

STATE OF MONTANA



Governor's Proclamation



WHEREAS, for over 50 years, Community Health Centers (CHCs) have provided high quality, affordable, comprehensive primary care and preventive health care in our nation's underserved communities; and

WHEREAS, as the state's largest primary care network, CHCs are the health care home for over 120,000 Montanans in over 80 communities across the state and are often on the front lines of emerging health care crises, providing access to care for our state's veterans, and addressing the substance use epidemic; and

WHEREAS, CHCs also reduce the overall costs of care by helping manage patients' chronic conditions, keeping them out of hospital emergency rooms; and

WHEREAS, every day CHCs develop new approaches to integrating a wide range of services beyond primary care including oral health, vision, behavioral health, and pharmacy services, to meet the needs and challenges of their communities; and

WHEREAS, CHCs are locally run nonprofit businesses that serve as critical economic engines, helping to power local economies by creating employment opportunities and generating over \$438 million in economic activity in some of Montana's smallest communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Gianforte, Governor of the State of Montana, do hereby proclaim August 7-13th

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER WEEK

in Montana to celebrate our CHCs and their vital role in America's health care system.

GREG GIANFORTE
Governor