



**CEO Monthly Report  
to  
CHC Board of Directors  
March 24, 2025**

Reporting period: February 15, 2025 – March 21, 2025

# Advocacy and Health Policy Federal Focus



- On March 15, 2025, the President signed a full-year “continuing resolution” (CR) that continues funding the federal government through the rest of the fiscal year, ending September 30, 2025.
  - Funding remains at the prior annualized rate of \$4.5 billion.
  - Community Health Center Program “ask” remains at \$5.8 billion.
  - Extends Medicare telehealth flexibilities (including for FQHCs and RHCs) through FY25.
  - Delays the requirement that Medicare patients receiving behavioral health services via telehealth have an in-person visit within 6 months of starting services until October 1, 2025.
- Continuing to look for (and advocate for) opportunities in the Reconciliation process
- Closely following proposals for Medicaid “savings”
  - Avenues being considered: expansion states, work requirements, reduced FMAP, 340B carve-in, and the list continues to evolve.
- Veer/Williams attended to South Carolina Business Council March meeting with Dr. Vicki Young from SCPHCA as our guest. Congressional speaker was Congressman Russell Fry – recently appointed to Energy and Commerce Committee.

- 340B Working Table has been confidentially advised that the Senate Gang of Six (G6) is fully reconstituted with official press release announcing the members expected any day.
  - Indicated intent to resume work on patient value focused reform of the 340B Program.
  - Acknowledged the discussion draft of SUSTAIN and the deliberative process used will serve as a starting point for their work going forward.
  - Placed members of the Working Table on notice of request for face to face “summit” and availability for ongoing field expertise.
  - Full day policy review session scheduled for April 1, 2025.
- NACHC’s 340B policy strategy and advocacy strategy has taken a back seat to funding at the current time.
- **Good News:** HHS urged a federal district court to dismiss lawsuits from Eli Lilly, Bristol Myers Squibb, and Novartis related to proposed 340B rebate models they hope to implement. **This is the first time the Administration has publicly addressed the drugmaker 340B rebate issue in court**, arguing the models would disrupt 340B. HHS maintained the prior administration’s position that the models are inconsistent with the 340B statute and cannot be implemented without agency approval. However, it did leave the door open for a properly vetted rebate model in the future if it balanced the interests of drugmakers and covered entities.

- Eunice Medina has been confirmed as Director of SC DHHS.
- General Assembly passed a \$5 million increase to Medicaid “maintenance of effort” budget.
- Sharp focus on PBM reform:
  - S.342 introduced;
  - 3M Committee convened an ad hoc work group;
  - 340B has surfaced in hearings; and
  - SV expected to serve as SCPHCA witness.
- Independent Scope of Practice bill for APPs moving forward.
  - SCPHCA convened meeting with clinicians (Dr. Simons participated) with input discussed at Board of Directors meeting.
  - Legislative Committee (SV Chair) developing official position to be conveyed to General Assembly.

# Advocacy and Health Policy State Focus



- Leadership and Staff Development:
  - To be discussed in Executive Session.
- Funding:
  - No new funding opportunities to address.
- Organizational Activities:
  - Assessment of CHC’s Risk Management Strategy and Program completed by external consultant, resulting in a comprehensive report and proposed workplan with supporting resources.
    - Assessment report undergoing review by applicable team members.
    - Consultant available to assist with interim staffing and recruitment support.

# Strategic & Operational Updates



A brand is a product, service, or concept that is distinguished from others and has a **unique identity**. It can also be defined as the value a product or service has to its customers, or the way a company does business.

## What is Carolina Health Center's "brand"?

A true health care home providing whole person/whole family care that extends beyond the walls of the traditional medical practice to positively impact social drivers of health and well being.

A collective of individual compassionate and caring human beings that each care about the health and well being of others and work together to promote health equity and social justice.

A leader, convener, and partner in our communities, promoting collaborative practices that will improve the health of our communities for generations to come.



# Board Development and Community Engagement

- Executive Committee for 2024-26 Term:
  - Chair: Abby Banks
  - Vice Chair: John Britt
  - Secretary Treasurer and Chair of Finance Committee: Bonnie “Boo” Ramage
  - Chair, Strategic and Program Planning Committee: Julian Gale
  - Chair, Development and Advocacy Committee: David Otabor



- NACHC Executive Committee meets on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month.
- **NACHC has launched the federal Action Support Team – F.A.S.T – that includes a resource page and weekly F.A.S.T. calls to discuss developments in the rapidly moving political arena.**

## External Partnerships , Affiliations, and Civic Activities

### National Association of Community Health Centers

#### **NACHC**

- Secretary of the Board of Directors/Member of the Executive Committee
- Chair, Membership Committee
- Chair Subcommittee for Pharmacy Policy and Operations
- Member of Legislative, Health Policy , Clinical Practice, and Rules Committees
- Member of Task Force on Undoing Racism
- Member of the Steering Committee for the 340B Work Group
- Member of Ad Hoc Task Force for revision of Mission, Vision, and Values

- **OCHIN:**
  - Attend regular CEO Steering Committee meetings.
  - CHC team will attend Annual Learning Forum
  - **Continuing to provide support to our HopeHealth colleagues as they evaluate the benefits of moving to the OCHIN EPIC collaborative.**
- **SCPHCA:**
  - Monthly meetings of Legislative Committee (SV serves as Chair), 330 Network, and Board of Directors.
  - **Active participant in multi-stakeholder coalition to introduce state legislation prohibiting contract pharmacy restrictions for 340B covered entities.**
  - **Facilitating the development of a position statement regarding Independent Scope of Practice bill for APPs.**
- **CIMS:**
  - SV is one of 5 Managing Partners and serves as Chair of the Clinical Committee.
  - **Joint provider recruitment initiative initiated – CHC’s recruitment team shared as a model and Dr. Lance Braye featured speaker on the website.**
- **Self Regional Healthcare:** No new developments
- **ACO 206:**
  - **First Board meeting was held during which performance measures and distribution methodology approved.**
- **Civic Activities:**
  - Board Chair, Abby Banks was a featured speaker Women’s Leadership Upstate Conference 2025.

## Consulting Activities and Speaker Engagements

- **340B Coalition 2025 Winter Conference completed with invoice for services in the amount of \$6900 submitted to 340B Health. External colleagues who assisted with program to be paid a total of \$2400.**
- **Contract received for planning and coordination of CHC specific programming for the 340B Coalition 2025 Summer Conference.**
- No other consulting activities underway.



Please don't hesitate to email or call with any questions you may have or additional information needed:

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