

You have heard about it from us and now it is here! Southside families will now have increased access to quality, affordable healthcare as PCHC recently opened its newest location – the Chafee Health Clinic – located just off Allens Avenue.

With the number of low-income residents increasing in Providence, access to primary care is a challenge for working families all across the city. Until now, many low-income families have felt they had to turn to high-cost emergency rooms for care, instead of establishing ongoing preventive care through a primary care doctor.



Brendan Cardoso enjoys a laugh with Dr. Boris Skurkovich during a recent physical in one of the new Chafee HC pediatric rooms which were furnished through the generosity of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Eastern New England

PCHC recognized this challenge and has helped to meet it by opening the new and modern Chafee Health Center. This state-of-the-art 12,000 square foot health center replaces PCHC's outdated 2,500 square foot Fox Point Health Center, which was housed in the Boys and Girls Club on Wickenden Street. The new center dramatically increases access to primary care, including pediatric care, internal medicine for adults, and OB/GYN for women. It also houses one of the state's WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) programs for the city.



Providers have their own space to review charts and other vital information about their patients.

Patients to the new facility are happy to see the same wonderful staff that greeted them at Fox Point, with many of the staff fluent in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

The health center is dedicated and named after the late Senator John H. Chafee, to honor the wonderful work he did for health centers not only in Rhode Island but across the country.

We invite you to stop by and tour the new Chafee Health Center. The center is located at One Warren Way, off of Allens Ave., Exit 18 of I95 in Providence.

The new health center was designed by Vision 3 Architects and built by Ryan Construction.

New Chafee Health Clinic Graces Providence Landscape



Merrill Thomas, CEO, and Mary Solecki, HC patient; and Mary Jones, Board chairperson, help Senator Lincoln Chafee cut the ribbon officially dedicating the new health center.



Dan Hawkins, Vice President for Federal, State, and Public Affairs of NACHC, came from Washington, D. C. to honor Senator John H. Chafee at the dedication of the new Chafee Health Center.



The reception area of the new health center is very inviting to all the patients when they first enter the facility.

CCRI Students Get Real Life Experience

Four dental students from Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) experienced real-life dentistry at the PCHC Dental Clinic where they worked out the clinical part of their required program and provided care to more than 100 patients, mostly under the age of 18, over the course of nine weeks. "It was wonderful to work with real patients and to apply what we learned. It was rewarding and exciting to work with the children and to teach them what we have been studying," said Leslee Treadwell, a student in the program.

The students agreed that their experience at PCHC gave them the confidence to do the job for which they had been studying. "Without this great experience, going out into the world and putting into practice what we have learned at school would be very intimidating. This helped us tremendously," student Sonya Gendron said.

Under the guidance of Dr. Blanco and the watchful eyes of dental hygienist Carleen Dupre the students were able to ask questions and to make their own decisions about cases. Ms. Dupre commented, "From here these students go out into the world with a patient load of their own. We want them to be ready, to be able to make good decisions and to be comfortable with their decisions. No one will be watching over their shoulders at that point, so now is the time to gain the experience."



Seated (L to R) CCRI dental hygiene student, Leslie Treadwell and PCHC dental hygienist, Carleen Dupre. Standing (L to R) dental hygiene students Angela Harvey, Debra Foster and Sonya Gendron.

Ms. Treadwell admitted, "I did not originally want to have this assignment at PCHC. Now I am grateful that I was placed here. I loved my experience at PCHC and learned so much. It opened up my eyes to the health care needs of a diversity of people and it is something I will carry with me throughout my career."

When asked what her most memorable patient experience was, student Deb Foster relayed the story of a young boy who had a great deal of plaque on his teeth. When she took the mother aside to show her, the mother was astounded. She had never known that plaque was bad; she just thought it was a natural part of his teeth. Deb admitted that it felt good to be able to teach people and make a difference in their health.

All the students agreed that doing their internship at PCHC gave them confidence in what they had learned. Further, they discovered that dentistry is not about having a dental practice and making money, but it is about caring for patients and providing them with good health care. Happy to have been chosen to work at PCHC, they realized that the workplace can be educational and fun.

PCHC Mission Statement

"Provide neighborhood-based, high quality and accessible primary medical care to improve the health status of the residents of Providence and surrounding communities, regardless of their ability to pay."

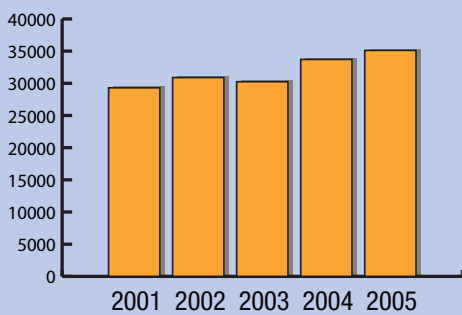


PCHC Growth Meets Providence Needs

PCHC has experienced steady growth over the past years, trying to provide care to all of the uninsured residents of Providence. With over 65% of our patients below the Federal Poverty Level, 85% of these patients are either uninsured or on Medicaid. Although we have not yet reached our goal of 100% coverage, our health centers have removed many of the barriers that used to exist for our predominantly poor and minority population, allowing access to medical and dental services for thousands of residents.

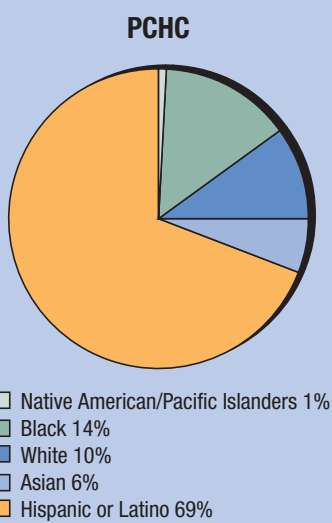
The following graphs represent the demographic composition of the population served by PCHC.

Growth in Patients

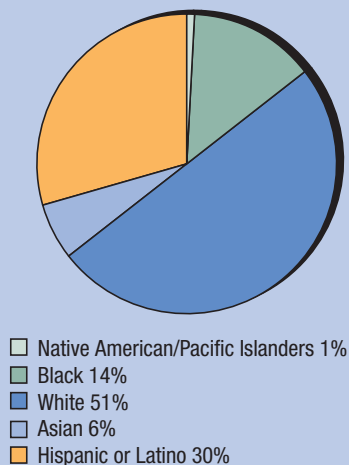


Over the past few years, our health centers have grown significantly in the number of patients served. Between the years 2001 and 2005 our patient load increased by 19.8%.

Race and Ethnicity

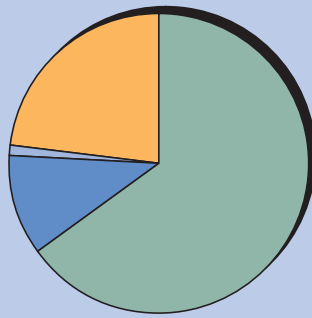


City of Providence Population



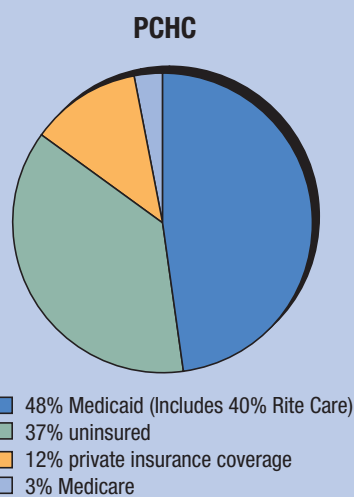
Health centers are an important source of health care for minority populations. Of PCHC's 35,113 patients 69% are Hispanic or Latino, 14% are Black, 10% White, 6% Asian, and 1% Native American. Reflecting the effects of poverty and more limited access to health care, health center patients are in poorer health than the general population.

Health Center Patients by Income

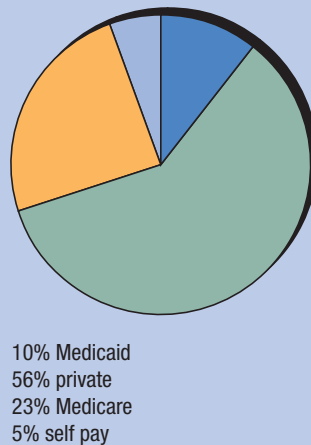


The demographic profile of health center patients reflects our mission. Over 65% of our patients fall at or under the Federal Poverty Level.

Patients by Insurance Type

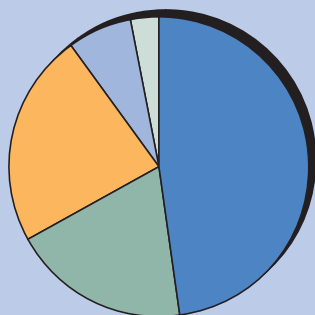


Private physicians



Health centers play an important role in providing access to uninsured patients and those covered by Medicaid. 85% of PCHC patients are either uninsured or enrolled in Medicaid with only 15% having private health insurance.

Population by Age



This graph shows the age demographics of the 35,113 patients that PCHC serves.

Ronald McDonald House Charity



Charles Winterhalter, President RMHC of Eastern New England (far left) and Tony Wong, McDonald's Owner/Operator in the Providence area (far right), present a \$15,000 check to fund three pediatric care rooms at the new Chafee Health Center to Mayor Cicilline, and Merrill Thomas, CEO.

Dental Clinic Celebrates 1-Year Anniversary

PCHC continues to make a difference in the lives of the children in Providence. Last year the PCHC Dental Clinic opened its doors to the community with one dentist and one hygienist. One year, 3,854 visits, and 1,800 patients later, we are proud to celebrate our one-year anniversary. Most PCHC dental patients have never been to a dentist and would most likely still be in that situation if not for the Clinic.

This year the clinic also celebrates the addition of a new dentist to the staff. Dr. Priyank Taneja will be joining the dental staff in the fall of 2006. Dr. Taneja is a graduate of Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine and attended Dental School at Gandhi University, Karnataka, India. He currently has completed a one year General Practice Residency at Yale New Haven Hospital, Yale University.

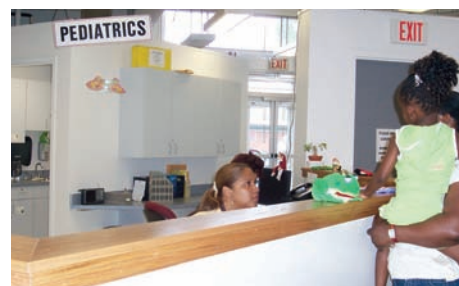
PCHC is excited about the opportunity to expand our dental services to meet the need of even more patients who are without this primary care service. PCHC provides dental care to children and expectant moms who are at risk due to their pregnancy.

PCHC Central Renovation

It is important that our health centers reflect quality in appearance as well as quality in the care that we provide. Over the past couple of years PCHC has been renovating and remodeling their facilities keeping them modern and clean. Central has completed phase two of their renovations.

Recently completed renovations include new men's and women's public bathrooms, a new pediatric area and waiting space, two new exam rooms, new provider space for pediatrics, internal and obstetrics, a new WIC area, and several new offices. The remodeling also included new furniture for the patient waiting area.

The new space, which is bright and inviting welcomes you for a visit! Please stop by to see the space at 239 Cranston Street. Director Jean Lamarre will be happy to walk you around.



Patients enjoy the bright, open spaces of the newly-renovated Central Health Center.

Board of Directors

51% of PCHC Board Members are also our patients.

Lori Goins
Victoriano Gonzalez, Sr.
James H. Hardy, Esq.
Mary Jones
Hugh F. Lena, Ph.D.
Elizabeth Melendez
Keo Phrathep, DA
Glenn Rawson
Michael J. Ryan
Deborah Santana
Anthony Scorpio, CPA
Mary Seneres
Kathleen A. Souza, MSW
Thomas Twitchell
Christina Zanfagna

Senior Staff

Merrill R. Thomas
Chief Executive Officer

Stanley Hoyt Block, M.D. FAAP
Medical Director

Antoinette Byda Day, SPHR
Vice President, Human Resources

J. Stephen Foley, Jr.
Vice President,
Chief Information Officer

Mary Jean Francis, MS, RN
Vice President,
Performance Improvement

Marie Ghazal, RN, M.S.
Vice President, Patient Care
and Nursing Services

Elaine Hardman
Vice President,
Chief Operations Officer

Jack Taylor
Vice President,
Chief Financial Officer

Loretta L. Tharp
Director, Income Development
and Public Relations

THE PROVIDENCE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS LOCATIONS

Administrative Offices
375 Allens Avenue
401-444-0400

Allen Berry
202 Prairie Avenue
401-444-0570

Capitol Hill
40 Candace Street
401-444-0550

Central
239 Cranston Street
401-444-0580

Chafee
One Warren Way
401-444-0530

Olneyville
100 Curtis Street
401-444-0540

Dental Clinic
557 Broad Street
401-444-0430

Met School Clinic
325 Public Street
401-752-2600

Whitmarsh Clinic
557 Broad Street
401-444-0483

Visit us at www.providencechc.org
or call 401-444-0400