What’s an FQHC and Why Should You Care

Judd Mellinger-Blouch, Director, PA Primary Care Career Center
Quick History

- Outgrowth of the Civil Rights movement
- Started with 2 centers in Mississippi
- Supported by Ted Kennedy, Donald Rumsfeld, George Bush, AND Barack Obama
What Is an FQHC?

Federally Qualified Health Centers are Community Health Centers that offer comprehensive, quality Primary medical, behavioral and dental health care.
What Is an FQHC?
Fees based on ability to pay
Sliding fee scale for uninsured and underinsured based on income
What Is an FQHC?

Quality primary healthcare, open to all

FQHCs must accept patients and treat them the same regardless of their ability to pay.

The federal government monitors quality of care.
What Is an FQHC?

Highly competent healthcare professional team

Community Health Centers employee physicians, dentists, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, behavioral health clinicians, and many other accomplished, top-quality professionals.
What Is an FQHC?

Community control

A majority of the FQHC’s board of directors must be patients at the health center. This guarantees that the FQHC will reflect the culture and meet the needs of the community it serves.
If You’ve Seen One FQHC, You’ve Seen One FQHC

- Primary Health Network
- Lewistown PA Location
If You’ve Seen One FQHC, You’ve Seen One FQHC

- Big Urban
- Hamilton Health Center
- Delaware Valley Community Health
- Greater Philadelphia Health Action
- Primary Care Health Services
- ...and more
If You’ve Seen One FQHC, You’ve Seen One FQHC

- Small Urban
- Squirrel Hill Health Center
- Project HOME
- Sayre Health Center
- Sto-Rox Health Center
- ...and more
If You’ve Seen One FQHC, You’ve Seen One FQHC

- Suburban
- Delaware Valley Community Health, Norristown
- Community Health and Dental, Pottstown
- Community Health Clinic, New Kensington
- ChesPenn Health Services
If You’ve Seen One FQHC, You’ve Seen One FQHC

- Rural Big and Small
  
- Keystone Rural Health Consortia (Emporium)
- Broad Top Area Medical Center (Huntingdon)
- Glendale (Tyrone)
- ...and more
5 Reasons Why...

Physicians Choose FQHCs

- Quality of Life
- Clinical Autonomy
- Job Satisfaction
- Loan Repayment
- Quality of Care
Pennsylvania Primary Care Career Center

- Job listings and placements
- Scholarship and loan repayment information
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