



## 10 Steps to Building a FQ Health Center:



1. Conduct a Community Needs Assessment
2. Form a Steering Body/Advisory Council
3. Develop a Business Plan
4. Identify Land/Building & Other Physical Space Considerations
5. Develop Community Governance
6. Secure Funding and Resources: Submit Application to HRSA for FQHC Status, Obtain State and Local Funding, Become Eligible for Medicaid & Medicare Reimbursement
7. Plan to Meet Health Care Standards
8. Secure Providers: Hire and Train Staff
9. Identify Information Technology to Support Operations and Management Functions
10. Open the Health Center: Begin Operations and Maintain Ongoing Compliance

### Timeline Considerations:

- The entire process can take 12–24 months depending on funding availability, community readiness, and regulatory approvals.
- Securing a HRSA New Access Point grant can be highly competitive; some health centers start as an FQHC Look-Alike while seeking full designation.

Source: MLCHC and others

### How You can Help:

- Volunteer to do the work
- Attend Events
- Lobby our elected officials and your health care provider to advocate for us.
- Donate



Learn about our continued work:  
<https://bit.ly/hphwcLnktree>

