



# Live. Well.

HAWAI'I PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION  
LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES 2011

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“Nobody ever got well  
because of insurance.  
Insurance may provide  
access, but it isn’t a caring  
doctor, a loving nurse, or  
a nurturing caregiver.

Insurance doesn’t teach us  
how to live well.

People do.”

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# Community Health Centers: The Backbone of Our Health Care System

Develop and sustain a **STRONG PRIMARY CARE INFRASTRUCTURE**, to support Community Health Centers in the transformation of health care from a system focused on illness to one that promotes wellness.

A key solution for what ails Hawai'i's health care system is a growing and sustainable network of Community Health Centers that create vibrant, healthy communities.

Chronic diseases like diabetes, obesity, and hypertension cost our state's health care system billions of dollars. Person-centered care is vital to improving health outcomes for patients and reducing these long-term costs. In partnership with hospitals, specialists, health plans, and civic organizations, Hawai'i's health centers provide person-centered care in communities statewide.

Expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act will cause a significant increase in the number of patients seen at health centers. With thousands of residents soon eligible for expanded Medicaid coverage, strengthening and expanding health centers is the surest, soundest strategy for ensuring their access to person-centered care.

Community health centers are the backbone of our health care system, providing advanced, quality care to a third of all Medicaid enrollees and nearly a quarter of Hawai'i's population.

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# Omnibus Funding

Ensure that critical resources necessary for providing services to 125,000 existing patients - and the 107,000 potential patients entering the system in the next five years - are available to health centers statewide.

This funding request includes provisions for direct care services and infrastructure development.

The two most significant components of the omnibus funding bill are restoration of general funds for health centers and maintenance of the CHC special fund ceiling. These two critical funding pieces form the basis for health centers' ability to provide care. Maintenance of the ceiling for the CHC special fund - designed to provide for capital needs - will allow health centers to plan for future growth with a degree of certainty, and reinstatement of the general fund allocation enables centers to meet the growing demand for services.

In addition, resources for mandated outstation eligibility workers, children's outreach, and the Immigrant Health Initiative will support critical CHC services to underserved communities.

Development of health center infrastructure is now past a critical threshold: expansion of overcrowded facilities and implementation of information technology that are compliant with Meaningful Use rules are essential to meeting population needs and ensuring health care-/medical-home certification.

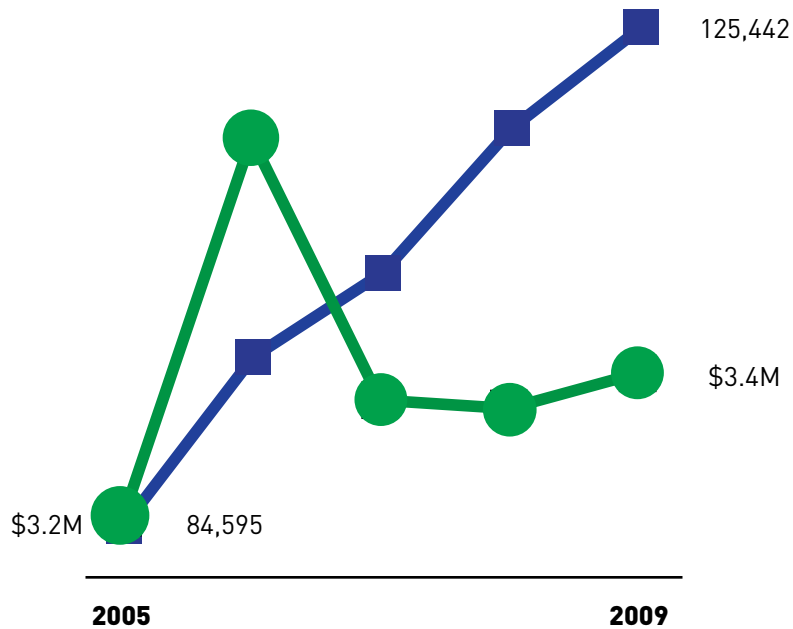
Finally, funding for the adult dental benefit in Medicaid not only addresses immediate oral health needs, but reduces other medical and social costs associated with poor dental health.

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## CHC PATIENT GROWTH

### UNINSURED FUNDING

EXCLUDES ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS



## FUNDING REQUESTED

Maintain Spending Ceiling of the CHC Special Fund	\$8.5 M
Restore General Funds for CHCs	\$6.0 M
Outstationed Eligibility Workers	\$100,000
Children's Outreach	\$600,000
General Outreach	\$80,000
Medicaid Adult Dental	\$5.07 M
Immigrant Health Initiative	\$550,000
Capital Funding	\$36.1 M
Health Information Technology (Meaningful Use)	
<b>Total Funding Request</b>	<b>\$57 M</b>

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# Patient-Centered Care

Maximize potential Federal resources available to transform, modernize, and innovate the Medicaid system. Guide implementation efforts and align state policies with the Affordable Care Act to recognize community health centers as ideal partners for patient-centered care.

The principal reason patient-centered care is widely recognized and supported by policy makers is its success in delivering on the Triple Aim: improving health outcomes, controlling costs, and enhancing the patient experience.

As early practitioners of many key elements that define patient-centered medical homes, health centers are specifically identified in Federal reform efforts to modernize the Medicaid system. Ensuring alignment with those Federal directives and the resources that are available to implement them will be essential for addressing the current financial crisis in Hawai'i's Medicaid program.

The proposed legislation establishes a 25-member council to develop and manage the State's efforts at establishing patient-centered care definitions, provider certification, payment reformation, and outcomes monitoring. The council will include members appointed by the Governor and the legislature who can best contribute to the successful implementation of patient-centered care for Medicaid enrollees.

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**PATIENT-CENTERED CARE IN COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS**

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Health centers provide comprehensive services that are integrated and coordinated.

Health centers focus on quality and are recognized innovators in the treatment and management of chronic illnesses.

Health centers have adopted information technology to help improve efficiencies, reduce errors, and improve patient outcomes.

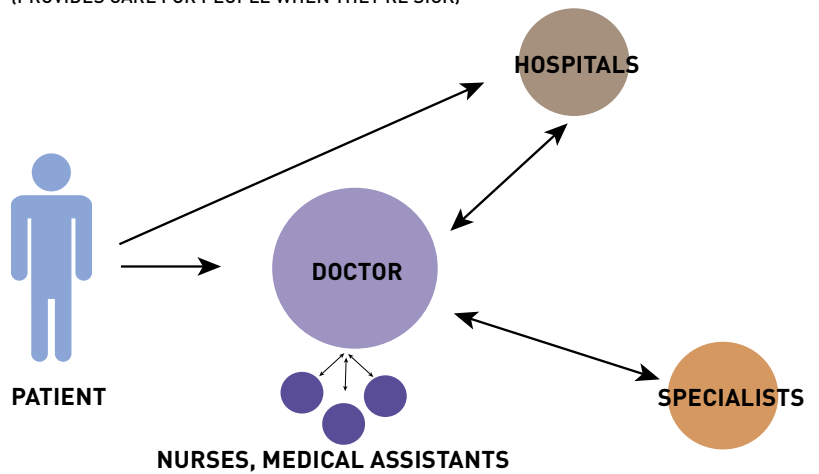
Health centers regularly partner with specialists, hospitals, and other community organizations.

**ACUTE, INCIDENT-BASED CARE**

*High cost, provider-centered, little coordination or proactive care.*

**HIGH COST**

(PROVIDES CARE FOR PEOPLE WHEN THEY'RE SICK)

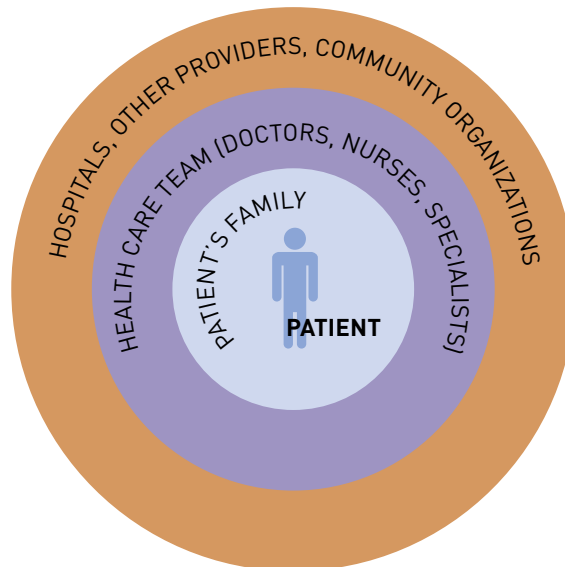


**PATIENT-CENTERED CARE**

*Focused on wellness, patient education & active participation*

**LOWER LONG-TERM COST**

(KEEPS PATIENT WELL AND IMPROVE HEALTH OUTCOMES)



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# Affordable Care Act Oversight Commission

Establishing a commission to provide oversight, transparency, and accountability ensures that Hawai'i meets its obligations and has access to Federal resources to modernize its health care system.

The landmark legislation known as the Affordable Care Act (ACA) sets into motion a wide array of responsibilities for state governments and their partners in the health care system.

In addition, funding opportunities in the law, some of which are already appropriated, offer significant assistance to states and other entities tasked with implementing the law's many provisions.

Issues like health insurance exchanges and Medicaid expansion present complex challenges that have many concurrent effects and rely on a number of uncertain variables.

Hawai'i's implementation of the essential provisions called for by ACA would be enhanced by the formation of an oversight commission that provides the appropriate level of transparency and accountability to the process.

Such a commission could ensure that the state meet its statutory requirements in an open and expeditious manner consistent with the requirements of ACA and Hawai'i's health care modernization and transformation efforts.

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# Health Care Workforce Development

Strengthening the health care system will require more than direct funding for programs or infrastructure. The most critical aspect of the health care system - its workforce - is inadequate.

Rural communities statewide, particularly on the neighbor islands, suffer from an acute lack of primary care providers (on average, a deficit of 20%). A significant percentage of physicians - estimated to be as high as 40% - are set to retire in the next ten years, exacerbating these shortages even further.

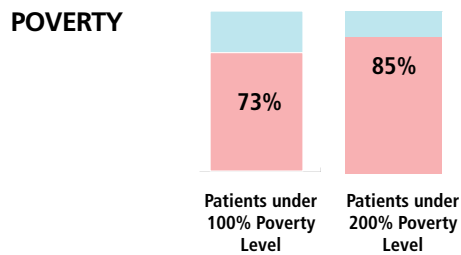
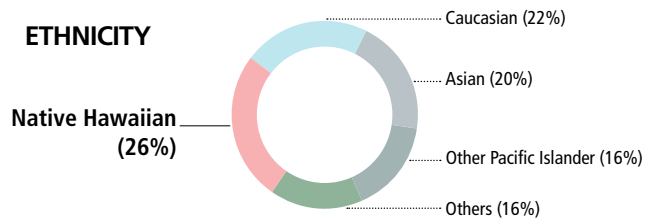
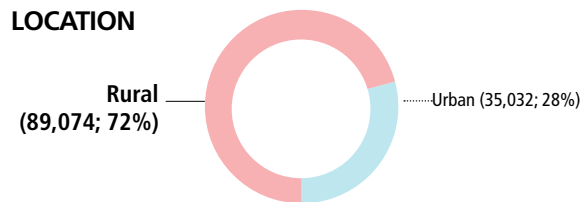
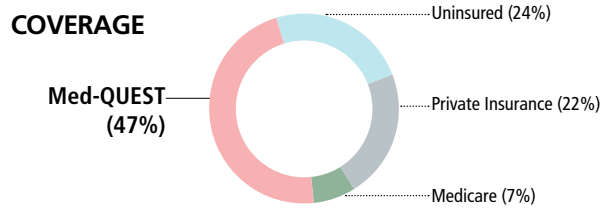
More importantly, as the health care system transforms into a more coordinated and integrated paradigm focused on wellness and patient-centeredness, the skills and competencies of the workforce will need to be supported with more advanced training and enhanced licensing models.

Partnerships among educational systems, residency programs, providers, hospitals, payors, and policy makers will be critical, as will comprehensive solutions that address enhanced support for financial, ancillary, and social needs of providers and their health care teams.

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## HAWAI'I COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER PATIENT PROFILE 2009



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# Hawai'i Primary Care Association

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The Hawai'i Primary Care Association improves the health of communities in need by advocating for, expanding access to, and sustaining high quality health care through our statewide network of Community Health Centers.

For more than twenty years, the Hawai'i Primary Care Association (HPCA) has been working on behalf of vulnerable populations throughout our state, and helping to establish access to primary health care services for everyone. HPCA has developed strong, productive partnerships with providers, health care organizations, lawmakers, policy officials, and public advocates to improve quality and access for over 125,000 people.

We believe in nurturing vibrant and healthy communities that work together, and are committed to the partnerships, innovation, and teamwork that will transform our health care system and improve the lives of all Hawai'i's people.

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