



Valley
Community
Healthcare

Your neighborhood network of community health centers

MEDIA ADVISORY

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North Hollywood, CA---Today, because of Valley Community Healthcare and other health care agencies across the country, people are healthier. Communities are healthier. Parents can go to work, children can go to school, and tens of thousands of healthcare workers have good jobs that provide for their families.

As a direct result of the Affordable Care Act, Valley Community Healthcare **created 114 jobs, invested \$375,000 in local construction** and over **\$4 million** in contracted labor, equipment purchases, and facility improvements. The expansion in coverage enabled our agency to serve 33% more people, and the number of **uninsured patients decreased from 75% to 46%**.

Since the proposed repeal of the ACA, our patients sent hundreds of postcards to their representatives advocating for continued access to affordable care; some of their stories are excerpted below.

I have diabetes and I need my insurance for my medications, annual exams and my labs that are needed every 3 months. I need this health care. If I lose this I could end up in the ER for something my insurance now covers. I can't go to the emergency room all the time—**Nestor F.**

When my son stopped working to continue his education, I lost my insurance. If it wasn't for the affordable care act I would not be able to afford health insurance. Please continue to help the community—**Myron B.**

If I don't have my health plan I cannot get medicine and dental care because I do not have enough income to spend for medicine and dental care. I have 4 members in my family but only one have (sic) income. It is only \$1600 per month so I really need my health plan. Thanks.

This growth and expansion of clinical services and preventative care is unsustainable under ACA repeal. Of the nearly 6 million patients treated at California community health centers each year, **1 in 20** stand to lose their health care coverage under the proposed *American Health Care Act* and *Better Care Reconciliation Act* recently proposed by the Administration. At Valley Community Healthcare, **7400 (29%) of our 25,000** patients will lose their coverage if the ACA is repealed.

Jobs are at stake, lives are at stake and the local economy will be adversely impacted.

We greatly appreciate the efforts of Senators Diane Feinstein and Kamala Harris, and our congressional representatives to protect the safety net that we provide to the lower income residents in our communities. Valley Community Healthcare is committed to providing high quality affordable health care in a culturally sensitive environment to everyone, regardless of their ability to pay.

Valley Community Healthcare is a non-profit, neighborhood network of community health centers, dedicated to enhancing the well-being of the community by providing high quality, culturally sensitive primary medical care and related health services to those in need, regardless of their ability to pay. For more information visit, www.vchcare.org