

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR (SAMPLE)**

Word Count: 183

Elected officials across the country are debating solutions for health care. Community Health Centers already address the most pressing concerns through their quality, innovative and cost-saving care. Health centers are an American success story -- saving lives and stimulating local economies. They are locally-run yet part of a national network that serves 1 in 12 Americans, or 28 million people. They save American tax payers $24 billion a year in health care costs by preventing and managing chronic diseases. They are not ordinary medical clinics; they are also problem-solvers who reach beyond the exam room to address what may cause illness – environmental factors, such as homelessness, stress, substance use or illiteracy. [DESCRIBE THE SERVICES AT YOUR LOCAL HEALTH CENTER].

Community Health Centers are proven models of health care and deserve sustained support from our leaders in Congress. [IF APPROPRIATE THANK YOUR REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS FOR SUPPORTING YOUR LOCAL HEALTH CENTER] As part of National Health Center Week 2019 (August 4-10th), we invite you to visit a Community Health Center in your neighborhood and celebrate their mission and accomplishments. Find out why local health centers are the best prescription for good public health.