



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; and

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

WHEREAS, currently, Alabama has 19 health centers serving upwards of 330,000 Alabamians at 196 locations; and

WHEREAS, health centers are critical economic engines that help power local economies. In total, Alabama health centers delivered \$852.3 million in economic activity and \$354.3 million in labor income; and

WHEREAS, community health centers created 4,944 jobs in a multi-disciplinary clinical workforce designed to treat the whole patient through culturally-competent, accessible and integrated care. This unique model allows health centers to save costs for the entire health system by keeping patients out of costlier health care settings; and

WHEREAS, health centers deserve commendations for their value and impact on access, quality and health outcomes, while maximizing resources. Health centers provided care to 11,319 homeless patients and 5,219 veterans in 2021. Health centers provide patients with a medical home, offering a multitude of services including primary care, behavioral health, chronic disease management, vision and oral care; and

WHEREAS, National Health Center Week offers the opportunity to recognize Alabama's health centers, their staff, board members and all those responsible for the continued success and growth of the program since it was created over 46 years ago;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim August 6 through August 12, 2023, 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 June 13th, 2023.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor