blue 🗑 of california foundation

2015 – 2016 Community Health Center Core Support Initiative

Field Overview

The Foundation awards core operating grants to community health centers (CHCs) across California to support their capacity to provide healthcare services for low-income families and individuals in their community. These unrestricted funds offer the flexibility to respond to new demands and opportunities so that frontline providers can continue to serve many of the most vulnerable Californians. Below are survey findings from the 2015-2016 Core Support Initiative.

Regional Overview

Access to Health Care

Demand vs. Capacity

81% of CHCs reported that patient demand for services far or somewhat exceeds their capacity.



- Demand somewhat exceeds capacity
- Demand for services is usually met

Trends: Demand and Fiscal Health

As the number of patients has steadily risen over the last several years, demand continues to exceed CHCs' capacity to serve. Additionally, fiscal health continues to improve for the vast majority of CHCs, especially for those with annual budgets exceeding \$5 million.

		2013 - 2014	2014 - 2015	2015 - 2016
Demand: Somewhat/f	ar exceeds capacity	61%	79%	81%
Fiscal Health: Good/Ex	cellent	56%	68%	80%

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Grant-Funded Services

CHCs reported using grant funds mostly to maintain existing staff, programs, and services (31% for CHCs with budgets under \$5 million and 20% for CHCs with budgets areater than

ral: 26%	Maintain existing programs and services	23%
	Expand existing programs or services	11%
	Uncompensated care reimbursement	9%
	Organizational development and capacity building (e.g., staff trainings)	9%
	Maintain adequate clinical staff	8%
	Operating expenses (e.g., rent, utilities)	7%

Trends: Number of Clients and Encounters Per CHC

Over time, there has been a steady increase in the number of patient encounters, primary care visits, and patients served at each CHC.



	2010	2012	2014	2015
Avg patient encounters	77,652	82,190	88,344	95,592
Avg primary care visits	52,578	56,761	56,228	61,928
Avg patients served	22,826	23,226	23,276	24,583

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Patient Experience and Engagement

Patient Experience Efforts Taken to Improve Patients' Experience of and Engagement in Their Health Care Level of satisfaction with the more Established patient and family advisory groups technical elements of a visit (e.g., timeliness of appointment, Supported patients through medical decisions with aids/coaching staff friendliness, resolution of issues). Provided health navigators for patients **Patient Engagement** Created more inclusive environment for other cultures/languages 47% Level of interest and involvement in Offered patient emails, text messaging or other communications a patient's own health care (e.g., Made physical improvements to facilities asking in-depth questions, sticking with a recommended course of Encouraged patients to be more involved through self-management 66% action, sharing in the clinical decision-making process). Developed/optimized a team-based care model 79%

Data Collection: Social Determinants of Health and Enabling Services

The vast majority of of CHCs (88%) are collecting patient-level data regarding social determinants of health (e.g., housing status, language preference, etc.) as well as data on enabling services (e.g., transportation services, case management encounters) that patients may receive (85%).



How are CHCs Using this Data?

- Identifying/addressing patient needs
- Tracking and reporting to government agencies
- Determining staffing and infrastructure needs
- Informing case management & team meetings
- Referring patients

Value of Social Determinants and Enabling Services Data to Community Health Centers



Improves Patient Services



Helps CHCs Understand Patient Needs



Fosters Referrals and Partnerships



Informs Reporting, Communicating, and Fundraising



Improves Systems and Processes