



The Community Health Center Association of Mississippi is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization of 21 community health centers in the state. Our mission is to support its members in their collaborative efforts, and advocate for the provision of equal access to quality, comprehensive health care services and for the elimination of health disparities in the state.

### **What is a Community Health Center?**

Community health centers are community-based and [patient-directed](#) organizations that deliver comprehensive, culturally competent, high-quality primary health care services. Health centers also often integrate access to pharmacy, mental health, substance use disorder, and oral health services in areas where economic, geographic, or cultural barriers limit access to affordable health care services. Health centers deliver care to the Nation's most vulnerable individuals and families, including people experiencing homelessness, agricultural workers, residents of public housing, and the Nation's veterans. Source: <https://bphc.hrsa.gov/about/what-is-a-health-center/index.html>

**What health services do Community Health Centers offer?** Community health centers provide quality, comprehensive [primary health care](#). Primary care includes medical, dental care, vision and behavioral health care services.

**How many people utilize Community Health Centers in Mississippi?** More than 305,000 Mississippians access primary care from one of Mississippi's community health centers. More than 100,000 of those receiving services are children.

### **How many Community Health Centers are in Mississippi?**

There are [21 Community Health Centers](#). These 21 entities operate more than 200 health care sites across the state. Sites include freestanding clinics in communities, school-based clinics, and mobile clinics. The Community Health Centers offer more than 200 access points to primary health care.

**Who uses the Community Health Centers? Everyone can see a provider at a community health center clinic.** Medical care is provided to those with government-provided insurance (Medicaid and Medicare), private insurance, and those without insurance on a sliding payment scale. No one is turned away due to ability to pay for primary health care, because community health centers are a safety net to those citizens in need of primary medical care. Community health centers are located in 71 of Mississippi 82 counties.