

Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, Alabama's community health centers are at the core of our primary health care system and public safety net delivering coordinated, cost-effective and accessible primary care to Alabamians regardless of their ability to pay; and

WHEREAS, health centers are in medically underserved communities and locally governed by patient-majority boards making each Health Center responsive to the needs of their community; and

WHEREAS, currently, Alabama has 17 health centers serving 343,356 Alabamians at 165 locations; and

WHEREAS, in total, Alabama health centers deliver \$361.6 million in economic activity and provided care to 3,975 homeless patients and 3,457 veterans in 2019; and

WHEREAS, community health centers created 3,000 jobs in 2019 employing 450 physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and certified nurse midwives in a multi-disciplinary clinical workforce designed to treat the whole patient through culturally competent, accessible and integrated care; and

WHEREAS, Alabama's community health centers deserve commendation for their value and impact on access, quality and health outcomes and networking to maximize resources; and

WHEREAS, health centers continue to serve on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic by conducting community testing and vaccine distribution through popup sites, drive-thru clinics and remote mobile units;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim August 14, 2021, as

Health Center Week.

in the state of Alabama.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 2^{nd} day of August 2021.

Kay Ivey, Governor