## **Uncompensated Care Pool**

## Request

Ensure that the Diagnostic & Treatment Center Uncompensated Care Pool (D&TC UCP) is Fully Funded

## **Background**

- The Governor's budget includes \$54.4 Million for the D&TC UCP, which is typically matched by the federal government.
  - However, CMS has yet to approve the match for this year, which could result in a \$54.4 million shortfall for health centers.
- According to our mission and our mandate, FQHCs are only located in designated underserved communities, and they provide access to primary and preventive health care regardless of insurance status or ability to pay.
- Although FQHCs have robust outreach and enrollment programs, 22% of health center patients are uninsured.
- The D&TC UCP offsets the cost of caring for the uninsured and ensures that FQHCs can continue to serve as safety net providers for uninsured New Yorkers.
- Without this funding, FQHCs may face operating cost shortfalls and their financial viability may be severely impacted.