

Office of Primary Care and Rural Health State Primary Care Grant Program

Function

The Office of Primary Care and Rural Health continues to be a resource for Utah's rural, multi-cultural, and underserved communities. The Office works with communities that need assistance in conducting needs assessments, recruiting health care professionals, identifying sources of funding, and implementing other projects related to decreasing disparity and increasing access to primary health care.

Program Description

The State Primary Care Grant Program for medically underserved populations makes grants available to public or nonprofit entities to provide primary health care to medically underserved populations. The program strives to decrease the number of individuals without access to appropriate, high quality, cost-effective primary health care by making these grants to qualified provider organizations.

The program targets Utah's low-income populations, who have no health insurance, or whose health insurance does not cover primary health care services and do not qualify for Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, or other government insurance programs.

The target populations of this program includes medically underserved areas, including the working poor, individuals with chronic diseases, children of low-income families, the homeless, Native Americans, seasonal and migrant farm workers, and other disadvantaged group.

Utah Code Annotated, 26-10b, authorizes the State Primary Care Grants Program for Medically Underserved Populations.

Intent Language

The Utah Legislature included intent language for the State Primary Care Grants Program for Medically Underserved Populations in the FY 2006 Supplemental Appropriations Act.

Key Facts

The performance measures in the State Primary Care Grant Program monitor both the efficiency of the office and the funding available from the Legislature. Processing the awards is an important aspect of the program to assure funding to serve targeted populations. Our state's medically underserved (uninsured and underinsured, minority, geographically isolated) populations are also served by several, federally supported community, migrant and homeless health centers.

These centers depend on a combination of federal, state, and local funds that include many donations and some funding from patient care billings (primarily self-pay patients on sliding-fee schedules and Medicaid clients).

The performance measures in this program area monitor both the efficiency of the office and the funding available. The ultimate number of awards is based on the amount of funds available and the purposes for which they are allocated.

Appropriation

The 1996 and 1997 Legislatures approved \$350,000 from Mineral Lease Funds for a State Primary Care Grants Program for Medically Underserved Populations. The 1998 Legislature increased the funding to \$500,000. This amount was also appropriated in 1999 for FY 2000 and FY 2001, but the source of the funding switched in FY 2001 to the Medicaid Restricted Account. Since FY 2002, the funding for the State Primary Care Grants Program has been from the State General Fund.

During FY 2014 a one-time appropriation of \$2 million was included with the base appropriation.

In 2015, Legislatures approved another \$2 million appropriation and made \$600,000 of that on-going.

STATE PRIMARY CARE GRANTS PROGRAM FOR MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS HISTORY											
	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014-2015	FY 2016 Program 1	FY 2016 Program 2	FY 2017 Program 1 Year to date	FY 2017 Program 2 Year to date	Cumulative
Rural Served	13,023	34,080	22,525	21,745	24,324	23,382	19,540	18,322	4,441	4,259	185,641
Urban Served	11,367	26,836	20,223	8,100	6,891	6,087	7,934	43,466	1,035	5,947	137,886
Total Served	24,390	60,916	42,748	29,845	31,215	29,469	27,474	61,788	5,476	10,206	323,527
Rural Sites Awarded	30	28	22	19	19	20	16	12	14	16	196
Urban Sites Awarded	28	24	17	10	8	6	7	16	7	19	142
Total Sites Awarded	58	52	39	29	27	26	23	28	21	35	338
Expenditures	\$1,491,667	\$1,641,836	\$1,166,100	\$757,708	\$786,233	\$757,896	\$698,026	\$1,897,189	\$ 634,295.92	\$ 1,361,195.22	\$11,192,146

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