



Primary Care Grants = Critical to Goals of State Health Reform

Backfill \$437,500
without offsetting
current backfill

A Utah Health Policy Project Issue Brief

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SUMMARY

The State Primary Care Grants Program (\$437,500 of the \$1.2million total allocation) has fallen off the backfill list! The purpose of the SPCGP is to increase the number of individuals with access to appropriate, high quality, and cost-effective primary health care. Given the role that SPCGP plays in keeping uninsured individuals out of the emergency room, \$437,500 is a worthy investment that is consistent with state health reform goals.

COST-EFFECTIVE CARE FOR UTAH'S UNINSURED

Here's a break-down on the types of services by category and the amounts associated with each:

Area	Grantees	Amount	Average Grant
Primary Care	17	\$608,884.00	\$35,816
Dental	14	\$336,778.00	\$24,055
Mental Health	4	\$158,043.00	\$39,511
Primary Care & Dental	2	\$70,000.00	\$35,000
Primary Care & Mental Health	1	\$19,440.00	\$19,440
Total:	38	\$1,193,145.00	

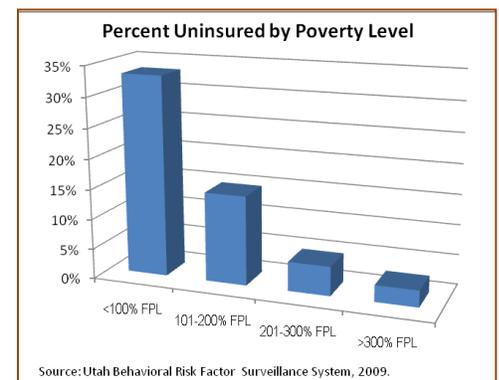
Examples of covered services include:

- Primary Medical Care Services such as
 - well baby and well adult care
 - diagnostic laboratory services
 - diagnostic tests/screenings
 - immunizations.
- Obstetric and Gynecologic Care.
- Limited Dental Services
- Mental Health Services such as 24 hour crisis intervention and counseling and substance abuse treatment/counseling.
- Other Professional Services such as
 - nutrition and exercise education/counseling
 - occupational/vocational/ physical therapy, and
 - pharmacy services.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who is served by the SPCGP?

The SPCGP serves Utah's low-income families that do not have health insurance or have insurance that does not cover primary care.



The program provides patients with a *medical home*. Individuals with a medical home are more likely to be diagnosed early, receive appropriate care, and report satisfactory outcomes.

What is the responsibility of patients served by the SPCGP?

The 45,000 patients served through the SPCGP (FY 2011) pay a sliding-fee scale fee for the services they receive.

What is the return on investment?

For the total amount allocated for "primary care" (\$608K), for example, there is a significant return-on-investment, and this is illustrated by the fact that one pre-term, low-birth weight, or baby born with severe complications due to inadequate (or no) access to prenatal care will cost the state much more than the \$608,000 allocated to primary care under this program.