

Welcome to 2025!



January is Cervical Health Awareness Month

Find out how to get involved
on pages **10, 20, 24-25**

also this month ...

**Fitness and
Nutrition: New
Year, New You**
Page 8, 24 & 27



**Human
Trafficking
Prevention
Month**
Page 9, 18-19



Meet our members!



Letter from Sean ...



Welcome to the January 2025 Issue!

As we step into 2025, we are filled with optimism and resolve to continue advocating for equitable and accessible health care for all Hoosiers. The new year brings new opportunities, and IPHC is excited to partner with you to make a lasting impact.

January marks the start of the Indiana Legislative session, a critical time to champion the role of CHCs in providing affordable, high-quality care to underserved populations. This year, our advocacy will focus on several priorities: emphasizing the significance of school-based health care, securing continued funding for CHCs for the next two years, and highlighting the essential role CHCs play in improving public health outcomes.

We are also thrilled to announce the official launch of the **Clinically Integrated Network of Indiana (CINI)**, a transformative step toward enhancing collaboration among healthcare providers across the state. This value-based care initiative will allow its members to deliver more coordinated, efficient, and patient-centered care while improving the fiscal sustainability of their operations—empowering communities and strengthening the healthcare system.

Thank you for your continued membership and unwavering support as we begin this exciting chapter together. Let's make 2025 a year of progress, innovation, and meaningful change. We look forward to working alongside you in the months ahead.

Here's to a successful and impactful year!

Sean

Sean Herbold, IPHCA CFO

[Contact Sean](#)

IPHCA Monthly January 2025

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>>> **Clickable links** are provided throughout this newsletter - please notify us of any missing or incorrect links.

Any comments or suggestions please contact **Sean Herbold**, IPHCA CFO.

If you have not so already, **please follow us on Facebook!**



Also **visit our website** to find links to **previous issues**, an **events calendar**, our **resource center** and more!

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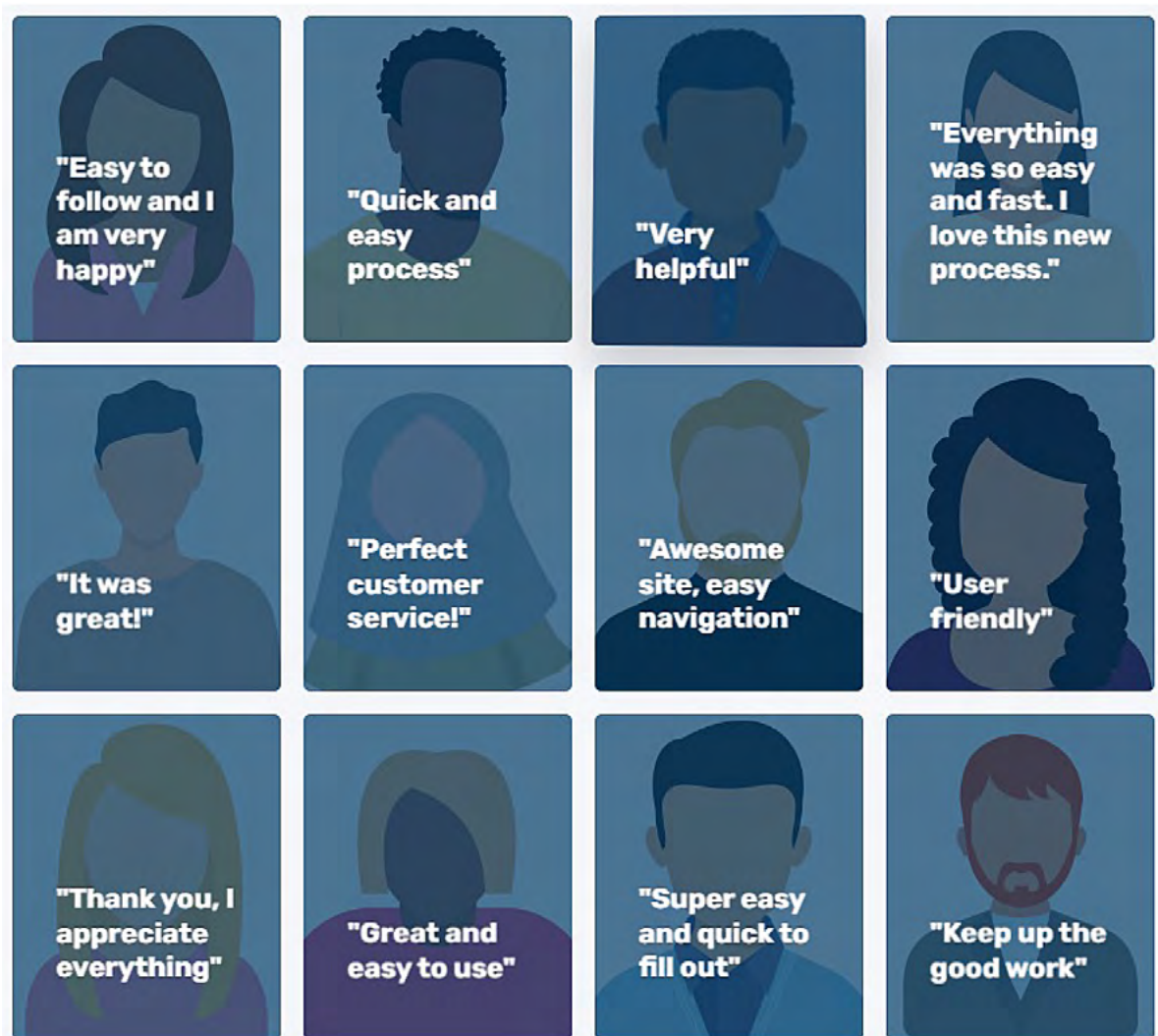
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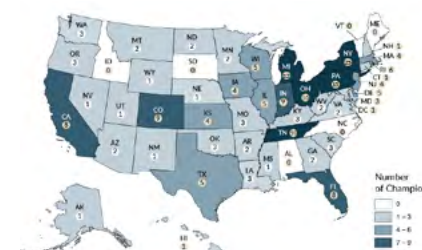


UPDATES & NEWS

Our Resource Center is your first stop for all learning, news, webinars and updates - everything our community health center membership needs.



To contribute resources, or if you have any questions or updates, please contact Sean Herbold or call: 317.630.0845



>>> Check out all the Hypertension Control Champions nationwide



IPHCA member Valley Professionals CHC is a 2024 Hypertension Control Champion!

Letter from NACHC:

"We want to extend our congratulations on the selection of Valley Professionals Community Health Center, Inc. as a 2024 Million Hearts® Hypertension Control Champion. Their efforts to achieve an 80% or higher rate for blood pressure control are a true testament to their dedication to the health and quality of life of patients in Indiana.

We are thrilled to see so many community health centers using evidence-based practices like hypertension management protocols, data driven outreach, team-based care, and self-measured blood pressure monitoring. It is proof that with the right system changes, we can make progress in controlling blood pressure and preventing heart attacks and strokes, even in the most vulnerable and underserved populations.

Thank you for your support of the Million Hearts® initiative and desire to improve cardiovascular health outcomes among our health center patients. We join you in celebrating Valley Professionals Community Health Center, Inc., being distinguished as a 2024 Million Hearts® Hypertension Control Champion and encourage you to recognize their achievement at your upcoming state and local conferences."

Luis F. Padilla, Chief Health Officer, NACHC



Flying in to DC!

Ben Harvey, IPHCA CEO with Clarence Boykin (Marram Health) and Nicole Cimbaljevich (HealthLinc) during the NACHC December 4th Legislative fly-in in Washington DC.

>>> See page 32 for a look at what's coming up in Policy and Advocacy for 2025





□ ID NOW™

A platform for detection of Flu A & B, Strep A, RSV, and COVID-19 infections, providing the fastest rapid molecular results within 2 to 13 minutes!



□ Afinion™ 2

Compact, rapid analyzer that provides fast and reliable HbA1c and ACR test results in as little as 3 to 5 minutes at the point-of-care



□ Cholestech LDX™ Analyzer

Rapid, accurate results in 5 minutes for a complete lipid profile and glucose to identify CVD risks



□ Determine™ HIV-1/2 Ag/Ab Combo

First and only FDA approved 4th generation rapid test, detecting both acute and chronic HIV infection with results in 20 minutes



□ BinaxNOW™ COVID Ag Card

Designed to detect active COVID-19 infections with or without symptoms (authorized under EUA)*



□ iCassette Urine Test Dx Fentanyl Drug Screen**

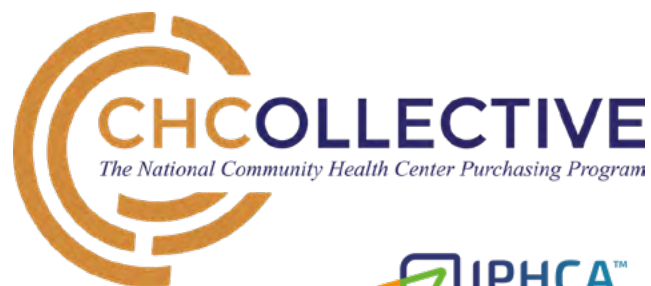
Help keep your community safe with a CLIA waived point-of-care urine test cassette for detection of Fentanyl with 1ng/mL cutoff

Transform Patient Care in 2025 with Abbott's CHC-Exclusive Program

Start the new year strong!

Our partnership with Abbott brings you a specially designed program for Community Health Centers that will:

- Enhance patient outcomes
- Streamline operations
- Maximize your 2025 budget



[Schedule a Consultation](#)

Contact Alex Vector for more information

Alex Vector 412.612.0593
avector@chcollective.com

www.chcollective.com

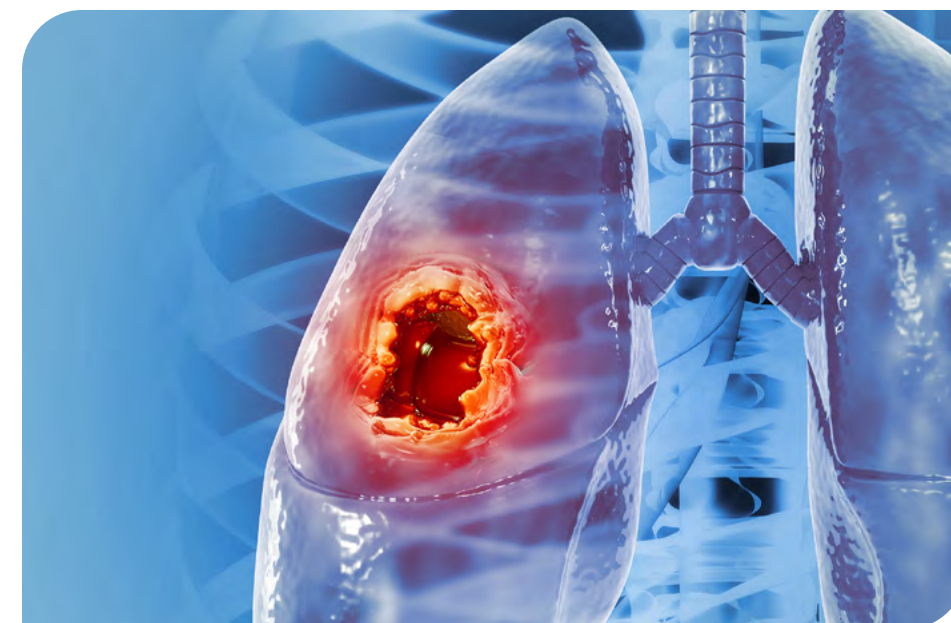


UPDATES & NEWS



INDIANA UNIVERSITY
INDIANAPOLIS
ECHO CENTER

Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health



Lung Cancer ECHO Series Launching on January 21, 2025

Join, Network, Learn Best Practices, and Earn Continuing Education Credits.

Lung cancer remains the leading cause of cancer-related deaths in Indiana, with a significant impact on the state's health outcomes. According to the [Indiana Cancer Consortium](#), early detection and intervention are key to improving survival rates, yet many cases are diagnosed too late, leaving fewer treatment options.

In alignment with the Indiana Cancer Control Plan, the [Cancer ECHO](#) (Extension for Community Health Outcomes) program focuses on providing healthcare professionals with the tools and knowledge to prevent, screen, and treat lung cancer more effectively. This series will cover the leading causes of lung cancer, such as tobacco use and radon exposure, along with best practices for screening, biomarker testing, clinical trials, and survivorship care.

We aim to equip healthcare professionals with the latest evidence-based strategies to reduce lung cancer rates and improve patient outcomes. Participation is free, virtual, and open to all members of the healthcare team, including physicians, advanced practice providers, nurses, social workers, case managers, and patient navigators.

This ECHO series will meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month from 12:00 – 1:00 pm ET.

Project ECHO is a movement to demonopolize knowledge and amplify the capacity to provide best-practice care and improve health for people all over the world.

Upcoming didactic topics:

- January 21: Overview of Indiana Cancer Control Plan and YOU
- February 4: Techniques for Addressing Lung Cancer
- February 18: Screening Guidelines and Screening Changes
- March 4: Insurance for High-Risk Populations and Special Groups
- March 18: Biomarker Testing for Lung Cancer
- April 1: Clinical Trials and Participation
- April 15: Lung Cancer and Survivorship
- May 6: Lung Cancer Palliative Care and Hospice

To register, [click this link](#) or email Norelimane Bouzar at nbouzar@iu.edu with any questions.

RESOURCE BULLETIN


To give feedback or provide resources for this section please contact **Nicole Stilianos** or call: 317.630.0845

[Click here to view all Clinical resources in our Resource Center](#)

January is Glaucoma Awareness Month


Glaucoma Awareness: Protect Your Vision This Month

Glaucoma is a leading cause of vision loss and blindness in the United States—yet half of the people with glaucoma don't even know they have it.



Why? Because glaucoma has no early symptoms. The only way to know for sure is to get a comprehensive dilated eye exam.

While there's no cure for glaucoma, early treatment can help stop vision loss.

That's why awareness and early detection are vital.

Who is at higher risk for glaucoma?

- People over age 60
- Black/African American individuals over age 40
- Asian American individuals
- Hispanic/Latino individuals
- People with a family history of glaucoma

This **Glaucoma Awareness Month**, we're joining the **National Eye Health Education Program (NEHEP)** to urge everyone at higher risk to schedule a dilated eye exam. It's the best way to protect your vision.

[>>> Find more materials about glaucoma](#)

Let's spread awareness and help save sight!



[>>> Click here for more glaucoma resources](#)

RESOURCE BULLETIN


Learn more about other resources and strategies to support prevention efforts.

- [Learn more about human trafficking](#)
- [How you can help](#)
- [National Human Trafficking Hotline](#)



At **Hope for Justice**, the mission is clear: to investigate cases of human trafficking, collaborate with law enforcement to rescue victims, and ensure perpetrators are brought to justice. The Hope for Justice investigative team consists of experienced professionals from some of the most prestigious law enforcement agencies in the country, including the FBI and NCIS.



Connecting the Dots: Strengthening Communities & Preventing Trafficking

The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) emphasizes the importance of a holistic approach to preventing human trafficking through its 2025 **Human Trafficking Prevention Month** theme: "Connecting the Dots. Strengthening Communities. Preventing Trafficking."

This theme emphasizes the need for community health centers to recognize how human trafficking intersects with other forms of violence and social challenges, including economic hardship, interpersonal violence, and online harassment. By understanding these connections, health centers can play a vital role in addressing risk factors and offering prevention strategies that strengthen community resilience.

Key Prevention Strategies for Community Health Centers:

- **Address Economic Barriers:** Identify and connect patients with resources that support economic stability, reducing a known risk factor for exploitation.
- **Screening & Support:** Train staff to screen for signs of trafficking during routine care and ensure access to trauma-informed services for survivors.
- **Community Partnerships:** Collaborate with local organizations, law enforcement, and social services to create a comprehensive safety net.
- **Education & Outreach:** Raise awareness about the signs of trafficking and prevention strategies through community events and health services.

By focusing on prevention, education, and community support, community health centers can reduce vulnerabilities to trafficking while strengthening community-wide resilience. This collective action—centered on collaboration and understanding—can stop exploitation before it begins.

Together, we can ensure the health and safety of all individuals in our care and the communities we serve.

National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month culminates with the observance of National Freedom Day on February 1, 2025, highlighting the ongoing fight to end modern slavery.

Together, we can make a difference.

January is Cervical Health Awareness Month



Join the National Cervical Cancer Coalition for Cervical Health Awareness Month

While the National Cervical Cancer Coalition (NCCC) is dedicated to promoting cervical health and preventing cervical cancer year-round, Cervical Health Awareness Month in January is a special time to amplify efforts and engage as many people as possible in this important cause.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has outlined a clear path to eliminating cervical cancer through vaccination and regular screening—and we can get there! This January, the NCCC encourages everyone to learn more about cervical health and take proactive steps toward the prevention of this entirely preventable cancer.

What Can You Do?

Start by learning about cervical health and cancer prevention. Two simple but powerful tools can help:

- **HPV Vaccination:** Protect yourself and others by getting vaccinated against human papillomavirus (HPV), which is the leading cause of cervical cancer.
- **Regular Screening:** Routine cervical cancer screenings can detect abnormalities early, improving the chances of successful treatment and prevention.

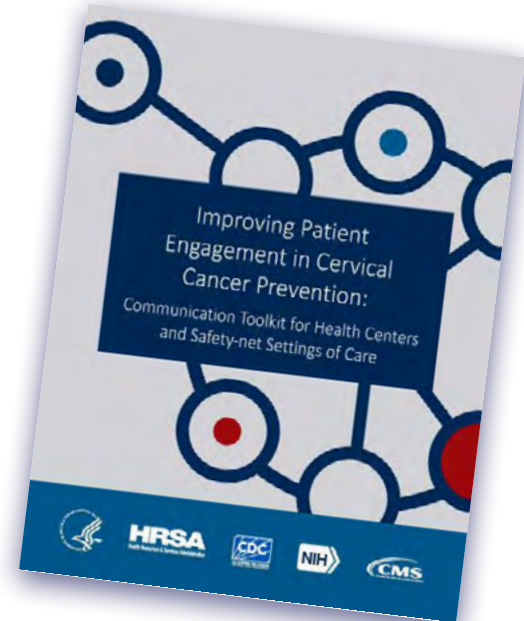
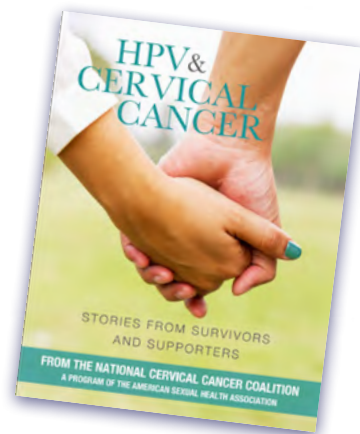
Together, we can make a difference.

Learn, vaccinate, and screen—let's take action to eliminate cervical cancer.

>>> Download Content to Share

Free eBook: **HPV & Cervical Cancer: Stories from Survivors and Supporters**

>>> Click here for all resources

**Additional Resources****New Cervical Cancer Patient Engagement Toolkit for Health Centers**

HRSA recently launched a toolkit, "Improving Patient Engagement in Cervical Cancer Prevention: Communication Toolkit for Health Centers and Safety-net Settings of Care." Use it to improve patient and community engagement. It includes social media posts, posters, and a cervical screening follow-up card. Visit [HRSA's website](#) to learn more and download the toolkit in English and Spanish.

>>> Click to view / download

More dates to note

National Mentoring Month 2025

Passions to awaken, dreams to achieve.



Every January, we can come together as a community to celebrate **National Mentoring Month**—a time to ignite passions, unlock potential, and transform aspirations into reality through the power of mentorship. In partnership with the **National Mentoring Partnership**, this annual initiative highlights the vital role that mentoring plays in fostering supportive relationships, advancing legislative priorities, and creating life-changing opportunities for young people.

Community Health Centers are uniquely positioned to connect individuals with mentorship opportunities that promote well-being, resilience, and hope. By building strong, supportive networks, we can empower youth and families to achieve their dreams while addressing barriers to health and stability.

Join the movement this January by participating in events, exploring resources, and celebrating the incredible mentors who dedicate their time and expertise to shaping the future. Together, we can harness the transformative power of mentoring to strengthen our communities.

Get involved and learn more about **National Mentoring Month** today!

READ: [How Mentoring Can Change Lives](#)



April 15-17, 2025

**Inaugural National HPV Conference**

The Indiana Immunization Coalition is hosting the inaugural National HPV Conference and **you can register for it now!**

The goal of this conference is to bring together U.S. professionals working in the HPV space to learn and share. While many conferences strive to include HPV as one of many topics, this conference seeks to make HPV the main topic.

Attendees will enjoy learning and connecting with peers while forming new ideas and partnerships to strengthen their HPV-related efforts.

Location: Hyatt Regency, Indianapolis

>>> For more information visit National HPV Conference.

Article

Fitness and Nutrition: New Year, New You

By IPHCA Clinical Integration Team

The new year is a fresh start—a perfect time to prioritize your health and well-being.

For community health center patients and staff alike, focusing on fitness and nutrition can lead to improved physical health, mental clarity, and a renewed sense of purpose. Whether you're aiming to lose weight, boost energy, reduce stress, or build sustainable habits, making small, achievable changes to your daily routine can lead to long-term success.

Why Fitness and Nutrition Matter

Regular physical activity and a balanced diet are foundational to overall health. They can help:

- Reduce the risk of chronic diseases like heart disease, diabetes, and cancer
- Improve mood and reduce symptoms of anxiety and depression
- Strengthen bones, muscles, and joints
- Enhance energy levels and improve focus

Community health centers are uniquely positioned to support patients in achieving these goals by providing resources, guidance, and care plans tailored to individual needs.

>>> [Click here to get this article in our resource center](#)

Simple Fitness Tips to Start the New Year

1. **Find Activities You Enjoy:** Exercise doesn't have to feel like a chore. Walking, dancing, swimming, yoga, cycling, or even gardening can get your body moving.
2. **Set Realistic Goals:** Break big goals into smaller, manageable milestones. Aim for 150 minutes of moderate exercise per week, as recommended by the CDC.
3. **Build Consistency:** Establish a regular schedule. Working out at the same time each day can make it easier to build a habit.
4. **Incorporate Strength Training:** Two days per week of muscle-strengthening activities can improve overall health and mobility.

Nutrition Tips for a Balanced Diet

Eating well doesn't mean deprivation. A focus on balanced, nutrient-rich choices can make all the difference:

- **Prioritize Whole Foods:** Incorporate fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean proteins, and healthy fats into daily meals.
- **Stay Hydrated:** Water is essential to maintaining health and energy. Aim for 8 glasses a day.
- **Limit Added Sugars and Processed Foods:** Opt for natural, minimally processed options to reduce empty calories.
- **Plan Your Meals:** Preparing meals at home allows you to control portion sizes and ingredients.

Community health centers can provide nutrition counseling and workshops to help patients build healthier eating habits.



Resources to Support Your Goals

Community health centers and other organizations are here to help you reach your fitness and nutrition goals. Here are some trusted resources:

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): >>> [Fitness & Nutrition Tips](#)

Learn how to set achievable fitness goals and discover healthy eating strategies.



2. Nutrition Resources at Your Community Health Center

Many community health centers offer access to registered dietitians and free or low-cost nutrition counseling. Ask your provider about services available at your local health center.

3. [ChooseMyPlate.gov](#)

A free resource offering guidance on meal planning, food groups, and maintaining a healthy, balanced diet.



4. Local Fitness Programs and Classes

Many community health centers partner with local fitness organizations to provide community members with affordable fitness opportunities. Ask your local health center about nearby classes or partnerships.

Start Small, Stay Consistent

When it comes to fitness and nutrition, the journey is personal. Small changes lead to big results when you remain consistent. Remember: you don't need to overhaul your entire lifestyle overnight. Start by adding a daily walk, swapping sugary drinks for water, or trying a new healthy recipe. Celebrate your progress and keep building from there.

Your community health center is here to support you—whether it's through counseling, programs, resources, or encouragement. Reach out to your local health center today to get started on your journey toward a healthier, happier you.

Let's make 2025 the year of movement, balance, and wellness.

Connect with your local community health center to explore resources and schedule an appointment to discuss your fitness and nutrition goals.

Want additional tips and resources to be active?

Learn about [Active People, Healthy Nation](#), CDC's national initiative to help people be more physically active.



>>> [Explore Resources and Learn More with SPARC.](#)

>>> [Click here for all resources](#)



More dates to note for January



National Stalking Awareness Month

A Call to Action for Community Health Centers

January 2025 marks the twenty-first annual **National Stalking Awareness Month (NSAM)** and the second annual **Stalking Awareness Day of Action** on January 18th. These observances are vital opportunities to recognize and respond to the serious crime of stalking—a crime that can have devastating effects on individuals and communities.

Community health centers play a critical role in addressing stalking by supporting survivors, raising awareness, and connecting patients with resources. This January, the **Stalking Prevention, Awareness, & Resource Center (SPARC)** is encouraging everyone to **KNOW IT, NAME IT, AND STOP IT** through education, community engagement, and action.

Here's How You Can Get Involved:

- **Engage with Daily Social Media Posts:** Share awareness messages to educate your community and patients.
- Utilize the **Activity Guide** & To-Do List: Easy, actionable steps to support NSAM and its mission.
- Take NSAM's the Pledge: Commit to making a difference and supporting prevention efforts.

Materials are also available in Spanish to ensure accessibility for all community members.

Together, we can raise awareness, support survivors, and build safer, informed communities. Let's make this year the loudest one yet in addressing stalking.

More dates to note for January

Mental Wellness Month: Prioritizing Mental Health in Community Health Centers



By Lyndsey White, LCSW, IPHCA Behavioral Health, and SUD Director
January is **Mental Wellness Month**, a time to raise awareness about mental health, reduce stigma, and promote strategies for mental well-being. Community health centers are a vital resource for mental health care, offering support, counseling, and resources to help individuals manage stress, anxiety, and mental health challenges.

Key Resources:

- **SAMHSA** 
National Helpline:
1-800-662-HELP (4357) - 24/7 crisis support.
- **Mental Health America Resources** 
- **NAMI** 
Peer Support Programs

Visit our [Clinical Integration page](#)



Simple Strategies to Support Mental Wellness:

1. **Practice Mindfulness & Meditation:**
Reduce stress and build focus.
- [Explore Headspace Resources](#)
2. **Stay Physically Active:**
Regular exercise improves mood and reduces anxiety.
- [CDC Physical Activity Guidelines](#)
3. **Stay Connected:**
Relationships reduce isolation and provide support.
4. **Seek Professional Support:**
Access counseling or mental health services as needed.
- [Find a Health Center Near You](#)

Community Health Centers: A Gateway to Mental Wellness

Community health centers provide mental health screenings, counseling, trauma-informed care, and education to promote emotional well-being and build resilience.



This Mental Wellness Month, reach out to your local health center or access these resources to prioritize your mental health. You are not alone.



WEBINARS & TRAINING

All event times shown are Eastern



BPHC Workforce: Supporting Work-Life Balance During Staffing Transitions

Wednesday, January 15 / 2 -3 pm

Join us for a webinar on the importance of effective succession and transition planning to support work life balance.

[Registration page](#)



Infectious Disease Outbreaks and Impact on LGBTQIA+ People

Thursday, January 16 / Noon-1:00 pm

Hosted by the New England AIDS Education and Training Center

This webinar will update health centers on responding to outbreaks of syphilis and other sexually transmitted infections among MSM in their communities.

[Registration page](#)



Supporting and Understanding Tobacco Cessation Programs in Public Housing Primary Care Webinar Series

Thursdays, January 16 and 23 / 2-3 pm

Hosted by NCHPH and NHCHC

Two webinars focused on the Macro and Micro level of evidence-based practices to support tobacco cessation programs in community health center settings.

[Registration page](#)



The Role of Health Centers in Reducing the Burden of Radon- Induced Lung Cancer

Hosted by NNCC and NCHPH

Tuesdays, January 21 and 28 / 3-4 pm

A two-part webinar series on radon exposure and its impact on public housing residents.

[Registration page](#)



ICongenital Syphilis Learning Series

Hosted by Health Outreach Partners and Migrant Clinicians Network

Wednesdays, January 22 and 29 / 1-2:30 pm

A two-session learning series that will survey various topics on congenital syphilis.

[Registration page](#)



Enhancing Oral Health Care Access with CHWs

Hosted NNOHA and MHP Salud

Thursday, January 23 / 2-3 pm

Community health workers (CHW) can have an important role in care coordination for underserved communities. National Network for Oral Health Access (NNOHA) and MHP Salud have partnered to offer this free webinar on CHWs in health center dental programs.

[Registration page](#)

1.0 CDE available



Today with Macrae: Health Center Program Updates

Thursday, January 23 / 3 - 4:15 pm

Access details coming soon



WEBINARS & TRAINING

>>>

**For full details of this
and all IPHCA Events
- Click to visit our
Events Calendar**



Join IPHCA for Clinical Leadership Peer Call: Reducing Tobacco Use and Cancer Risk

January 24, 2025 / 9 - 10:00 am

The Indiana Primary Health Care Association (IPHCA) is excited to host a Clinical Leadership Peer Call this January focused on “Reducing Tobacco Use and Cancer Risk in Primary Care Settings.”



Holly Simpson, Quitline Director for **Indiana Tobacco Prevention & Cessation (TPC)** with the Indiana Department of Health, will lead the discussion.

With extensive experience as a Tobacco Initiative Coordinator and Tobacco Treatment Specialist, Holly brings a wealth of knowledge on community health coalition work and strategies to help individuals end nicotine dependence.

During the webinar, Holly will cover:

- The Ask, Advise, Refer approach
- How to effectively refer patients to the Quitline
- Services available through the Quitline to support patients on their quit journey

If you're interested in participating in this important discussion and learning opportunity, please **contact Nicole Stilianos** to secure your spot.

Join us to gain valuable insights, strategies, and resources to support your patients' journey toward reducing tobacco use and cancer risk.

>>> [Click here for full details](#)



IPHCA is committed to supporting Oral Healthcare provision across all community health care settings for our membership and throughout Indiana.



For help, to give feedback or provide resources for this section contact:

Karla Marin Muskus
or call: 317.630.0845

[Click here to browse Oral Health resources](#)



National Human Trafficking Prevention Month: The Critical Role of Community Health Center Dental Clinics

January marks **National Human Trafficking Prevention Month**—a time to raise awareness, foster education, and take action to combat human trafficking. Community Health Center dental clinics are uniquely positioned to serve as frontline defenders in identifying and supporting trafficking victims. Through routine care, specialized training, and compassionate action, oral health professionals can make a profound difference in the fight against this crisis.

Oral health providers, including dentists, dental hygienists, and assistants, are trained to recognize key dental and facial indicators of abuse—signs that may point to human trafficking. Victims often come into contact with trusted healthcare providers during routine dental visits, making these appointments critical opportunities to identify and intervene. With proper training and awareness, Community Health Center dental clinics can become safe spaces for victims, offering support, resources, and pathways to recovery.

The Scope of the Crisis

Human trafficking encompasses forced labor, sexual exploitation, organ trade, and other forms of abuse, impacting millions worldwide. Beyond the immediate trauma, victims face long-term health risks, social stigma, and economic hardship. Oral health professionals are essential partners in addressing these challenges, serving as part of the broader anti-trafficking response by identifying victims, connecting them to resources, and fostering trusted relationships that can lead to recovery.

Community Health Centers Leading the Way

Community Health Center dental clinics are vital in ensuring equitable, compassionate, and trauma-informed care. By integrating anti-trafficking education, awareness campaigns, and specialized training into their daily operations, these clinics can strengthen the response to human trafficking while building trust and providing safe spaces for vulnerable individuals.

Together, through education, awareness, and action, we can make a difference.

Let's seize the opportunity this **National Human Trafficking Prevention Month** offers to strengthen the response, support victims, and save lives.



Training and Resources for Oral Health Professionals

Equipping oral health professionals with specialized knowledge and training is key to improving victim identification and support. Several resources are available to support these efforts, including on-demand training opportunities:

1. **Human Trafficking: Exploring the Dental Implications** - This resource provides comprehensive insights into the role of dental professionals in identifying signs of trafficking and the implications for routine dental care.
2. **Recognizing a Human Trafficking Victim or a Perpetrator** - A free continuing education course available on DentalCare.com, this training empowers dental professionals with the knowledge to recognize victims and perpetrators of trafficking. This valuable resource illustrates how dental professionals can make a meaningful impact in the lives of trafficking victims through education and awareness.
3. **Human Trafficking Prevention in Dental Settings: A 2024 Guide** - This comprehensive guide offers a deep dive into strategies for preventing human trafficking in dental settings. Designed for dental professionals, it provides practical tools, strategies, and insights to recognize, respond to, and prevent human trafficking within clinical environments.

These on-demand trainings and resources provide actionable strategies and evidence-based approaches for dental professionals to recognize signs of abuse, integrate trauma-informed care into their practices, and connect individuals with appropriate resources.

[>>> Click here for all resources](#)



Webinar

Human Trafficking: Role of the Dental Clinician

January 23, 2025 / 8 – 9 pm EST

A free online dental continuing education course hosted by **Dental CE Academy**.

Human Trafficking is a global public health problem. Dental clinicians are uniquely positioned to identify victims and provide assistance. This webinar will create awareness as health clinicians and discuss red flags to identify victims in our dental practice.

Learning Objectives:

- Define Human Trafficking.
- Understand Red Flags in health care settings.
- Know how victims' trauma can impact their health care.
- Be able to act if you believe your patient is a victim of trafficking.

Free1 CE

[>>> Register here](#)



Cervical Health Awareness Month:

The Critical Role of CHC Dental Clinics in HPV Education and Prevention

January is **Cervical Health Awareness Month**—a time to shine a spotlight on the importance of preventive care, education, and early intervention in the fight against cervical cancer.

Community Health Center (CHC) dental clinics are uniquely positioned to play a pivotal role in raising awareness about the connection between HPV (human papillomavirus) and cervical cancer. Through routine dental visits, oral health providers can educate patients, especially adolescents, about the importance of HPV vaccination and its role in reducing the risk of cervical cancer.

Understanding the Link Between HPV and Cervical Cancer

HPV is a common virus that spreads through intimate skin-to-skin contact. While many HPV infections do not cause health problems, certain high-risk strains are known to lead to cervical cancer. In fact, nearly all cases of cervical cancer are linked to persistent infection with high-risk HPV strains. Vaccination is a powerful tool that can prevent the transmission of these high-risk HPV types, thereby significantly lowering the risk of cervical cancer.

Educational Resources for Dental Providers

To support these critical conversations, dental providers can access a variety of trusted educational resources from leading health organizations. These resources are designed to ensure that CHC dental providers are well-informed about the relationship between HPV and cervical cancer and can effectively communicate this information to their patients.

[>>> Click here to get these resources](#)

The Role of CHC Dental Clinics and Dental Providers

CHC dental clinics have unique opportunities to educate patients about HPV during routine dental check-ups. Adolescents and young adults—who are at the age when HPV vaccination is most effective—are often in these settings, providing a trusted and non-threatening environment for important health discussions. Dental providers can integrate HPV education into their practice by discussing:

- The preventative nature of the HPV vaccine and its role in preventing cervical cancer.
- The importance of starting the HPV vaccine series early, ideally at ages 11 or 12, though it can be given up to age 26 for maximum effectiveness.
- How the vaccine is safe, well-tolerated, and can save lives by preventing HPV-related cancers.

Dental providers can utilize their trusted relationships with patients and their families to open up these vital conversations, emphasizing prevention as a key pathway to health.

Community Health Center dental clinics are vital in not just providing oral care but in supporting comprehensive health through prevention and education. With their role as trusted care providers, dental clinics can help bridge the gap between HPV prevention and community health by engaging patients in routine, evidence-based conversations.

Together, through education, prevention, and compassionate care, we can reduce the risk of cervical cancer and improve community health.

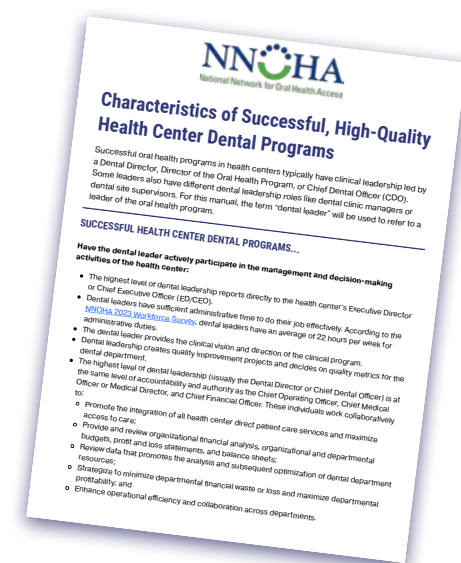
All event times shown are Eastern



Characteristics of Successful, High-Quality Health Center Dental Programs

This fact sheet outlines key strategies for success in creating a patient-centered, efficient, and collaborative dental program.

[Download here](#) or click the image



[Click here to browse Oral Health resources](#)

Latest resources from NNOHA

New Self-Paced Learning Module: UDS Data for Quality Improvement

Uniform Data System (UDS) data can be used to inform quality improvement initiatives in health center dental programs. This self-paced learning module demonstrates where to find national, state, and local UDS data. It will explain how specific UDS data can be used to understand health center efficiency, workforce ratios, productivity, and cost per visit.

By completing the online module and post-evaluation quiz, participants can receive 0.5 CDE.

[>>> Enroll here](#)

Enhancing Oral Health Care Access with Community Health Workers

Thursday, January 23, 2025 / 2pm Community health workers (CHW) can have an important role in care coordination for underserved communities. National Network for Oral Health Access (NNOHA) and MHP Salud have partnered to offer this free webinar on CHWs in health center dental programs. CHWs are an effective strategy to enhance dental service utilization, care coordination, interdisciplinary practice, and health education. The webinar will feature CHWs who are engaging with health centers to support oral health care in their community.

1.0 CDE will be offered. Attendees must register and attend using their own individual Zoom link in order to receive CDE.

Learning Objectives:

- Describe the community health worker model.
- Discuss how community health workers can be used to support increased access to oral health care.
- Learn from community health workers on their role in providing effective care coordination and oral health education.

[>>> Register here](#)



All event times shown are Eastern



Webinar

Dental Therapy: Misconceptions and Opportunities

Thursday, January 9 / 7–8 p.m.

Join CareQuest Institute and Community Catalyst for a webinar exploring how dental therapists can improve access to care and create more efficient dental practices.

Our expert panel will address common misconceptions, discuss the impact of dental therapists on expanding care in underserved communities, and highlight strategies for their successful integration into dental teams.

This webinar is eligible for 1 free CE credit.

[>>> For more information click here](#)



Webinar

Community Engagement and Oral Health Access for Individuals in Public Housing

Thursday, February 20, 2025 / 1pm

Health centers can engage with individuals living in public housing to increase access to oral health care.

National Network for Oral Health Access (NNOHA) and **National Center for Health in Public Housing** (NCHPH)

are partnering to offer this free 1-hour webinar.

The webinar will describe strategies for health center dental programs to connect people living in public housing to oral health care services. The webinar will also share strategies to enhance oral health literacy for the community. It will discuss methods to partner with community organizations to help support people in public housing in finding employment and healthcare services with health centers.

1.0 CDE will be offered. Attendees must register and attend using their own individual Zoom link in order to receive CDE.

Learning Objectives:

- Describe opportunities for health centers to support individuals in public housing to receive oral health services.
- Discuss strategies to optimize and enhance oral health literacy for community members.
- Learn methods for engaging with individuals in public housing to access oral health care and seek potential employment opportunities within the health center.

[>>> Register here](#)



2025 ADS Dental Infection Control Boot Camp

February 3 - 6, 2025, Atlanta

[>>> Registration is now open!](#)

Flyer

Water fluoridation is not only safe but also essential for preventing tooth decay and cavities

[View / Download here](#) or [click image](#)



Learning opportunity

New Smiles for Life Module: Silver Diamine Fluoride



This course discusses the appropriate use of silver diamine fluoride in caries treatment and prevention. Clinicians will learn the clinical indications and contraindications to silver diamine fluoride application, be able to describe the application of silver diamine fluoride and follow-up care, and summarize the risks, benefits, and alternatives to silver diamine fluoride treatment.

Educational Objectives

- Recognize the presence and impact of dental professional access gaps on equitable access to oral healthcare, and where medical access can mitigate these gaps
- Explain the cause and basic mechanisms of dental caries and describe how silver diamine fluoride acts to arrest dental caries
- Compare the mechanism of action and clinical indications for fluoride varnish and silver diamine fluoride
- Identify clinical indications and contraindications to silver diamine fluoride application, and summarize the risks, benefits, and alternative to silver diamine fluoride to provide informed consent for patients
- Demonstrate the application of silver diamine fluoride for treatment of dental caries and outline the follow up care and monitoring recommendations after silver diamine fluoride treatment



[>>> For more information and to register click here](#)



A Year of Voices: 11 Powerful Quotes on Oral Health

The road to a better oral health care system was filled with its share of dips and detours in 2024, but it was also full of progress and promise. These 11 powerful quotes gave us reason to cheer — and determination for the work ahead in 2025.

[>>> Click here to read more!](#)



RESOURCE BULLETIN

IQIN is a constituent network of community health centers within IPHCA, who work together to improve the quality and value of care provided to Indiana's most vulnerable residents.

By using health information technology and data, health centers are able to change the way they deliver care to produce better health outcomes for their patients.



[Visit IQIN on our site](#)

Quality Improvement resources for:

Cervical Cancer Awareness

Improving Cervical Cancer Prevention, Screening, and Management: A Toolkit to Build Provider Capacity:

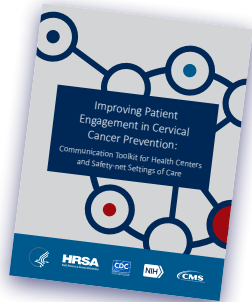
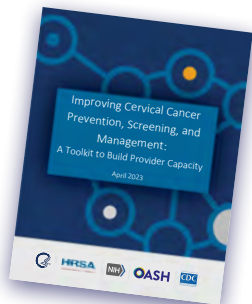
This toolkit is a guide to help providers improve cervical cancer prevention, screening, and management through feasible, evidence-based practices that are responsive to the unique challenges faced in safety-net settings. The information in this toolkit can also be helpful to other settings of care seeking to improve cervical cancer care uptake and delivery.

[>>> View / download here](#)

Improving Patient Engagement in Cervical Cancer Prevention:

This toolkit was developed to support efforts to increase patient and community engagement in cervical cancer prevention, screening, and management.

[>>> View / download here](#)



RESOURCE BULLETIN



#HealthHub: Social Media Content for Your Community

January is Cervical Cancer Awareness Month. Share these videos from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Cervical Cancer and the importance of getting screened on your social media platforms.

[>>> Click here to get the resources](#)

[>>> Click here to view all IQIN / QI resources](#)

Quality Improvement resources for:

Digital Health

Assessing the Care Team Tech Experience: A Digital Health Tool Toolkit

This toolkit helps health center electronic health record (EHR) and Information Technology (IT) departments to deliver effective EHR training for staff, whether for new hires, rolling out new EHR modules, or providing ongoing training support.

[>>> View / download](#)

Telehealth

Introduction to Rural Telehealth

This best practice guide provides tools and resources to help health care providers effectively use telehealth in rural communities. This information can be used to establish a new program or expand and enhance an existing telehealth program.

[>>> Read more](#)

The KLAS Corner

Register using your community health center's provided email address, and you will have access to all the resources KLAS provides.

[>>> Click here for more](#)

KLAS Arch Collaborative Success Pathway—EHR Reliability & System Speed

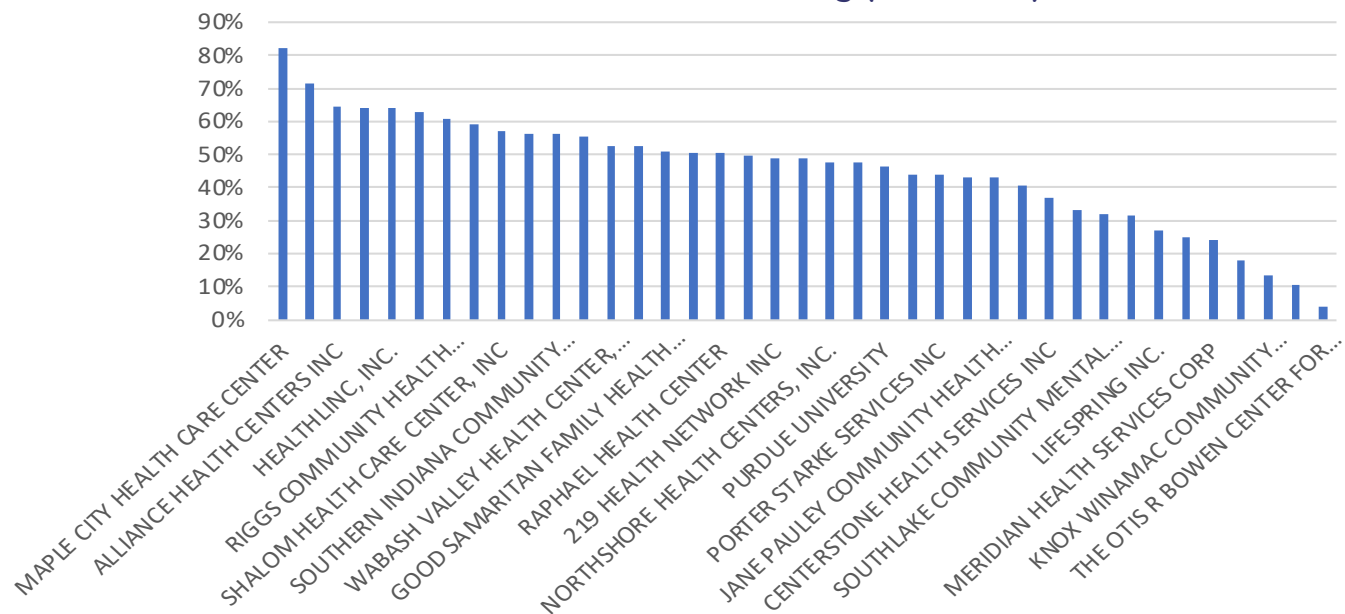
- Key Findings:
- Healthcare Delivery Organizations:
 - Optimization Journey
 - Self-Examination Questions
 - HIT Software Vendors:
 - Self-Examination Questions

[>>> Read more here](#)



UDS Data Spotlights: Cervical Cancer Awareness Each month, IQIN will highlight metrics from the recently released UDS 2023 data. In honor of Cervical Cancer Awareness Month, we are highlighting data on Cervical Cancer Screenings [Click to view data.](#) See the full dashboard [here.](#)

Cervical Cancer Screening (UDS 2023)



Context: This graph shows the percentage of female patients ages 21-64 who had an appropriate cervical cancer screening documented during or leading up to 2023. The denominator for this metric is female patients ages 21-64 at the start of the measurement year. The numerator includes those women 21-64 who had a cervical cytology performed during 2023 or two years prior and were at least 21 at the time of testing and those women 30-64 who had cervical cytology/HPV co-testing performed in 2023 or four years prior and were at least 30 at the time of testing. Women who had a hysterectomy with no residual cervix or women with a congenital absence of a cervix are excluded from the numerator. Women who were in hospice care during the measurement period are also excluded.



Expand Patient Access to Care

Optimize appropriate dermatology referrals, prevent patient leakage, and reduce unnecessary hospital admissions

LEARN MORE

Contact VisualDx:

Steve Gottshall sgottshall@visualdx.com

302 N. Goodman St, Suite E200, Rochester, NY 14607 / 443-690-5211

visualdx.com

Navigator Monday 2025



Save the date for Navigator Monday 3!



IPHCA has announced our 3rd annual Navigator Monday!
Date: May 5th, 2025
Location: **Founders Lodge**,
7201 Girl Scout Ln, Indianapolis, IN 46214

For questions / details please contact **Jenny Walden**

The day will include amazing presentations/speakers and CE class for Navigators. This event's focus is on Navigators, CAC's, SHIP Counselors, and Community Health Workers.

Breakfast and lunch will be served / free parking.

Registration will be available soon!

>>> For full details visit our [Events Calendar](#)

NEWS & UPDATES



For help, to give feedback or provide resources for the O&E section of this newsletter please contact:

Jenny Walden
or call: 317.630.0845



Webinar
Gleaners2Go

January 15, 2025 / 2 - 3pm

With Gleaners2Go, community members can select the food their household needs and schedule a convenient pick-up time. In this webinar, Margo Takehara and Brianna Sutherland will explain how your health center can partner to better support your community.

>>> [Click here to register](#)

Resource

EBT card lock feature helps prevent unauthorized use

As an added protection SNAP Benefit members have the ability to lock and unlock their EBT card. EBT card users are strongly encouraged to use card lock to protect their benefits from being stolen via card skimming, card cloning, and other similar methods.



To lock and unlock an EBT card please follow the steps below:

1. Go to <https://www.connectebt.com/inebtclient/>
2. Create an account if you do not have one, OR, log in with your user ID and Password
3. Click on "Lock/Unlock" within the portal
4. To lock your card, select "lock my card everywhere" then click SUBMIT
5. To unlock your card, select "unlock my card" then click SUBMIT

Fraud will not be tolerated as SNAP benefit theft victimizes Hoosiers who rely on these benefits to feed their families.

- To help protect SNAP benefits and combat SNAP fraud by card skimming, card cloning and other similar methods, we are asking our partners to please to share the "How to lock and unlock an EBT card," information below on your social media channels to help raise awareness of the EBT lock/unlock.

Message: SNAP Benefit members can now lock and unlock their EBT card. Learn how to protect your card and benefits here:

<https://on.in.gov/snapfraud>

X and Facebook

- **Burmese**
- **English**
- **Haitian Creole**
- **Spanish**

Instagram

- **Burmese**
- **English**
- **Haitian Creole**
- **Spanish**

Flyer

- **Burmese**
- **English**
- **Haitian Creole**
- **Spanish**

>>> [Visit our Outreach and Enrollment pages](#)

>>> [Click here for O&E in our Resource Center](#)

NEWS & UPDATES



News update

Update on QHP Eligibility for DACA Recipients and other Noncitizens

On December 9, a preliminary injunction in *Kansas v. United States of America* partially blocked implementation of a rule that allowed DACA recipients and others to enroll in a qualified health plan (QHP) through the Health Insurance Marketplace.

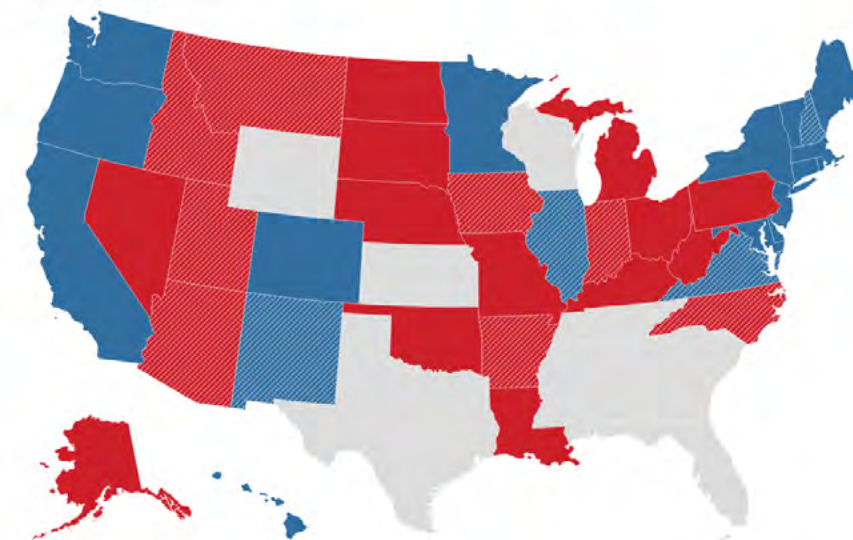
On December 23, 2024, the US Court of Appeals in the Eighth Circuit lifted the temporary administrative stay of the preliminary injunction, which was issued following an appeal filed by the Department of Justice.

As a result, DACA recipients and certain other noncitizen groups will not be able to enroll in Marketplace coverage in the 19 states that are involved in the lawsuit ...

>>> [Read the full news item here](#)

States that Have Adopted the Medicaid Expansion by Presidential Election Voting Result

■ Voted for Harris (20 states including DC) ■ Has a trigger law in place (12 states)
■ Voted for Trump (21 states)



Medicaid Expansion is a Red and Blue State Issue



A new KFF analysis lays out key facts about the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) Medicaid expansion, illustrating that both red and blue states could be affected by any potential efforts to scale back federal financing for the expansion or repeal it altogether.

The ACA's Medicaid expansion has been adopted by 41 states including the District of Columbia, split nearly evenly between states that voted for President-elect Trump (21 states) in the most recent election, and those that voted for Vice President Harris (20 states).

As of March 2024, over 21 million people were enrolled through the Medicaid expansion representing nearly a quarter of enrollment across all states and about three in ten Medicaid enrollees in expansion states.

Under the law, the federal government picks up 90% of the costs of covering the expansion population. In FY 2023, total spending on the expansion group was \$178.2 billion (including \$158.3 billion in federal funds). That represented 20% of the \$863.9 billion in total (state + federal) Medicaid spending across all states, and 26% of the \$686.9 billion in total Medicaid spending in just the expansion states and D.C.

Nearly 4.3 million expansion enrollees live in the 12 states with some type of trigger law that would end expansion coverage or require review of expansion coverage to mitigate increases in state costs if federal funding for the expansion is reduced.

>>> [Read the full brief here](#)

Resource

2025 Summary of Benefits and Evidence of Coverage Web Links

An updated version of the Summary of Benefits and Evidence of Coverage web links handout offered by SHIP is now available. This document includes a list of all the Medicare Advantage plans



around the state and a clickable link that takes you directly to the Summary of Benefits (SOB) and Evidence of Coverage (EOC) documents for each plan. This will assist in cutting down the time accessing these materials compared to other methods and speed up locating specific plan benefits for clients.

>>> [Click here to view the handout](#)

The SOB and EOC documents are a great resource to find specific details about an Advantage plan - such as 'how much you get for dental each year, how much the over-the-counter stipend will be ...' and so on.

We recommend saving these documents to your computer but they can also be accessed directly on Counselor's Corner at:

[Counselors.IndianaSHIP.com](https://www.counselors.indianaship.com)

OR by clicking this link: >>> [OEP 2024 Materials](#)

Thank you for all you do! And best wishes during Open Enrollment!

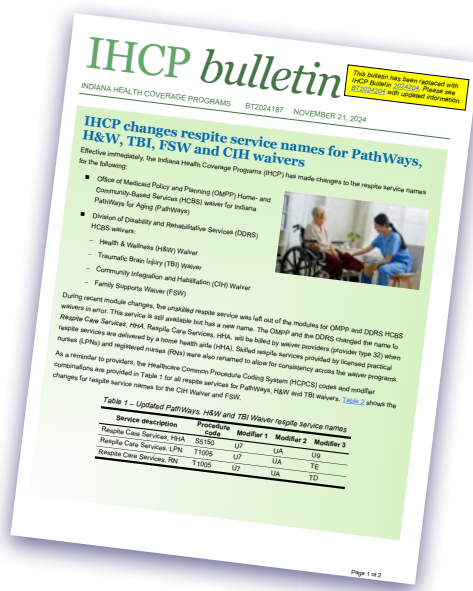
>>> [Visit www.shiphelp.org/](http://www.shiphelp.org/)

IHCP changes respite service names for PathWays, H&W, TBI, FSW and CIH waivers

Effective immediately, the Indiana Health Coverage Programs (IHCP) has made changes to the respite service names for the following:

- **Office of Medicaid Policy and Planning (OMPP)** - Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waiver for Indiana PathWays for Aging (PathWays)
- **Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) HCBS waivers:**
 - Health & Wellness (H&W) Waiver
 - Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Waiver
 - Community Integration and Habilitation (CIH) Waiver
 - Family Supports Waiver (FSW)

>>> [Read the IHCP bulletin BT2024187](#)



For help, to give feedback or provide resources for the Housing team please contact: **Alison Cole** or call: 317.630.0845

Planning for Housing Programs and Training in 2025

I recently joined IPHCA as the Housing Project Manager to develop programs and services that IPHCA's health centers can put to use to help their patients address their housing challenges.



Programming Opportunities

Starting in 2025, IPHCA will offer programming pertaining to Housing. I plan to launch a **new Peer Group** that meets on a regular basis where various housing topics will be presented to inform you about the needs, current resources and best practices FQHCs can implement to better serve patients with housing issues.

Some of the topics could include:

- **Barrier Busting Resources** such as Homeowner Repair Services, Township Trustees, Utility Assistance
- **Legal Aid Partnerships** to address Housing problems
- **Indiana's Homeless System**, and
- **Housing Development Opportunities** for Community Health Centers.

We currently have a **survey** out to all community health center staffs to gather your top interests. We hope to have responses completed by January 10th.

>>> [Click here to view/complete the survey](#)

- We will also offer additional programming at **IPHCA Forums or Annual Conference** where IPHCA membership can hear from national health leaders speak to the critical role housing plays in providing effective health care and from organizations from other states who are providing cutting-edge health and housing programming that is making a difference in their community. **Stay Tuned!**

Training Opportunities:

We are partnering with **Prosperity Indiana**, a statewide Community and Economic Development membership organization, and **HealthVisions Midwest** to develop a Housing Navigation Services training for Community Health Workers and, eventually, others who help people with their housing needs.

The development of this training is underway and we are looking for community health workers to participate in this process. Please **reach out to Jenny Walden** if you would like to participate.

- We may also partner with Prosperity Indiana to provide their **Housing Development Capacity Building 101 training** for any community health centers who want to try their hand in helping to develop new housing units in their community.

I want these offerings to be relevant and useful to you, the healthcare providers who know all too well the housing barriers your patients face.

Please do not hesitate to **reach out to me, Alison Cole**, with your ideas, concerns and questions.

Thank you!



IPHCA™ Policy & Advocacy

RESOURCE BULLETIN



To give feedback or provide resources for this section please contact

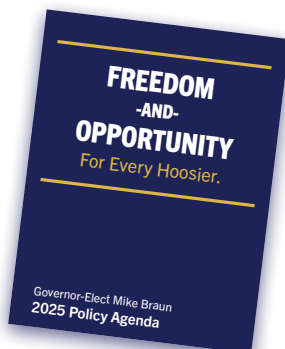
Julia Ketner

or call: 317.630.0845



Click the image to watch the Indiana Legislative Session live

Click to view / download Governor-elect Mike Braun's Freedom and Opportunity Agenda



>>> Visit our Policy and Advocacy pages

A Look at 2025

State Policy and Advocacy Efforts

The 2025 Indiana Legislative Session begins Thursday on January 8th and will run through April 29th . As it is a budget year, IPHCA's state legislative priorities are to ensure the state budget includes CHC appropriations for the next two years. As always, we will be working to ensure the 340B drug discount program is protected under state law including the use of contract pharmacies. We want to ensure FQHCs can continue providing services at School Based Health Centers without barriers or administrative burdens. IPHCA will be issuing a state legislator handout for members to use when talking with their legislators about the work of CHCs in the community.

- **Want to watch the Indiana Legislative Session live? [Click here](#)** to livestream relevant health and provider committee meetings.

Health Centers have always received bipartisan support regardless of who is in office. IPHCA and the Corydon group have been meeting with Governor-elect Mike Braun's transition team. We are working to ensure the needs of CHCs are met as the Governor-elect rolls out his health policy priorities. The Governor-elect's health care policy plan seeks to invest in a healthier Indiana by driving down healthcare costs, increasing access, and increasing transparency. **[Click here](#) to read Governor-elect Mike Braun's Freedom and Opportunity Agenda.** It is imperative now more than ever that CHCs continue to educate elected officials about the services they provide and the patients they serve.

Federal Policy and Advocacy Efforts

Congress has passed a Continuing Resolution that continues 2024-level CHC discretionary funding into March 14th of 2025. The Continuing Resolution also extends mandatory funding for 330 grantees along with funding for the National Health Service Corp and the Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education at 2024 rates through March 31st of 2025. IPHCA will lead a delegation of CHC leaders to Washington DC during the NACHC P&I conference to advocate for increased CHC funding and protections for 340B on February 6th.

Advocacy Opportunities

Why wait until National Health Center Week to invite a legislator to visit your CHC? If you are interested in hosting a legislator at your clinic, please **[contact Julia Ketner](#)** to schedule a tour and visit. When legislators visit your site, their eyes are opened to the breadth of the work your site renders to patients in their districts.

[Have a great 2025!](#)