



Healthcare Funding

Florida has a serious challenge to the long-term sustainability of healthcare funding for the safety net population. Florida is facing increased financial pressure from the rate increases in the Managed Medical Assistance (MMA) program, enrollment increases in the Medicaid population, and reductions in federal Low Income Pool (LIP) funding. If our state wants to ensure low-income families are able to access care, we must make changes to how Florida funds healthcare.

FH supports funding the Low Income Pool (LIP). LIP is a funding pool used to support health care providers that offer uncompensated care to the uninsured and underinsured patients. The LIP program is funded by local, state, and federal funds. In 2016, the federal government will lower its portion of LIP funds from \$1 billion to \$600 million and end the program in 2017. In the long term, Florida needs to look at a sustainable solution for its uninsured, whether that is expanding healthcare or creating a state-funded LIP. Florida needs stability in the health care system, and if the LIP gap is not filled it will cause a rise in overall health care costs and affect the number of patients served. This will also increase the cost shift to commercial insurance patients.

- **Support state funding of \$400 million to fill the federal gap in LIP funds**

Free and Charitable Clinics offer free primary care services to uninsured families. They serve approximately 125,000 each year. Since Florida has not expanded Medicaid, the need for these clinics has become even greater. FH supports the important work of these clinics and has partnerships with several clinics across Florida.

- **Support \$4.5 million allocation for Free and Charitable Clinics**

Florida Hospital is a not-for-profit hospital system with 22 hospitals in 11 counties. We are part of Adventist Health System, the largest protestant not-for-profit hospital system in the US. We have received the #1 hospital ranking in Florida the past 3 years. Our flagship campus in Orlando serves more Medicare patients than any other hospital in the US.

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