

TIMELINE

1964

NATIONAL SCENE

President Lyndon Johnson signs the Economic Opportunity Act as the centerpiece of the “War on Poverty.” Neighborhood health centers in Boston, Massachusetts and Mound Bayou, Mississippi receive the first federal funding as part of the Johnson Administration’s “War on Poverty.” In the following years, community activists in the Bay Area organize health clinics as part of the growing community health center movement.

1967

Community activists, led by four West Oakland African American women, established the **West Oakland Health Council**. Federal funding was received in 1969 to build and staff the West Oakland Health Center at 700 Adeline Street.

EARLY 1970S

Tri-City Health Center first opened as a women’s health clinic, offering family planning services and pregnancy counseling services to uninsured and underserved women.

1971

La Clínica de La Raza first opened to the community as a single storefront operation in Oakland, providing free medical, dental and optometry services.

1972

Axis Community Health, initially called Valley Community Health Center, provided medical services to low-income children in Eastern Alameda County who had no other access to health care.

Native American Health Center started providing medical and dental services to the urban Native community and other underserved populations in the Bay Area.

To reduce health disparities in migrant communities and address the growing poverty rate, three entities—Tri-City Family Planning, the Brown Berets, and Union City Health Committee—came together to establish the first clinic in the area: the Tiburcio Vasquez Medical Clinic in Union City, now called **Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center**.

1974

Asian Health Services starts in a one-room clinic in Oakland Chinatown, staffed by community activists and student volunteers who serve community members who need culturally and linguistically competent medical services and advocacy.

LifeLong Medical Care started when a small group of Gray Panthers in Berkeley founded the Over 60 Health Center, an innovative solution to addressing the unmet need of elder care.

Community health centers establish the **Alameda Health Consortium** to advocate with one voice.

1975–1977

NATIONAL SCENE

Congress authorizes the Community Health Centers program for the first time as a permanent federal program under Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act.

President Jimmy Carter rolls out a major expansion of health centers, more than doubling program funding over 4 years.

1978

The Coalition to Fight Infant Mortality, a coalition of 40 groups in East Oakland including the Alameda Health Consortium, organized to demand that Alameda County ensure early and comprehensive prenatal care for low-income women and women of color.

1984

NATIONAL SCENE

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) was identified as the cause of AIDS.

1985–1986

NATIONAL SCENE

Under the National Association of Community Health Centers and under the leadership of Sen. Ted Kennedy, health centers rallied bipartisan support to fight back efforts under the Reagan Administration to block grant community health center funding. State and Regional Primary Care Associations (PCAs), formed by health centers to monitor state policy developments, received their first federal funding and recognition.

1986

The Alameda Health Consortium organizes as part of statewide efforts against “patient dumping” of emergency room patients from private to county hospitals. The following year, California legislature bans “patient dumping.”

1988

The Alameda Health Consortium begins the On-Site Medi-Cal Eligibility (OSME) Project to ensure that pregnant women are given the option to enroll into Medi-Cal at the location where they received medical care, thereby eliminating trips to County offices and improving access to early prenatal care.

1987 – 1992

NATIONAL SCENE

The George H.W. Bush Administration increased federal funding by more than \$150 million to community health centers. Congress extended malpractice coverage under the Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) to health centers and created the new Drug Pricing Program (340B), requiring pharmaceutical manufacturers to sell medicines to health centers and other safety net providers at deeply discounted rates.

1990

NATIONAL SCENE

The federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 required the

TIMELINE CONTINUED

outstationing of Medicaid eligibility workers at Federally Qualified Health Centers.

Congress passed the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act, a program for individuals living with HIV/AIDS who are low income, uninsured, or underinsured.

1992

Tri-City Health Center in collaboration with the Alameda Health Consortium secures Ryan White Title III (Part C) Early Intervention Services Program funding to expand the capacity of Alameda County's community health centers and public hospital system to reach the underserved and disenfranchised HIV/AIDS population.

1994

The Alameda Health Consortium health centers founded the **Community Health Center Network (CHCN)** to support health centers to operate in a rapidly expanding managed care environment.

With active support from health center leaders from Alameda County, a new statewide clinic association called the California Primary Care Association (CPCA) was formed to address emerging state and federal health reforms.

1995–1997

NATIONAL SCENE

Congress and the White House accelerate the growth of managed care plans.

1997

NATIONAL & STATE SCENE

Congress launches a major expansion of children's health coverage by creating the State Children's Health Insurance (CHIP) program (known as Healthy Families in California).

The Alameda County Superior Court rules in favor of plaintiffs La Clinica de La Raza and Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center in Yvette Doe v. Belshe, preserving prenatal care for low-income undocumented women in California.

1998

The Community Health Center Network's in-house Management Services Organization (MSO) begins with 3,050 health center patients who are Blue Cross Medi-Cal members.

Partnerships between the Alameda Health Consortium, Alameda County Medical Center, Alameda County Social Services Agency, Alameda County Health Care Services Agency, and the Alameda Alliance for Health were formalized into a group called the Access to Care Collaborative.

2000–2004

NATIONAL SCENE

Health centers received strong bipartisan support in Congress: 4-year reauthorization of the consolidated Health Centers authority (under PHS §330), including operational support to health center-owned/operated networks such as CHCN.

2003

The Alameda Health Consortium begins work with member health centers and CPCA on emergency preparedness training and planning, in response to growing national concerns about the ability of the health care infrastructure respond in disaster situations.

The Alameda Health Consortium and CHCN launch "Tobacco as a Vital Sign" initiative at health centers to increase efforts to help patients stop using tobacco.

2004

Alameda County voters pass Measure A, a ½ cent sales tax to support health care safety net services, including community clinics.

2005

The Alameda Health Consortium advocates for Mental Health Service Act funding to integrate mental health services in primary care health clinics.

2010

The CHCN managed care membership increases to 50,000 health center patients.

NATIONAL SCENE

President Barack Obama signs the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act into law.

2011

The Health Program of Alameda County (HealthPAC) is created under the federal 1115 Medicaid waiver, eventually expanding access to care to 90,000 uninsured.

CHCN health centers jointly decide to implement NextGen Electronic Practice Management/Electronic Health Record and select a common third party hosting company, beginning the transition from paper medical charts to electronic systems.

2012

Alameda County awarded AHC and member health centers \$2.4 million over a 3 year period in Mental Health Service Act funds to increase behavioral health care services offered at primary care settings.

NATIONAL SCENE

The Supreme Court rules to preserve Obamacare.

2013

The Alameda Health Consortium trains 140 health center staff to become Covered California certified enrollment counselors to assist uninsured individuals and families to enroll in health insurance as the full implementation of the Affordable Care Act begins.

2014

AHC/CHCN health centers rally a second time to help pass Measure AA, extending and guaranteeing sales tax revenue to fund essential health services for the uninsured in Alameda County through 2034.

CHCN managed care membership increases by more than 21,000 in the first phase of California's Medi-Cal expansion; CHCN's total membership reaches 100,000 in June 2014.

AHC/CHCN health centers now serve more than 175,000 residents of Alameda County.