



Polk County Healthcare Study:

An Economic Analysis of Polk County's Indigent Health Care Tax and Safety Net Program

August 19, 2016

THE STUDY

**BEBR - UF Bureau of Economic and
Business Research**

Data from:

-  Polk County's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, from 2002 to 2014
-  Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Department of Economic Opportunity in Florida
-  County Health Rankings published by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
-  Florida Department of Health, Florida Charts
-  Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA)

Florida Rankings

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Polk County	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Without IHC 2015
Health Outcomes	33	33	30	28	29	29
Health Factors	42	43	43	37	36	43



Without IHC, Polk's ranking would increase from 36th to 43rd



Since 2010, when rankings began, health outcomes in Polk have improved each year



Polk Jobs

Florida Department of Economic Opportunity



Wages in the healthcare sector are 15.5% higher than average Polk wages



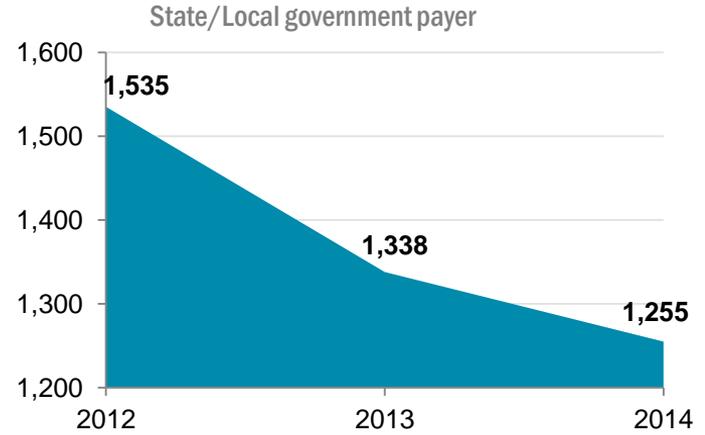
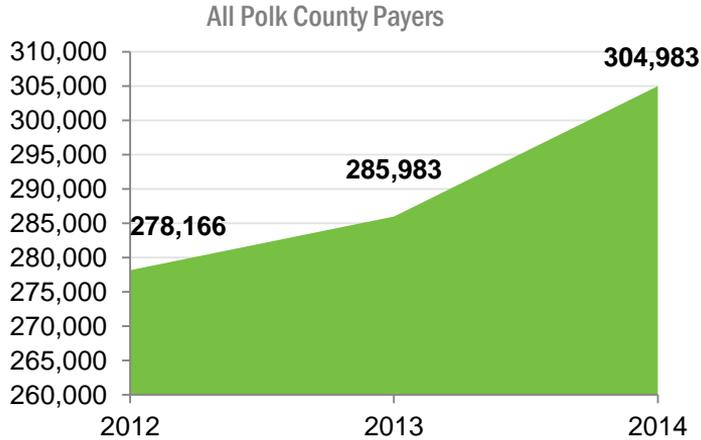
Between 2004 and 2014, approximately 5,373 jobs were created in health and social services sector



6.1 new jobs are created from every \$1 million spend from the Fund



ER Visits



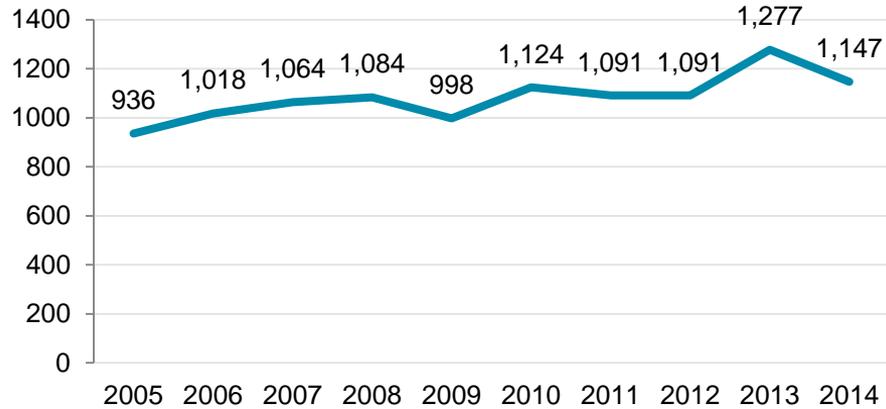
Increased access to primary care through the IHC fund has reduced ER visits



With every \$1 million spent from the IHC fund, congestion declines indirectly by 2 ER visits

Licensed Physicians

Primary Care Physicians in Polk County



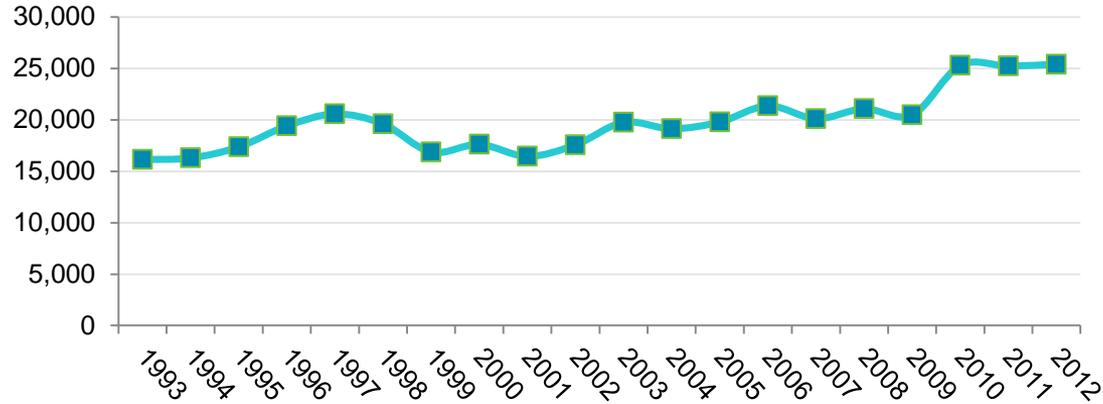
324 more than when program began in 2005



Every \$1 million spent by IHC program, the county averages 0.5 new PCP

Dental Care

Low-income residents served annually



1 of 3 low-income residents has access to dental care due to IHC fund



Average growth rate increased from 1.87% to 3.93%, representing a 2.06 percentage-point difference.



64% increase in residents served since 1993



Stakeholder **Interviews:**



Primary Care

Current system means that most patients are being treated in the lowest-cost venue.



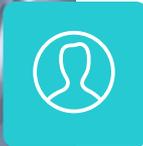
Preventative Care

Catches malignancies and other problems at an earlier stage, with lower cost treatment, improved outcomes and less pain.



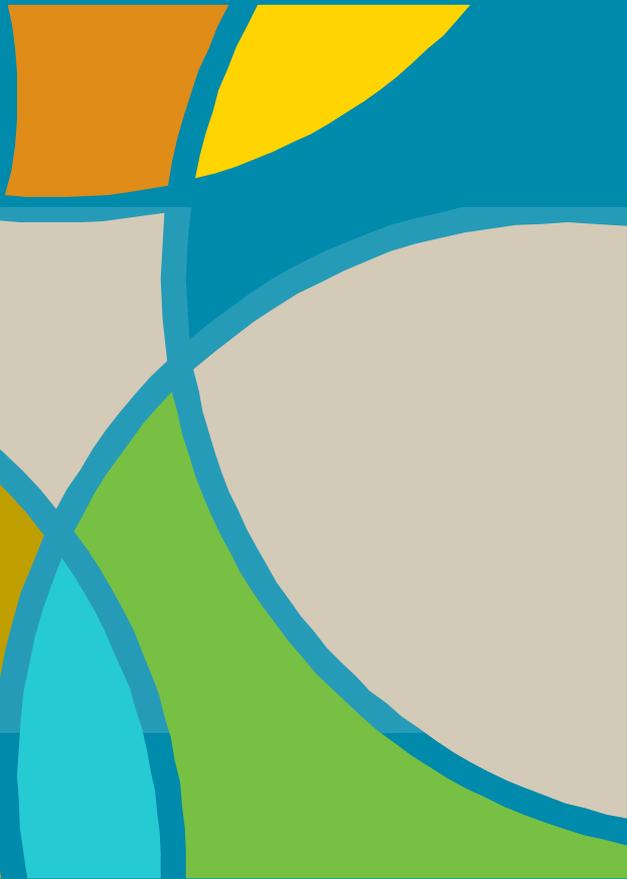
Improved Employment

Patients are able to stay employed or return to work once their healthcare needs are met.



Dollars Leveraged

Through the use of volunteers, program costs remain lower



To view the complete report please see our website:
www.polk-county.net/boccsite/Your-Government/Citizens-Healthcare-Oversight-Committee/