

Nurse-Managed Health Clinics in Pennsylvania



**NATIONAL
NURSE-LED CARE
CONSORTIUM**
a PHMC affiliate

Ensuring Access to High-Quality Care

Every day, nurse-managed health clinics ensure Pennsylvanians access to high-quality, affordable health care. These clinics are managed by advanced practice nurses.

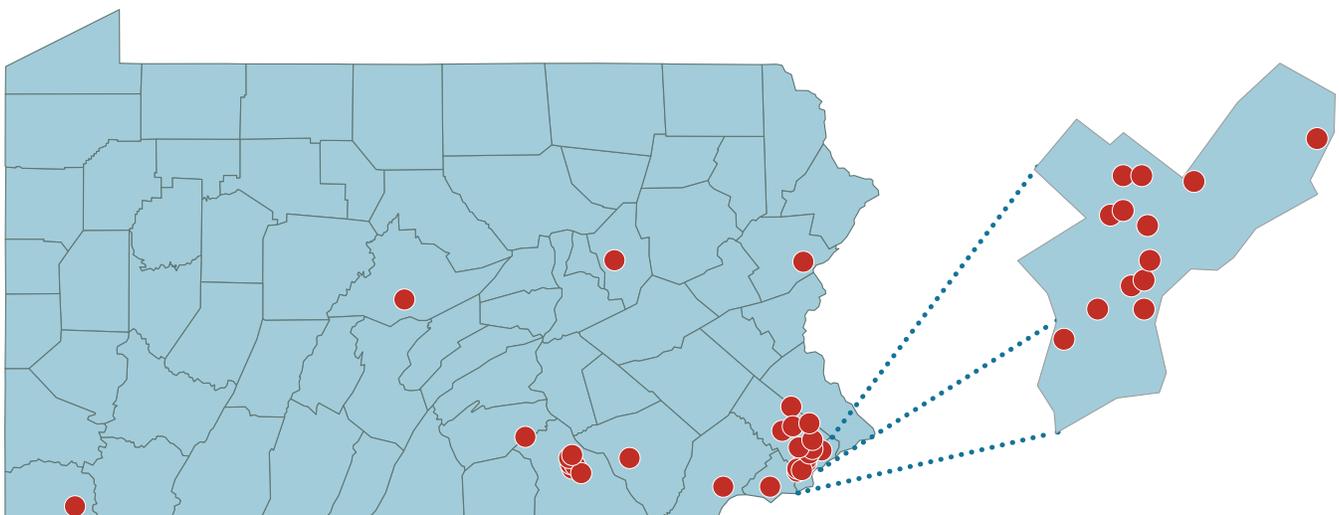
Nurses in these clinics offer primary care, health promotion, and disease prevention services. This includes physical exams, immunizations, treatment for acute and chronic illness, disease testing, prenatal care, dental care, drug and alcohol treatment, behavioral health, vision and hearing screenings, and many more services for both children and adults. Access to primary care not only keeps Pennsylvanians healthy, but also prevents costly ER visits.

As defined by Section 254c-1a of the Public Health Service Act, Nurse-Managed Health Clinics or NMHCs are, “nurse-practice arrangements, managed by advanced practice nurses (APNs), that provide primary care or wellness services to underserved or vulnerable populations and are associated with a school, college, university or department of nursing, federally qualified health center, or independent nonprofit health or social services agency.”

“NPs provide quality care at lower costs. Reducing barriers to effective NP practice could save Pennsylvanians more than \$6.4 billion over ten years.”

The Value of Full Practice Authority for Pennsylvania’s Nurse Practitioners, Duke University, July 2015

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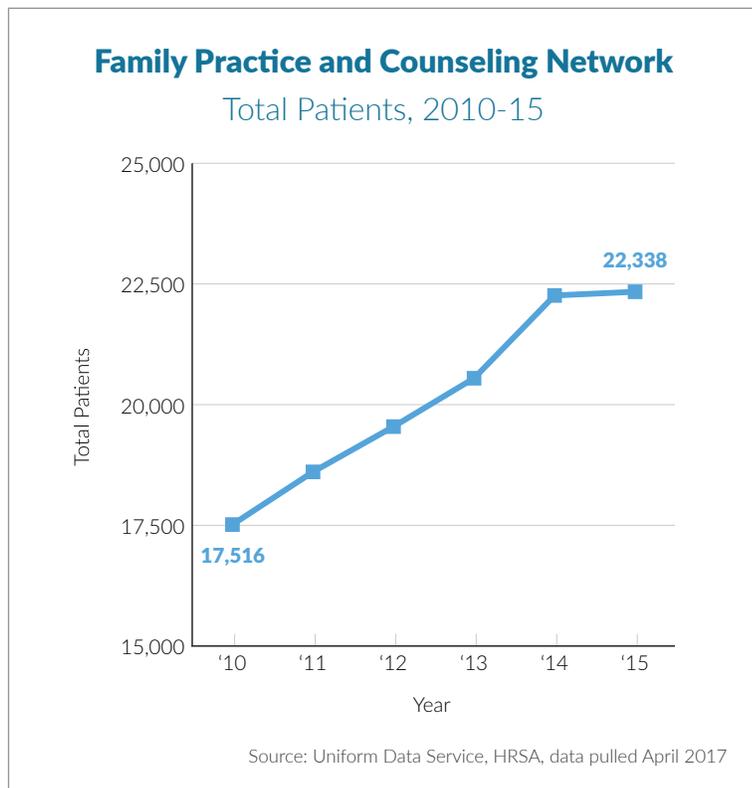
Nurse-Led Health Care is Popular in Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania is home to the largest nurse-managed federally qualified health center in the nation, the Family Practice and Counseling Network, and demand for nurse-managed care is increasing (see right).

There are 32 nurse-managed health clinics in Pennsylvania, located in Bucks, Chester, Cumberland, Delaware, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, Philadelphia, and York counties.

It's estimated that PA's nurse-managed health clinics service 200,000 patient visits annually.

Granting NPs full practice authority will allow nurse-managed health clinics to better serve patients. The 22 states that have granted NPs full practice authority have experienced greater access to care, fewer hospitalizations and readmissions, fewer ER visits, and increased access in rural and urban communities.



Pennsylvanians Who Benefit From Nurse-Managed Care

Nurse-managed health clinics in Pennsylvania provide access to care for the Commonwealth's most vulnerable populations.

In Kennett Square, migrant farmworkers and their families - nearly all of whom are uninsured - rely on Project Salud for a wide range of health, community, and educational services. In Philadelphia, Mary Howard Health Center serves over 2,000 homeless patients every year.

In Pennsylvania's nurse-managed health clinics, approximately 50% of patients identify as African-American and 15% identify as Latino. Excluding clinics which serve entirely uninsured populations, clinics surveyed reported, on average, 40% of patients Medicaid-eligible, 30% Medicare-eligible, 15% uninsured, and 6% privately insured.

Training the Next Generation of Primary Care Providers

NMHC-affiliated nursing programs at Bloomsburg University, LaSalle University, Holy Family University, Messiah College, Neumann College, East Stroudsburg University, Drexel University, Temple University, and the University of Pennsylvania, on average, provide clinical placements for 50-60 students and faculty each year.

Since 2012, NNCC has been partnering with the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and nine other PA schools of nursing to administer a federally funded Graduate Nurse Education demonstration project. NNCC oversees 15 nurse-managed clinical placement sites that provide training opportunities for approximately 200 APRN students annually. In the first two years of the demonstration, the Philadelphia sites produced 703 APRNs, a 78% increase since the demonstration started.

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