

CHC AMBASSADOR NEWSLETTER

JOIN US AT MPCA'S LEGISLATIVE & BUSINESS LEADERS BREAKFAST

We hope to see you at our Legislative and Business Leaders Breakfast on **January 29 from 7:15 to 8:45 AM at the Governor Hill Mansion in Augusta**. This is one of the largest gatherings of political, business, and healthcare leaders in the state. It offers a unique opportunity for attendees to engage with members of the state legislature, partners in state government, representatives from the business community, and leaders driving Maine's CHCs forward. We will also be presenting our Community Health Center Champion Awards during the program.



READING CORNER

Learn how to dispel misinformation around the 340B Program with myths and facts from the 340B Coalition.

[MYTHS VS FACTS](#)

SHARE YOUR WHY

Use your voice and experiences to share, inspire, and motivate Members of Congress and your peers to protect Community Health Centers. Visit the Health Center Advocacy Network and record a video today.

[SHARE YOUR STORY HERE](#)

MPCA SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow us online to stay up to date on the latest news across the CHC network.



Maine Primary Care Association



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CHC FUNDING INCLUDED IN CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Last month, Congress passed a Continuing Resolution to avoid a government shutdown. The bill included an extension of mandatory federal funding for CHCs, National Health Service Corps, and Teaching Health Centers and extended tele-health flexibilities through March 31. CHC discretionary funding is extended through March 14.

TAKE ACTION TODAY



Send a Tweet to Your Members of Congress about Health Center Priorities. Members of Congress and their staff use social media to track their constituents' issues and concerns. They want to hear from folks on the ground with personal stories about the importance of investing in CHCs and the patients they serve. Find draft messages and pre-made images prepared by the Health Center Advocacy Network [here](#).

CHCs IN THE NEWS

Penobscot Community Health Care

Hope House in Bangor held its annual candlelight vigil in December to remember those who have died while homeless, and those who are still experiencing homelessness. PCHC President & CEO Lori Dwyer said, "there's an incredible beauty in the work, in that it brings people together, all of you who are here tonight to really reflect on the fact that not only are people unhoused, but people pass away in those conditions, often very much alone and very much afraid, and that's something we all hold some responsibility for."

Fish River Rural Health

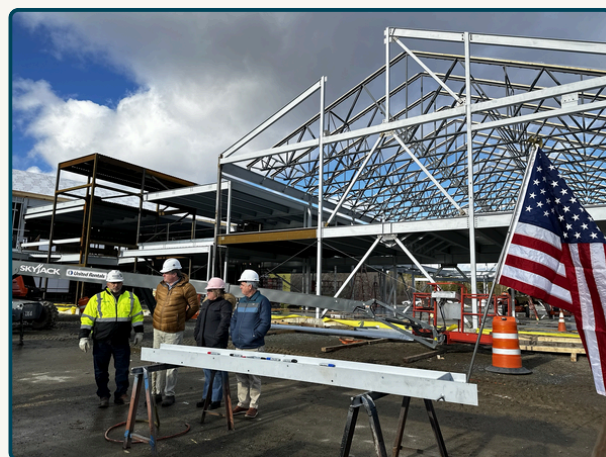
The Bangor Daily News highlighted 10 projects that are expected to improve life in Aroostook County. Included in the list was FRRH's new healthcare facility that will be opening in the Madawaska shopping plaza later this year.

HealthReach Community Health Center

In November, HealthReach welcomed Garrett Smith, PA, to the Mt. Abram Regional Health Center. Smith earned his Bachelor of Science, Physician Assistant Rural Medicine degree from Mountain State University in Beckley, West Virginia. Smith's medical experience includes time spent in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, urgent care, and family medicine.

HOMETOWN HEALTH CENTER CELEBRATES CONSTRUCTION MILESTONE

HHC celebrated another major construction milestone for their new Palmyra wellness facility in December with the "topping out" ceremony. As described by Bowman Constructors, this is a moment "marked [by] the installation of the final high steel beam, symbolizing the completion of the building's framework." HHC CEO Robin Winslow and representatives from Bowman and Harriman Architects gathered to celebrate the occasion and sign the final beam. For more information on HHC's future home and to view the building gallery, please visit their [website](#).



**WATCH A VIDEO OF THE
FINAL BEAM BEING PLACED**

Photo and video from [Bowman Constructors Facebook Page](#).



CoverME.gov is the one-stop shop and only place for Mainers to compare health insurance plans, find savings, and get answers. Final deadline to enroll is January 15 for coverage starting February 1.

If you miss that deadline, the only way to enroll before the next Open Enrollment (starting November 1, 2025) would be if you experience a qualifying event, such as losing your health coverage, having or adopting a baby, getting married, getting divorced, or becoming a Maine resident.

COVERME.GOV

**CONSUMERS FOR AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE HELP LINE
1-800-965-7476**

MPCA'S COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER NETWORK

