



2019 State Policy Priorities

The Oregon Primary Care Association represents Oregon's 32 community health centers, also known as Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), who are held to high standards of health equity, quality, and access to services for all residents of Oregon. FQHCs deliver comprehensive and fully integrated primary care services to over 430,000 Oregonians in rural and urban areas across the state.

Health centers are rooted in innovation – begun in 1965 as part of a social movement to address health disparities within communities – health centers have a long tradition of identifying barriers to health care, understanding the importance of social determinants of health, and designing and delivering integrated services that impact health at the individual, family, and community level. Oregon's community health centers are pioneers in changing primary care delivery and are foundational to Oregon's transformation efforts, having demonstrated success in adopting alternative payment models and leading the state in implementing PCPCH 5 Star status to support the triple aim.

In 2019, we are working with policymakers and partners to advance policy in the following areas:

Ensure Access to Coverage and Care for Oregonians in Need

- Protect funding for the Oregon Health Plan
- Ensure patient choice in health plans, in both the Marketplace and CCOs
- Inform and expand ongoing implementation of Cover All Kids
- Increase access to treatment and supports for patients with substance and opioid use disorders
- Support and protect policies, such as the 340B Drug Discount Program to improve the quality of health care services through affordable prescription drugs for those in greatest need
- Strengthen and appropriately fund public health services, such as immunizations and maternal/child health services, in the appropriate health care setting

Help Patients Live Healthier Lives

- Encourage investment in Health-Related Services to improve the ability of community health centers and local partners to address the social determinants of health
- Bolster support for policies and funding that address the housing crisis
- Encourage adoption of CCO metrics to support health equity, social determinants of health, and population health to increase quality and health outcomes while reducing total cost of care

Take the Next Steps in Care Transformation

- Promote Oregon's successful community health center Alternative Payment Methodology and Advanced Care Model (APCM) as a strategy and/or model for primary care payment transformation with CCOs and OHA
- Ensure patients with complex social and medical needs gain improved, not decreased, access to care as Oregon develops new value-based care design and payment policies
- Strengthen community health center access to cost and utilization data to inform primary care transformation and innovation
- Incorporate community health centers value and expertise into CCO 2.0, in the contracting and in regulatory processes, ensuring FQHCs receive the resources to assure success in healthcare transformation