










2021-2023 Budget Summary

Top Budget Priorities

-  **Increase to the State Community Health Center Grant:** WPHCA advocated for a \$2 million annual increase to the State Community Health Center Grant and successfully received a \$1 million annual increase in the budget, approximately an 18% increase over current State funding.
-  **Broadband infrastructure investment to ensure reliable, affordable access to high-speed internet:** Broadband investments include over \$125,000 in new funding to expand access to high-speed internet across the state, with additional investments through federal recovery funds.
-  **Ensuring fair protections and ending price discrimination for entities such as Health Centers that participate in the 340B Drug Pricing Program that supports affordable medications for patients.** Not included in state budget.
-  **Improving access to dental care through licensing Dental Therapists.** Not included in the state budget. Lawmakers did include a 40% rate increase for Medicaid dental services at private clinics to incentive serving low-income patients.
-  **Strengthening and preserving the Medicaid program including expanding post-partum eligibility to one year.** The budget, pending application for and approval of an 1115 Medicaid Waiver, would extend coverage from the current 60 days to 90 days post-partum.

Additional Priorities

-  **Expanding behavioral health and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) services, including the focus on school-based services and additional support to increase access for populations such as students and veterans:** Several investments include Medicaid rate increases for Outpatient Mental Health, Substance Abuse Recovery services, Medication-Assisted Treatment, and an additional \$7 million for school-based mental health services.
-  **Implementing childcare initiatives that would afford families of Health Center staff and patients new options for early childhood education.** Significant investments in the caregiving infrastructure were made through federal relief.
-  **Investing in a Community Reinvestment Fund, community-based equity initiatives, and a Community Health Benefit Waiver which would provide funding for efforts to expand Community Health Worker models and advance work to address social determinants of health such as housing and food insecurity.** Not included in state budget.
-  **Streamlining and increasing capacity for licensing, with a focus on dental and behavioral health professions.** The budget includes minor increases in staff capacity for processing health profession licenses plus funds the final phase of technology updates for the state's licensure application system upgrade.