



Expansion Campaign

Community Health Alliance needs your support to expand healthcare services in fast-growing Sparks. Won't you commit to giving today?

The Vision

Community Health Alliance opened the Sparks Health Center on Oddie Boulevard on August 30, 2016. CHA's vision was to create a robust center for health care access right in the neighborhood for residents of zip code 89431 in Sparks and surrounding areas, where almost one in five residents live below the poverty level and nearly half (47%) are low income.

The Sparks Health Center offers medical care, dental care, WIC, pharmacy services, and behavioral health care, as well as enrollment in health insurance programs. Serving all ages, the CHA Sparks Health Center boosts the health status of all the area's residents.

Why Now? The Need!

Only 35.4% of residents in 89431 are accessing health care services. We could be seeing almost three times the number of patients currently being served, but it takes more space and more providers to serve more patients.

CHA built the Sparks medical and dental facility in previous commercial space. By early 2017, CHA was routinely seeing more than 500 medical patients per month. CHA began treating dental patients in Sparks in March 2017 and quickly rose to the level of 350+ dental visits per month. By 2019, CHA had outgrown the space in the Sparks Health Center. To meet community needs, we plan to expand by adding medical exam rooms, a prescription food pantry, expanded waiting room and pharmacy.

CHA's Sparks Health Center and all of 89431 are designated by the Federal government as a Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Area, a Dental Health Professional Shortage Area, and a Mental Health Professional Shortage Area. Meeting patient needs now supports better health outcomes and also takes pressure off local emergency rooms so the entire community can be better served.

"[The Center] is in the heart of my ward. The need to serve these individuals is here now. Any support you can give is appreciated."

-Sparks City Councilman Don Abbott



The Plan

To expand our current Sparks Health Center, CHA will need \$1,000,000. Features of the expansion include:

- Six additional exam rooms (two additional Medical providers)
- Increase the size of the pharmacy
- Expand internal lab and add an adjacent bathroom
- Expand waiting room
- Add a conference room
- Add a food pantry
- Add a provider office
- Add private restroom just for staff
- Add privacy/safety glass to check-in/check-out windows to improve safety

CHA's construction on the Sparks expansion is now underway, with completion expected by April 2021.



Serving A Growing Community

Population growth in Northern Nevada is a pressing issue. Not only do we lack enough affordable housing, we have stretched the limit of every basic service provided in our community, with the Covid-19 pandemic only increasing pressure on our locations. For CHA and our patients, this translates into long wait times for appointments and a lack of available services. Low-income families who are already coping with significant challenges add health care to their list of inaccessible necessities. Falling back on the emergency room as a source of care incurs a higher cost for services and a lack of continuity of care.



Some features of Community Health Centers (including CHA) that are particularly important to know:

- Provide high-quality care—we strive for excellence, follow best practices, and hire highly qualified, compassionate, and enthusiastic staff and providers
- Open to all residents—regardless of insurance status or ability to pay
- Serve high-need areas—located in areas identified as having elevated poverty, higher than average infant mortality, lower health ratings, and limited access to primary care
- Save our community money—reduce expensive emergency, hospital, and specialty care costs with cost-effective preventative treatment saving the health care system \$24 billion a year nationally
- Are governed by a Board of Directors requiring 51% patient membership

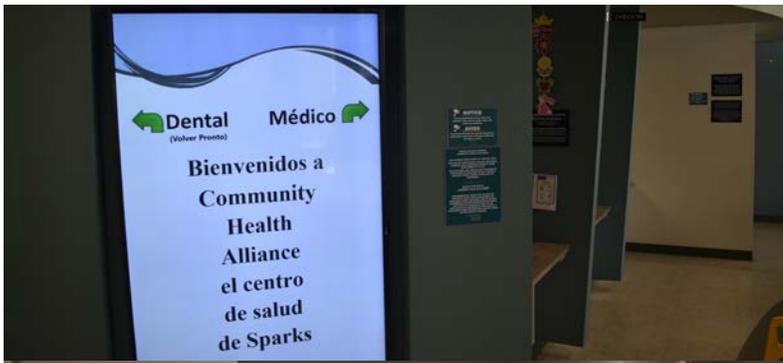
The Impact

CHA estimates 6,000 more patients per year in Sparks after completion of the project, including many new patients who have not had access to care. Because we have access to the retail space immediately to the west of the strip mall, we will be able to maintain patient service while construction is taking place.

An expanded space in the Sparks Health Center will allow CHA to strengthen our community further:

- Keep more children and adults healthy with comprehensive, quality, and cost-effective care
- Stimulate the economy—with over 250 staff and a budget of \$25 million, CHA infuses over \$20 million into the local economy through direct and indirect spending
- For every \$1 million invested in a Community Health Center, a community generates \$1.7 million in new economic activity
- Increased preventative medical and dental care helps avoid unnecessary emergency room visits, medical and oral treatment, and hospitalization costs

**Please help us ensure the health of our Sparks neighbors.
Contribute to CHA's campaign now!**



Who We Are

Community Health Alliance is a local non-profit community health center whose mission is to provide quality, affordable, comprehensive health services to all. Founded by physicians from the Washoe County Medical Society in 1993 as HAWC (Health Access Washoe County) Community Health Center, HAWC grew into Community Health Alliance in 2012 when they assumed the programs of Saint Mary's Mission Outreach. CHA provides care in seven clinical sites as well as mobile units throughout Washoe County. Established to meet the needs of the working uninsured, CHA serves primarily low-income families, 60% of whom are Latinx. Patients can access primary medical care, dental care, behavioral health care, nutrition services, including WIC, and low-cost pharmacy services.

For more information on Community Health Alliance and this project, contact:

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