Impetus for Change in Health Care Delivery, 1960s

Civil Rights Movement
Great Society, War on Poverty
Office of Economic Opportunity
Medicare & Medicaid
Underserved Communities
Civil Rights Movement
“This is the next and the more profound stage of the battle for civil rights. We seek not just freedom but opportunity. We seek not just legal equity but human ability, not just equality as a right and a theory but equality as a fact and equality as a result.”

President Lyndon B. Johnson in a 1965 commencement address to Howard University students.

Great Society, War on Poverty
Office of Economic Opportunity

OEO Director R. Sargent Shriver (center) and Senator Robert Kennedy (left)
President Johnson signs the Medicare and Medicaid programs into law as President Harry S. Truman looks on
Founding of the First Two Health Centers in the Nation

Physician-activists H. Jack Geiger & Count Gibson
Apartheid South Africa
Office of Economic Opportunity
Boston & Mississippi
Senator Edward M. Kennedy
Founders of the First U.S. Health Centers

H. Jack Geiger, MD
Count Gibson, MD
The Nation’s First Medical Home

Columbia Point Health Center
Dorchester, MA
Of the Community
By the Community
For the Community

Early community organizers at
Columbia Point, Dorchester
Each day brings new evidence of how rural poverty affects its victims—people go hungry, they get sick, they starve in spirit. In one small area in the Delta of Mississippi something is being done about it. A remarkable project is providing medical care, food and social services. But much more, it is helping the poor discover resources—in themselves—they didn’t know they had.

A stir of hope in Mound Bayou

The nation’s second community health center was founded in 1967
Delta Health Center
Mound Bayou, Mississippi
Senator Edward M. Kennedy
Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, established 1972
Health Centers Today

Growth
Cultural Competence
Patient Coverage
Clinical Excellence
State of the Art Facilities
Economic Impact
Model for the Future
1976: Growth

58 community health center sites, covering:

- Barre
- Brimfield
- Brockton
- Cambridge
- Chelsea
- Fall River
- Foxboro
- Holyoke
- Lynn
- Pittsfield
- Provincetown
- Shelburn Falls
- Somerville
- Springfield
- Stoughton/Avon
- Worcester
- Worthington

**Boston:**
- Allston-Brighton
- Back bay
- Charlestown
- Chinatown
- Dorchester
- East Boston
- Fenway
- Jamaica Plain
- Mattapan
- Mission Hill
- North End
- Roslindale
- Roxbury
- South Boston
- South End

Massachusetts Community Health Centers

The future of health care started here
2015: Growth

- Largest primary care network in the state
- **285+** community health center sites
- Serving **899,000** patients -- one out of eight residents -- in 91% of the state’s zip codes
- Health centers have added **295,000** patients -- a **49.6%** increase since the start of state health reform

Massachusetts Community Health Centers
the future of health care started here
1976: Cultural Competence

Language proficiency at health centers:

1. English
2. French
3. Greek
4. Haitian Creole
5. Italian
6. Portuguese
7. Spanish
37.8% of health center patients are better served in a language other than English.

50+ languages spoken at health centers:

- English
- Spanish
- Hindi
- Estonian
- Thai
- Somali
- Tajik
- Brazilian
- Edo
- Pashto
- Khmer
- Urdu
- Russian
- Italian
- Burmese
- Krio
- Arabic
- Tagalog
- Mandarin
- Albanian
- Arabic
- Polish
- Susu
- Croatian
- Haitian Creole
- Cantonese
- Indonesian
- Portuguese
- Afrikaans
- Vietnamese
- Brazilian
- Krio
- Susu
- Swahili...

2015: Cultural Competence
1976: Patient Coverage

Primary Insurance Options*: 3
1. Medicaid
2. Medicare
3. Blue Cross/Blue Shield

* Includes sliding fee scale for self-pay
2015: Patient Coverage

- Most health centers accept more than 25 different insurances with many accepting all.
- Patients by coverage type:
  - Medicaid: 41.4%
  - Subsidized: 10.5%
  - Medicare: 9.7%
  - Private: 19.6%
  - Uninsured: 18.7%
1976: Clinical Excellence

Back in 1976, the health center model employed a comprehensive approach for addressing the health needs of individuals and families -- just as it does today.
As of April 1, 2015, 61% of the nation’s federally funded health centers are recognized as patient-centered medical homes (PCMH)

86% of Massachusetts federally funded health centers are PCMH-certified
2015: State of the Art Facilities

MA health centers have received more than $217 million in federal funding to build new facilities, expand existing ones, upgrade technology and hire more staff.
2015: Economic Impact

➔ Health centers have spent decades bolstering the economic status of their neighborhoods by hiring and training local residents, stimulating local businesses and offering high quality, affordable health care.

➔ In 2013, Massachusetts health centers generated more than 12,000 full-time jobs, $1.86 billion in operating expenditures, and $1.1 billion in annual savings for the Commonwealth.
2015: Solution to Access & Cost

The care we provide is local, affordable, comprehensive and actively managed by teams of providers.

We continue to lead in integrating behavioral and medical health care and in offering patients augmented services such as dental, vision, and pharmacy -- all in one place.

In Massachusetts, health centers are estimated to generate more than $1 billion in savings for the Commonwealth.