



Stimulus Dollars at Work in Michigan's Federally Qualified Health Centers

Kim E. Sibilsky, Executive Director
Michigan Primary Care Association
MLHS Public Policy Forum
10/29/2009



Michigan's Community Health Centers

- Michigan Primary Care Association is the membership association of Michigan's 29 Federally Qualified Health Centers and 3 FQHC "Look Alikes"
- Michigan's FQHCs serve over 600,000 people
- Michigan's Health Centers are located in over 160 designated underserved communities and neighborhoods



The Right Medicine

- Prior to ARRA, there was no direct HRSA capital funding to CHCs since 1996
- CHCs do not have access to capital that hospitals have through tax-exempt bond issuance, major capital campaigns and only recently to Kresge funding as the Kresge funding priorities have changed
- Rural CHCs have had USDA grants and loans and urban centers have been creative, but construction hasn't met the program expansion



The Right Medicine





The Right Medicine

- Though federal support has focused on increasing access to primary care through FQHCs CHCs are falling severely short in meeting capital needs for new/renovated buildings and information technology
 - Most CHC buildings are more than 20 years old
 - Some CHCs are in buildings as old as 110 years
 - 94% of CHCs nationally will rebuild or renovate in 5 years



The Right Medicine

- CHCs among first recipients of stimulus funding through HRSA's speedy processing
- Michigan FQHCs have fared well:
 - \$2.6 million in New Access Point funding to Ingham County CHC and Western Wayne FHC (3/09)
 - To serve additional 13,890 patients
 - Produce and protect 105 jobs





The Right Medicine

- \$8.5 million in one-time funding for operational costs in serving newly uninsured (3/09)
 - To serve 53,749 new patients (27,621 of which are new uninsured patients)
 - Retain or stimulate 152 jobs
 - Meet increase in demand for primary care services in depressed economy



The Right Medicine

- \$23.5 million to 29 CHCs for Health Center facility and equipment needs (6/09)
 - Supports construction, repair and renovation
 - First wave of health information technology funding
- 13 Michigan CHCs submitted proposals in a HRSA funded competitive process to fund major facility improvement between \$4 million and \$10 million to be announced the first week of November (8/09)
- In total to date, Michigan's FOHCs have received nearly \$35 million in ARRA funding





The Right Medicine for Health Information Technology

- Michigan's Health Centers have had support for network development through HRSA for the past decade
- Direct HIT funding is a new wrinkle through ARRA
- MPCA received \$1.8 million for 2 years to fund EHR for 5 health center organizations and expand the Virtual CHC Data Warehouse



The Right Medicine

- We have just been given notice by HRSA that they have a remaining pool of dollars for HIT that they will be distributing through competitive grants to Health Center Controlled Networks
- Also, the Regional Health Information Technology Extension Centers include CHCs "priority primary care providers" for subsidies which will impact health centers if Michigan receives funding

But Not the Cure

- ARRA one-time funding has created or supported nearly 300 jobs and is enabling Michigan Health Centers to provide care to over 67,000 additional patients
- But, comprehensive health reform is required to assure high quality, cost effective health care for the over 1 million uninsured residents of Michigan and the 1.5 million who lack a health care home



For More Information On CHCs and the Economic Stimulus

MPCA's Latest Report

Stimulus Funding for
Community Health Centers

The Right Medicine at the Right
Time, **But Not the Cure**

Available Online:
www.mpca.net

