

WPHCA'S 2023-2024 STATE POLICY AGENDA



High Quality Health Care

- Establish annual public reporting of dental access and utilization data, with a focus on identifying gaps for populations with limited access to care.
- Sustain and build behavioral health and substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery service capacity with continued support for innovations through cross sectoral collaborations and integrated care programs.
- Maintain fully reimbursable telehealth and virtual health services, including visits provided via phone-only, for all patients regardless of insurance status.



Health Care Coverage

- Extend Medicaid coverage for post-partum women to one full year.
- Maintain comprehensive coverage for Medicaid enrollees, including coverage and adequate reimbursement for care coordination, dental, and behavioral health services.



Workforce

- Increase statewide development of high-need clinicians and support staff to practice in Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs): Medical Assistants; Dental Assistants; Behavioral Health Providers (Psychologists, Licensed Clinical Social Workers, Licensed Professional Counselors), and specialized Substance Use Disorder treatment and recovery care professionals
- Authorize licensure of Dental Therapy in Wisconsin and develop training pathways for providers.
- Improve license portability for Dentists and behavioral health providers already licensed to practice in other states.
- Identify sustainable models for care and services provided by Community Health Workers and peer supports in high need areas.
- Increase capacity for Community Health Centers to provide clinical training opportunities as essential stakeholders in the health care provider pipeline.



Community Health

- Identify and implement sustainable and accessible technology solutions for social determinants referrals among Community Health Centers, community-based organizations, and health care partners.
- Advance policies and funding to increase availability of affordable, stable, and safe housing in Wisconsin.

* Bold indicates priorities for the 2023-2024 legislative session and state budget.

WPHCA'S VISION FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

The Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association (WPHCA) envisions a future where all individuals and communities in Wisconsin achieve their highest health potential, with a focus on reducing health disparities and improving equitable outcomes for communities served by Community Health Centers (CHCs).



High Quality Health Care

- All Wisconsinites have an identified primary care provider and medical home for high-quality, affordable, preventative care.
- Patients access primary and preventative care services and supports, including behavioral and dental care services, sufficient to address inequities and ensure equitable outcomes, regardless of insurance type.
- Health literacy resources, including digital literacy tools, and enabling services are available to support patients in using primary and preventative care, including telehealth.



Health Care Coverage

- All Wisconsinites have high-quality, affordable, reliable, accessible health care coverage.
- Comprehensive health care coverage fosters preventative and primary care, including medical, dental, and behavioral health for both children and adults.
- CHCs support patients in securing public and private health care coverage through direct outreach and enrollment services and connections with community partners.



Workforce

- CHCs have enough high-quality providers and support staff to meet the needs of their medical, dental, and behavioral health patients in a timely manner.
- CHCs hire and retain a mission-oriented workforce that is representative of the communities they serve, committed to culturally responsive patient-centered care, and dedicated to identifying and reducing health disparities.
- CHCs implement integrated, team-based care using models addressing whole-person health.
- CHCs engage the workforce through implementing clinical rotations, internships, and other training opportunities to strengthen and expand health care professional pipelines.



Community Health

- To improve whole-person health, patients' unmet social determinants of health needs are addressed through CHC collaboration with community partners.
- Patients have affordable, stable, and safe housing as a fundamental precursor to health and well-being.
- Public health investments adequately identify and coordinate responses to local community needs.