



2020 BREAKOUT REPORT:

Convening Community Health Centers

By working together, community health centers exchange ideas, identify shared concerns, and develop solutions that benefit patients. In 2020 the Association facilitated collaboration between health centers through online convenings, workgroups, and the online discussion forum on our website.

COVID Roundtable

As we all learned and adapted to the pandemic as it evolved, the collective wisdom and creativity of the community health centers was invaluable. With Community Health Network of Washington (CHNW), the Association hosted an online weekly COVID Roundtable to discuss new developments, share individual challenges and successes, translate new regulations, identify needs, and develop action plans and responses. These conversations helped highlight the extreme financial impact of dental services being suspended and a strategy to secure needed government funding.

"This has been an extraordinary time to start in my role at Unity Care NW. I'm not sure I would still be standing without the extraordinary support that you, and a chorus of others, have extended to me and our organization during this [COVID-19] crisis. It has been a true honor to see this pandemic bring out the best in those whom I have the privilege of working with." – Jodi Joyce, CEO, Unity Care NW, 5/21/20

COVID Financial Impact Analysis

Early in the pandemic, when health centers were faced with necessary service reductions, such as suspending dental and non-emergency visits and reducing all face-to-face services, it quickly became clear that this crisis response would take a heavy financial toll. The Association hired national accounting firm CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA) to conduct a financial analysis of projected impacts from these operational changes over a six-month period. The analysis forecast losses that would devastate our healthcare safety net system, including 167 clinic closures, 8,000 staff layoffs, and \$473 million in lost revenue. This data enabled us to generate media attention about the situation and advocate with local and federal policymakers for emergency funding.



**Washington Association
for Community Health**

Community Health Centers
Advancing Quality Care for All