

Arkansas Association of Charitable Clinics

FACTSHEET

Status:

- The number of uninsured persons in Arkansas is increasing at an alarming rate.
- Federal Government-sponsored programs are receiving cuts in funding in a number of ways, therefore exasperating a difficult situation.
- The Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured found that:
 - the uninsured are up to three times more likely than those with insurance to report problems getting needed medical care, even for serious conditions.
 - because the uninsured are less likely than the insured to have regular outpatient care, they are more likely to be hospitalized for avoidable health problems.
 - the uninsured are also less likely to receive timely preventive care.

Program:

New funding will: increase resources for the existing 24 clinics, enabling them to provide more care to a greater number of patients; expand to full services for all clinics; increase the number of delivery sites by five (one in North Little Rock, one in Pocahontas and three sites to be determined in rural areas); provide computers and software to enable patient tracking and scheduling, volunteer services, donor services, prescription dispensing, pharmacy management, Patient Assistance Programs, Chronic Disease Management, electronic medical records, e-prescribing, etcetera; and fund core leadership at the Association and each clinic.

Impact:

- Increase access for more primary health care services for more patients in existing clinics.
- Reduce mortality rates and hospitalizations for avoidable health problems among the uninsured.
- Increase prescriptions and medical supplies by 50%.
- Increase the number of services offered in 50% of the existing clinics.
- Increase medical education classes by 50%.
- Open 5 new clinics, one in North Little Rock, one in Pocahontas and three sites to be determined in rural areas.

How it Works:

- The Arkansas Charitable Clinics will continue to collaborate with volunteer medical professionals and those in communities to provide and increase medical services.
- Additionally, Charitable Clinics will continue to utilize the Prescription Assistance Program to provide medicine.

Administration/Oversight: The Arkansas Department of Health will develop performance standards to be met for all clinics receiving funds. Funds will be appropriated to the Arkansas Department of Health, Office of Rural Health and Primary Care. This office will generate a request for proposals to Arkansas Charitable Clinics soliciting support to enhance efficiency of operation, expand infrastructure and expand capacity of services.

