

State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, community health centers are non-profit, community-owned and operated organizations that provide access to health care for all New Yorkers, regardless of their insurance status or their ability to pay; and

Whereas, community health care centers offer comprehensive primary and preventative health care services to approximately 2 million New Yorkers annually, two-thirds of whom live at or below the federal poverty level; and

Whereas, community health centers serve the health and well-being of the residents of New York State's urban, suburban, and rural communities, and their comprehensive model for delivering primary and preventive care has been recognized as one of the most successful at improving health outcomes and reducing health care costs; and

Whereas, community health centers have a strong record of excellence in care, disparities reduction, cost-effectiveness, and community benefit by fostering prevention and integrating the delivery of primary care with enabling services including aggressive outreach, patient education, and translation services; and

Whereas, community health centers educate and facilitate enrollment of eligible uninsured patients and service area residents into affordable health insurance coverage through the New York State of Health; and

Whereas, community health centers locally, regionally, and throughout the state are participating in chronic disease management projects that reduce disparities, improve health outcomes, and decrease costs; and

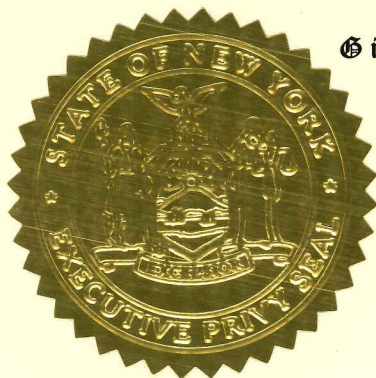
Whereas, community health centers work to reduce inappropriate emergency department usage and unnecessary hospitalizations by providing essential services known to be effective in preventing and managing chronic illness, such as: early disease identification and intervention, care management and coordination, and patient engagement; and

Whereas, New York State joins in the national observance of Health Center Week and this year's theme, "Celebrating America's Health Centers: The Key to Healthier Communities," highlighting the significant role of community health centers in expanding access to quality, affordable primary and preventive health care services to millions of uninsured and medically underserved people across our state and nation; we recognize the positive contributions of health centers in transforming health care by helping to create high-performing health systems and empowering patients to more fully participate in their own health care;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim August 13 - 19, 2017 as

HEALTH CENTER WEEK

in the Empire State.



G i v e n under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-sixth day of July in the year two thousand seventeen.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor