

National Health Center Week Resolution – August 4 – 10, 2024

A Resolution

WHEREAS, for nearly 60 years, Community Health Centers have provided high-quality, affordable, comprehensive primary and preventative healthcare in our nation's underserved communities, delivering value to, and having a significant impact on, America's healthcare delivery system.

WHEREAS, some of the nation's pioneering health centers were founded in the City of Chicago to enable healthcare access for public housing residents and the Community Health Center Movement has a longstanding commitment to uprooting racial health disparities.

WHEREAS, today, our city is home to 24 Community Health Center organizations that care for roughly 700,000 Chicagoans at over 160 clinics in medically underserved areas annually – meaning that 1 in 4 Chicagoans receive care at a Community Health Center.

WHEREAS, the Community Health Center model continues to prove an effective means of overcoming barriers to healthcare access, including geography, income, insurance status, and the health-related social needs, and in doing so, improves health outcomes, strengthens health equity, and reduces healthcare system costs.

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers are innovative, industry leaders that continuously develop new patient-centered approaches to delivering a wide range of integrated, culturally and linguistically competent services, including primary medical care, mental health and substance use treatment, oral health services, vision, and pharmacy, to address the unique needs of our city's diverse communities.

WHEREAS, National Health Center Week offers the opportunity to recognize America's Community Health Centers, their tremendous staff, board members, patients, and all those responsible for their continued success and growth since the first Community Health Centers opened their doors more than five decades ago. During this National Health Center Week, we honor the ways America's Community Health Centers are rooted in communities and their vital role in shaping the future of the nation's healthcare system.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that City Council does hereby declare August 4 – 10, 2024, as Community Health Center Week in Chicago, and encourage everyone to visit their local Community Health Center to celebrate the important partnership between America's Community Health Centers and the communities they serve.

Alderman William Hall
6 Ward