*Expanding*

*Community Health Centers:*

*An Area of Bipartisan Agreement*

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*Information to Aid Effectiveness*

*Report for Minnesota*

*from the Consistent Life Network*  **

Sep

*January 2023*

**Introduction**

While debates about aspects of health reform have raged for years and are likely to continue to do so for years to come, the robust operation of Federally-Qualified Community Health Centers (FQHCs) is one aspect that both Democrats and Republicans do agree on.

From the Minnesota Department of Health website: “The Federally Qualified Health Center Subsidy Grants are now open for application. Per legislation passed during the 2007 session, Minnesota Statute 145.9269 empowers the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Health to distribute grants to FQHCs and FQHC Look–Alikes operating in Minnesota to continue, expand, and improve federally qualified health center services to low–income populations. The program is administered by the Office of Rural Health and Primary Care (ORHPC). The total funding for the Fiscal Year 2021 FQHC Subsidy Grant program is $2,644,000. A formula calculation determines each award. Applications are due October 15.”

Of the many methods for finding the areas of greatest need, we offer the criterion of specific health centers that offer very limited services and have no FQHCs within five miles. Since the FQHCs usually offer far more comprehensive services, this is a method for identifying underserved areas.

For many Republicans, this will have the additional selling point that the specific health centers we list are operated by Planned Parenthood, adding more substance to the need to ensure that such areas become no longer medically under-served; they would prefer that services come from the FQHCs instead, in the knowledge that FQHCs usually offer a wider range of services.

Many Democrats will find it useful that there is this extra selling point for many Republicans, making it much easier to pass any funding bills for creation of new FQHCs for more comprehensive medical coverage in these along with other areas.

Planned Parenthood has 16 locations in Minnesota. Seven have no FQHC within 5 miles, and two more have only one FQHC which is four miles away.

Below we list each of these centers and how close the nearest FQHC is to it. We have also done a web search for possible affordable and/or gynecological health facilities for two reasons:

1) these may be suitable for providing the needed medical care, so that the area is in fact not underserved, but have not gone through the process of establishing themselves as FQHCs;

2) if they are apprised of the advantages and extra resources available for becoming federally qualified FQHCs, this may be the speediest method of expanding health care access in that area.

There are, of course, many additional criteria that can be used to ascertain areas most in need of new FQHCs. This information is intended to aid in strengthening a bill to expand access. That bill will include information from many other sources as well.

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*Sources*

*Note: The Consistent Life Network is a non-profit, non-partisan, non-sectarian organization with no formal or informal association with Planned Parenthood of America or any of its centers, nor with any Community Health Center. All information was obtained through publically-available records on the World Wide Web.*

*Planned Parenthood*

Information on Planned Parenthood health centers was found on PP’s official website, <https://www.plannedparenthood.org/health-center/>mn.

*Federally-Qualified Community Health Centers*

Information on Community Health Centers was found at the Health Resources and Services Administration Data Warehouse “Find a Health Center” site at <https://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/>. The page has a feature allowing entry of any address, which then provides information on all FQHCs within five miles; this is the reason the five-mile radius was selected as the criterion for distance. When there are none within five miles, the federal page will show FQHCs farther away.

*Other Affordable Clinics*

A Google web search was conducted, including private clinics and state and county administered clinics. When these are found within five miles, they are included. However, there is no independent assessment, outside of their own websites, to ascertain their suitability for medical services.

*Congressional District*

Congressional districts covering specific zip codes or addresses were researched at <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>.

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**Alexandria Health Center**

**700 Cedar Street, Suite 165, Alexandria, MN 56308**

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The closest CHC listed is 55 miles away.

*Possible affordable clinics nearby:*

0.9 miles away – Sanford Health Broadway Clinic. 1527 Broadway Street, Alexandria, Minnesota 56308.

1.3 miles away – Alomere Health. 111 17th Avenue East, Alexandria, MN 56308. Affiliated with Alexandria Clinic; see next listing.

1.9 miles away – Alexandria Clinic, 610 30th Avenue West, Alexandria, MN 56308.

Congressional District #7. U.S. Representative: [Michelle Fischbach](https://fischbach.house.gov/contact) (R)

**Bemidji Health Center**

**2504 Hannah Avenue NW, Bemidji, MN 56601**

The closest CHC listed is almost 40 miles away.

0.8 miles away – Sanford Bemidji Medical Center, 1300 Anne Street NW, Bemidji, Minnesota 56601.

0.9 miles away –Sanford Bemidji Main Clinic, 1233 34th Street NW, Bemidji, Minnesota 56601.

Congressional District #8. U.S. Representative [Pete Stauber](https://stauber.house.gov/contact) (R)

**Brooklyn Park Health Center**

**7532 Brooklyn Boulevard, Brooklyn Park, MN 55443**

The closest CHC is about 6 miles away, the Fremont Clinic in Minneapolis.

*Possible affordable clinics nearby:*

0.5 miles away – Allina Health Brooklyn Park Clinic, 9300 Noble Parkway N, Brooklyn Park, MN 55443.

0.8 miles away – Brooklyn Park Clinic, 7650 Zane Avenue North, Brooklyn Park, MN 55443.

Congressional District #3. U.S. Representative: Dean Phillips (D)

(Eden Prairie is in the same district)

**Eden Prairie Health Center**

**582 Prairie Center Drive, Suite 215, Eden Prairie, MN 55344**

The closest CHC is almost 10 miles away (Southside Medical Clinic in Minneapolis).

*Possible affordable clinics nearby:*

0.4 miles away – Park Nicollet Clinic– Eden Prairie, 8455 Flying Cloud Drive, Eden Prairie, MN, 55344-3974.

0.9 miles away – M. Health Fairview Clinic, 830 Prairie Center Drive, Eden Prairie, MN 55344.

Congressional District #3. U.S. Representative: Dean Phillips (D)

(Brooklyn Park is in the same district)

**St. Cloud Health Center**

**451 E. St. Germain Street, Suite 100, St. Cloud, MN 56304**

The closest CHC listed is over 50 miles away.

*Possible affordable medical facilities nearby:*

1.8 miles away – CentraCare – St. Cloud Hospital, 1406 Sixth Avenue North, St. Cloud, MN 56303.

2.4 miles away – Simplicity Health, 1511 Northway Drive, St, Cloud MN 56303.

Congressional District #6. U.S. Representative: Tom Emmer (R)

**Woodbury Health Center**

**1795 Radio Drive, Suite D, Woodbury, MN 55125**

The closest CHC is almost 7 miles away (West Side Community Health Services in St. Paul).

*Possible affordable clinics nearby:*

0.6 miles away – Allina Health Woodbury Clinic, 8675 Valley Creek Road, Woodbury, MN 55125.

1 mile away – HealthPartners Woodbury Clinic, 8450 Seasons Parkway, Woodbury, MN 55125.

2.4 miles away – M Health Fairview Clinic-Tamarack, 9900 Tamarack Road, Woodbury, MN 55125.

2.7 miles away – M Health Fairview Clinic-Woodwinds, 1825 Woodwinds Drive, Woodbury, MN 55125.

*A possible source of gynecological services nearby:*

2.1 miles away – Minnesota Women’s Care, 1687 Woodlane Drive, Woodbury, MN 55125.

Congressional District #4. U.S. Representative: Betty McCollum (D)