

## 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, these health centers are located in medically underserved communities and are responsive to the needs of their community through a governing patient-majority board; and

WHEREAS, Alabama currently has 19 health centers serving more than 336,000 Alabamians at 211 locations; and

WHEREAS, health centers are critical for local economies, delivering \$118.4 billion in economic impact and more than \$354.3 million in labor income; and

WHEREAS, community health centers offer patient-focused, coordinated preventive and primary care services to individuals; and

WHEREAS, community health centers created 6,544 jobs employing 568 physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and other providers in a multi-disciplinary clinical work force 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, such as emergency rooms; and

WHEREAS, health centers provided care to 8,949 homeless patients and 6,401 veterans in 2023. 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 nearly 50 years ago. We recognize the ways in which Alabama's health centers are empowering healthier communities by delivering value through access, quality and cost-efficient health care;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim the week of August 3rd through August 9, 2025, as

## Health Center Week

in the state of Alabama in recognition, appreciation and celebration of the important partnership between Alabama's health centers and the communities they serve.



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 10th day of July 2025.

Kay Ivey, Governor