

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 20, 2019

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Mary's Center Releases Key Findings from Evaluation of its Social Change Model Conducted by Urban Institute

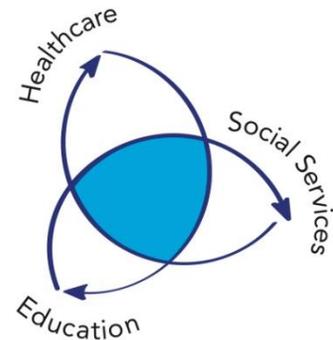
Results Detail the Model, Best Practices, and Plans for Replication

Washington, DC – Today, Mary's Center announced a report by the Urban Institute that examines the organization's Social Change Model and its unique approach to addressing the social determinants of health in the DC metropolitan region. The report includes analysis conducted by the National Institutes of Health.

The organization's innovative Social Change Model, which integrates medical services with education and social services, has earned national and international recognition for its holistic impact on the thousands of participants served by Mary's Center annually.

Overall, the report demonstrated the benefits and challenges of providing quality, integrated care across diverse programs. One national study of 176 community health centers found that only 10 percent of them provided adult education services, and only 22 percent provided workforce development services, both of which Mary's Center provides.

Additional takeaways from the report highlighted Mary's Center's success from understanding its participants and the communities they live in, as well as from investing in staff and procedures, growing incrementally, and using different sources of funding to address the social determinants of health.





“We knew our model was effective because of the outcomes that we achieve every year and the recognition we have earned from the federal government as one of the top community health centers in the country, but it was important for us to have a scientific validation of our work,” said Maria Gomez, Mary’s Center’s president and CEO. “We are fortunate for having worked with the Urban Institute and the NIH, two national, highly recognized institutions.”

Martha Galvez, Urban Institute Senior Research Associate highlighted Mary’s Center’s advocacy role in advancing health policies. “Mary’s Center is really seen as a voice in the DC policy arena. They’re seen as a thought leader, a thought partner, and an innovator with a leadership team that consistently has a seat at the table to talk about what’s going on in DC and what could be improved. They are truly leaders in the field.”

This comprehensive evaluation included one year of data collection, focus groups, surveys, one-on-one interviews, and an assessment of services provided at Mary’s Center, all of which created a thorough and reliable report. With the results of the study, Mary’s Center plans to help other organizations replicate their Social Change Model, therefore furthering their ability to provide more people with access to quality care. To read the complete report, [click here](#).

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[About Mary’s Center](#)

Founded in 1988, Mary’s Center is a federally qualified health center that provides healthcare, educational, and social services to more than 54,000 individuals from over 50 countries. Using a holistic, multipronged approach, Mary’s Center helps participants access individualized services that set them on the path toward good health, stability, and economic independence. For more information, visit www.maryscenter.org.