

Federally Qualified Health Centers: THE HEART OF HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Uncompensated Care Program Funding for Uninsured Visits

\$54.4 Million in contingency funding to fill the gap created by the loss of 2015 Federal Indigent Care Funding

- The Clinic Uncompensated Care Pool (UCP) is comprised of state funding with equal federal matching funding. Since 2011, the pool has totaled \$108 million - \$54.4 million in state funding and \$54.4 million in federal funding.
- The Governor's SFY 2016-17 Executive budget includes the \$54.4 million state share of funding for the current year. However, there is currently a **\$54.4 million gap in funding because the federal match expired at the end of 2014 and the State has not secured an extension** from CMS for 2015 or beyond.
- As a result, FQHCs and other safety net providers are experiencing a **50% cut in 2015 indigent care funding**. If a match is not secured, this gap will continue to grow into 2016-17.
- Nearly 25% of health centers that receive these indigent care funds are currently experiencing **operational deficits**.
- This loss of funding means that health centers will be forced to **reduce staff, eliminate expansion plans and/or limit clinic hours**. These changes will hurt the most vulnerable New Yorkers and the providers whose mission is to serve them.
- **Unless the State allocates \$54.4 million in contingency funding to fill the 2015 gap and secures approval for a federal match going forward, this financial crisis will continue to grow**, reducing access to care at a time when New York State is seeking to expand access to primary care services, reduce unnecessary hospitalizations, and improve health outcomes.