

SAFETY NET FUNDING



What is the Health Care Safety Net?

The Health Care Safety Net, administered by the Tennessee Department of Health, provides access to primary care, dental, mental health services, and care coordination for specialty services for uninsured adults ages 19-64.

The Health Care Safety Net partially offsets the cost of caring for uninsured adults in Tennessee. Services are delivered through Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), Community and Faith-Based Clinics (CFB), dental services and Project Access entities, which connects uninsured patients in metro areas with specialty care.

Health Care Safety Net Funding

Historic investments in the Health Care Safety Net have allowed community health centers to provide high-quality care to uninsured Tennesseans.

Recurring investments in the Health Care Safety Net provide the stability necessary to expand health care services, strengthen team-based and community-based care, and ensure uninsured Tennesseans receive the highest quality of care.

TPCA is advocating for an additional \$5M in recurring Health Care Safety Net funding which was included in the Tennessee Department of Health's budget proposal, but not in Governor Lee's budget proposal.

10.4%

of Tennessee's population lacked health insurance in 2022.

Community Health Centers provided

183,961

visits for uninsured adults and cared for

106,182

uninsured Tennesseans in FY 23.

An average of

29.4%

of Community Health Center patients are uninsured, although this is as high as

65.4%

in some centers.

64.7%

of Community Health Center patients have incomes below the federal poverty level.



Questions? Contact the TPCA Policy Team

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