

Increase Coverage for Eligible Moms and Kids

Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs or health centers) are non-profit, community-driven healthcare providers serving low-income and medically underserved communities. Health centers provide comprehensive primary and preventive care, including medical, pharmacy, dental, mental health, and social support services.

In 2021, health centers served over **1.7 million Texans** of all ages. Health centers provide services to more than 400,000 children annually with Medicaid or CHIP and about **60% of health center patients are women**. Health centers are one of the largest provider types participating in state women's health programs like Healthy Texas Women.

Health centers reduce barriers to care by offering various social support services, including outreach and enrollment (O&E) support to assist and enroll eligible patients in Medicaid, CHIP, SNAP, TANF, the Healthy Texas Women Program, and the Health Insurance Marketplace. Health centers across the state employ more than 400 O&E workers to connect eligible patients with coverage. Connecting Texans with coverage increases the use of preventive and primary healthcare, saving costs in the healthcare system overall.



Outreach & Enrollment

420 Eligibility Assistance Workers

296,845 Coverage assists

64 FQHCs are Community Partners

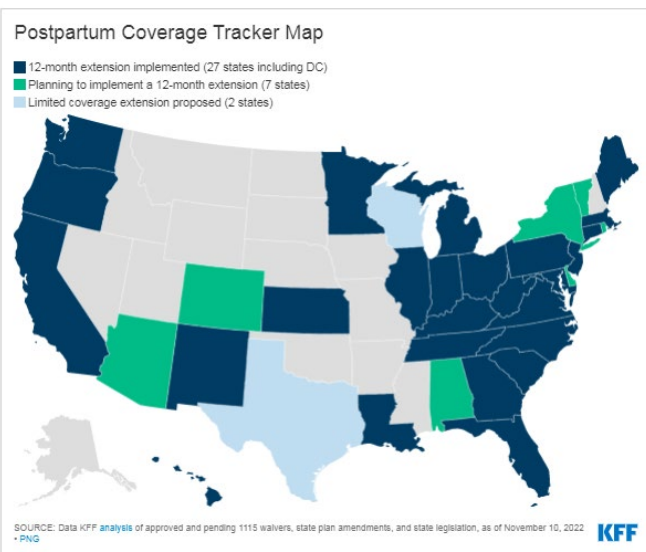
23 Outstationed Eligibility Workers



1. EXTEND MEDICAID COVERAGE TO 12 MONTHS POSTPARTUM

According to the Texas Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review Committee's 2022 report, nine out of ten pregnancy-related deaths in Texas were preventable. One-third of maternal deaths occurred 43 days to one year after pregnancy. The committee's top recommendation is to provide 12-month coverage postpartum.

As of December 2022, Texas is one of 16 states that has not adopted 12 months postpartum coverage.



2. INCREASE FUNDING FOR STATE WOMEN'S HEALTH PROGRAMS

Health centers are a major part of the network of providers that participate in many state programs supporting women's health, including:

- Healthy Texas Women
- Family Planning Program
- Breast and Cervical Cancer Services Program

Additional funding will support more preventive and primary care access for women, especially as women lose Medicaid coverage when the Public Health Emergency's extended coverage begins to unwind in April 2022.



3. DEDICATE FUNDING FOR THE COMMUNITY PARTNER PROGRAM

Legislators should re-establish state funding for HHSC's Community Partner Program to provide grants for outreach and enrollment activities performed by health centers and other community-based organizations. The Community Partner Program helps enroll eligible families in Medicaid and other programs, and relieves the burden on state eligibility workers and the 211-call center.