicaid Enrollees in Federally Qualified Health Centers Versus Other Primary Care Settings,” American Journal of Public Health, published online September 15, 2016, ahead of print Nov. 2016. 6 L. Elizabeth Goldman, MD, MC