

# Arizona Department of Health Services Update

Jennie Cunico  
Cabinet Executive Officer  
Executive Deputy Director

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# Today's Presentation

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- Overview of ADHS
- ADHS Updates
- Workforce Programs
- Arizona Health Improvement Plan
- AzREACH

# Arizona Department of Health Services

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## Vision

Health and Wellness for all  
Arizonans

## Mission

Promote, protect, and improve the  
health and wellness of individuals  
and communities in Arizona.

## Values

Integrity | Collaboration | Accountability | Equity Focused | Excellence | Dedication

We strive to set the standard for personal and community health through **direct care, science, public policy, and leadership**. The department operates programs in the following areas:

- Disease prevention and control
- Health promotion
- Community public health
- Environmental health
- Maternal and child health
- Emergency preparedness
- Regulation of childcare centers, assisted living centers, nursing homes, hospitals, other health care providers, and emergency services.

# ADHS Updates



# SFY2025 Executive Budget

- **Healthcare Licensing Reform**
  - FTEs for Assisted Living Compliance Officers
  - Operating expenses
- **Arizona State Hospital Clinical Care**
  - FTEs for Arizona Community Protection and Treatment Center (ACPTC)
- **Stopping Arizona's Fentanyl Epidemic (SAFE) – First Responders**
  - Overdose reversal medication distribution for first responders

**Next Steps:** AZ Legislature prepares a budget proposal

# Building Partnerships

**Goal:** Build or enhance partnerships with Local Health Departments and Tribal Nations throughout Arizona

	Completed (n=11)	Scheduled ( through 6/30)	To Be Scheduled
<b>Local Health Departments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Yavapai</li><li>• Gila</li><li>• Yuma</li><li>• Pinal</li></ul>	10	1
<b>Tribal Nations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• San Carlos Apache Tribe</li><li>• Pascua Yaqui Tribe</li><li>• Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community</li><li>• White Mountain Apache Tribe</li><li>• Hualapai Tribe</li><li>• Cocopah Indian Tribe</li><li>• Gila River Indian Community</li></ul>	1	19

# Workforce Programs

# Arizona Primary Care Office

- **Collects & evaluates Arizona data for designation of:**
  - Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs)
  - Medically Underserved Areas/Populations (MUA/P)
  - Arizona Medically Underserved Areas
- **Assists with the Healthcare Workforce Professionals Repository Advisory Board**
- **Provides technical assistance, outreach & promotion of federal workforce programs:**
  - National Health Service Corps & Nurse Corps (Site approvals, Loan Repayment Payment & Scholarship)

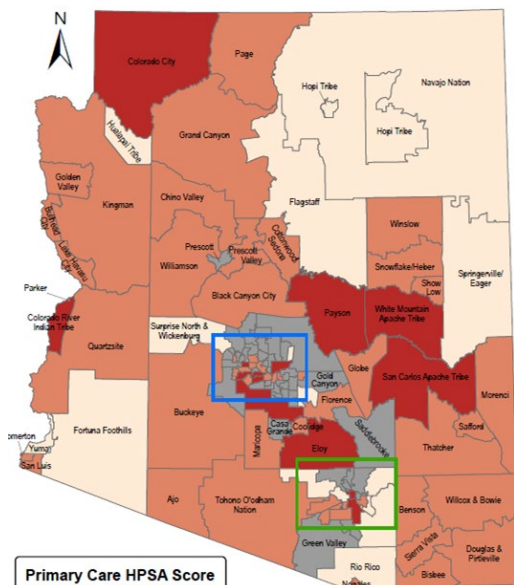


# Arizona Primary Care Office

- **Administers health professional workforce recruitment & retention programs:**
  - Arizona State Loan Repayment Program
  - J1 Visa Program & National Interest Waiver Program
  - Sliding Fee Scale Programs
  - Behavioral Health Loan Repayment Program
  - Accelerated Nursing Program
  - Nursing Education Investment Pilot Program
  - Preceptor Grant Program
  - Collaborative Care Program

# Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)

## Primary Care HPSAs



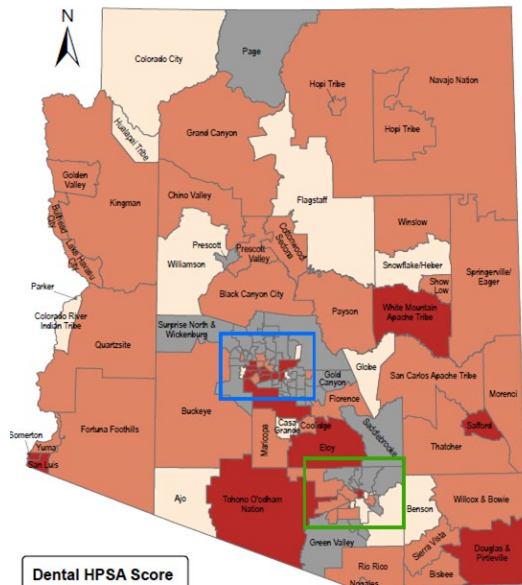
**Primary Care HPSA Score**

- 18 +
- 14 - 17
- < 14
- Not Designated

Map Date: May 2023



## Dental HPSAs



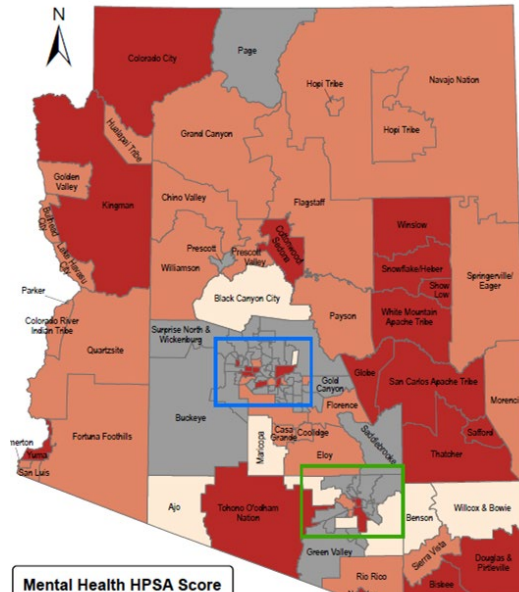
**Dental HPSA Score**

- 18 +
- 14 - 17
- < 14
- Not Designated

Map Date: May 2023



## Mental Health HPSAs



**Mental Health HPSA Score**

- 18 +
- 14 - 17
- < 14
- Not Designated

Map Date: May 2023



# Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)

Arizona	Total HPSAs	Geographic/ Area	Population	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met	# Practitioners Needed to Remove HPSAs
Primary Care	244	54	56	134	3,344,046	39.21%	667
Dental	245	51	67	127	2,984,483	33.67%	485
Mental	233	65	34	134	3,519,759	9.05%	228

# AZ Health Improvement Plan



# Arizona Health Improvement Plan (AzHIP) 2021-2025 Priorities

Mental Well-being

Health in All Policies/  
Social Determinants of Health

Rural & Urban Underserved Health



Pandemic Recovery/  
Resiliency

Health Equity

# Rural & Urban Underserved Health



**Strategy 1**

**Address Health Professional Shortage by building a diverse healthcare workforce**



**Strategy 2**

**Maximize utilization of CHW's/CHR's in clinical settings**



**Strategy 3**

**Improve Indian (IHS/Tribal/ Urban) Health by increasing access to care, reducing systems barriers, and strengthening**



**Strategy 4**

**Improve maternal health outcomes**



**Strategy 5**

**Enhanced access to general healthcare**



# Rural & Urban Underserved Indicators



## Strategy 4-Improve maternal health outcomes

- Reduce maternal deaths
- Increase the proportion of pregnant women who receive early and adequate prenatal care



## Strategy 5-Enhanced access to primary care

- Increase the proportion of adults with limited English proficiency who say their providers explain things clearly
- Reduce the proportion of people who can't get medical care when they need it
- Increase the proportion of adults who get recommended evidence-based preventive health care
- Increase the number of community organizations that provide prevention services

# Rural & Urban Underserved Wins

## Strategy 1

Address Health Professional Shortage by building a diverse healthcare workforce

University of Arizona worked to establish the 6th Arizona Area Health Education Center focused on American Indian Health

Increase support for health care workforce programs

## Strategy 2

Maximize utilization of CHW's/CHR's in clinical settings

CHW Volunteer Certification rules finalized and an online application went live in Nov. 2022

As of April 2023, registered AHCCCS providers are eligible to bill for services provided by certified CHWs.

## Strategy 3

Improve Indian (IHS/Tribal/Urban) Health by increasing access to care, reducing systems barriers, and strengthening infrastructure

AACIHC established a MOU between Arizona state agencies: ADHS, DES, AHCCCS and First Things First to identify initiatives to address Tribal needs

## Strategy 4

Improve maternal health outcomes

AHCCCS extended postpartum coverage to 12 months

The priority area work of the Maternal Mental Health Task Force was adopted by the Maternal Mental Health Advisory Committee (AHCCCS)

Doula Community Advisory Council established



# AZ REACH



# AZ REACH

AZ REACH is a voluntary, free 24/7 service that coordinates acute medical care transfers out of under-resourced IHS, PL 93-638, and critical access hospitals across Arizona.

[www.az-reach.com](http://www.az-reach.com)



Referring Hospital Location	IHS	638	CAH	STEP
Benson Hospital			x	
Chinle Comprehensive Health Care Facility	x			x
Cobre Valley Regional Medical Center			x	
Copper Queen Community Hospital			x	x
Copper Queen Free Standing ED			x	x
Dilkon Medical Center		x		
East Valley ER & Hospital				x
Exceptional Community Hospital - Bullhead City				x
Exceptional Community Hospital - Maricopa				x
Exceptional Community Hospital - Yuma				x
Fort Defiance Indian Hospital		x		
Hopi Health Center	x		x	x
Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital		x	x	x
Kayenta Health Center	x			
La Paz Regional Hospital			x	
Little Colorado Medical Center			x	
Mount Graham Regional Medical Center			x	
Northern Cochise Community Hospital			x	
Parker Indian Medical Center	x		x	x
Phoenix Indian Medical Center	x			
Sage Memorial Hospital			x	
San Carlos Apache Tribe Healthcare		x		x
Sells Hospital		x		x
Tuba City Regional Health Care		x		
Tucson ER & Hospital				x
White Mountain Regional Medical Center			x	
Whiteriver IHS Hospital	x			
Wickenburg Community Hospital			x	x

## Benefits to Referring Hospitals

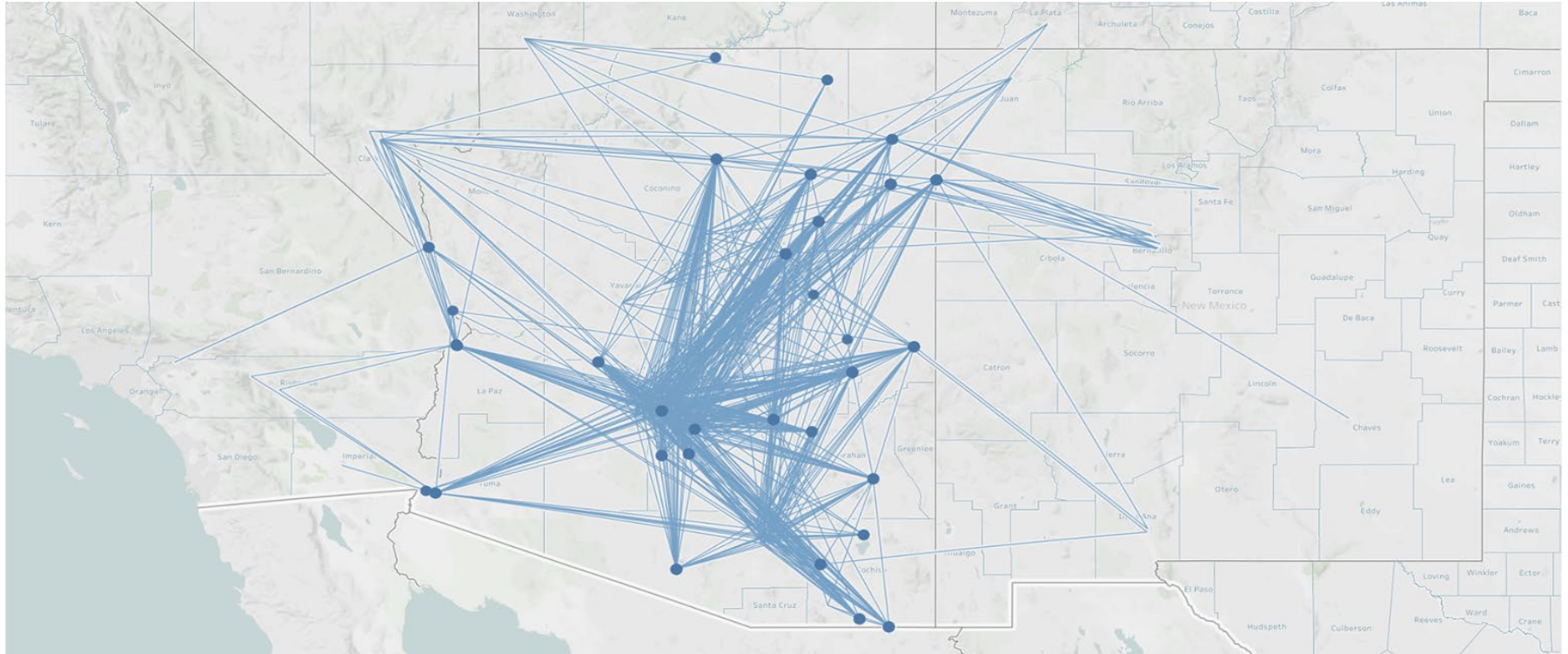
- Practitioners and staff back to the bedside
- Ease of transfers
- Enhanced equitable access to care
- Public Health Emergency response infrastructure
- Single point of contact
- Robust data
- Electronic record of transfer
- Seat at the regular governance council meetings

## Benefits to Public Health

- Real time data of health of the healthcare system
- Regional mapping of services
- Immediate re-activation of Surge Line possible
- Ability to adapt to public health emergencies
  - ◆ Respiratory season (\*tested in 2022)
  - ◆ Pandemic
  - ◆ Mass Casualty Incident

# AZ REACH

## Year Summary (12/2022-12/2023): Hospital-to-hospital movement



# Thank You!

Jennie Cunico  
Cabinet Executive Officer  
Executive Deputy Director  
[jennifer.cunico@azdhs.gov](mailto:jennifer.cunico@azdhs.gov)