



Salina Family Healthcare Center
A Federally Qualified Community Health Center
651 E. Prescott, Salina, KS 67401
Medical Center ~ (785) 825-7251
Dental Center ~ (785) 826-9017
Pharmacy ~ (785) 452-3900

Testimony in Support of HB 2044
Senate Public Health and Welfare
March 13, 2017

Chairwoman Schmidt and Members of the Health and Public Welfare Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of House Bill 2044 and the importance of Expanding KanCare. My name is Ann Feil, and I am the Chief Operations Officer from Salina Family Healthcare Center.

Salina Family Healthcare Center (SFHC) primarily serves the target population of the uninsured and underinsured of the City of Salina and Saline County as well as Dickinson, McPherson, Ottawa, Ellsworth and several other surrounding counties. Our federal 2016 Uniform Data Systems (UDS) report indicated 7,709 patients were from Salina; the remaining 2,548 patients were from surrounding communities.

SFHC's low income (below 200% of federal poverty level) patient population is approximately 60% of our total unique or unduplicated clients. Of the 10,257 total patients seen, 6,058 patients reported their income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level in the calendar year 2016; 3,926 patients qualified for Medicaid, while an additional 1,863 were uninsured. We treat all Kansans, regardless of their ability to pay.

The Bridge to a Healthy Kansas is a Kansas-based solution that would provide health care coverage for 150,000 hardworking Kansans. These Kansans are our family members, friends, and neighbors. Most are employed and many work multiple jobs to provide for their families; however, they don't make enough money to be able to afford health insurance, and they have incomes that are considered too high within the federal poverty scale to qualify for KanCare. These are Kansans stuck in the coverage gap.

In our clinic alone, almost 800 patients would be eligible for health insurance if we expand KanCare¹. Having coverage means Kansans can have greater access to regular primary care and preventive services. This improves health care services and costs for all of us. In addition, healthier citizens equal healthier communities.

¹ Expandkancare.com County Health data

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KanCare expansion would not only help improve the health and the lives of our citizens, it would also have a positive economic impact on our communities. KanCare Expansion would reduce the amount of uncompensated care for health care providers statewide. Our clinic alone provides an average of \$1,100,000 in uncompensated care each year.

We are among the 82 percent of Kansas voters in favor of expanding KanCare. Let's act now to strengthen Kansas' future.

Thank you in advance for your support.



Ann M. Feil, RHIA
Chief Operations Officer
Salina Family Healthcare Center