

# STRENGTHENING *the Healthcare* SAFETY NET



## **N**EARLY 28 MILLION PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES LACK HEALTH INSURANCE.

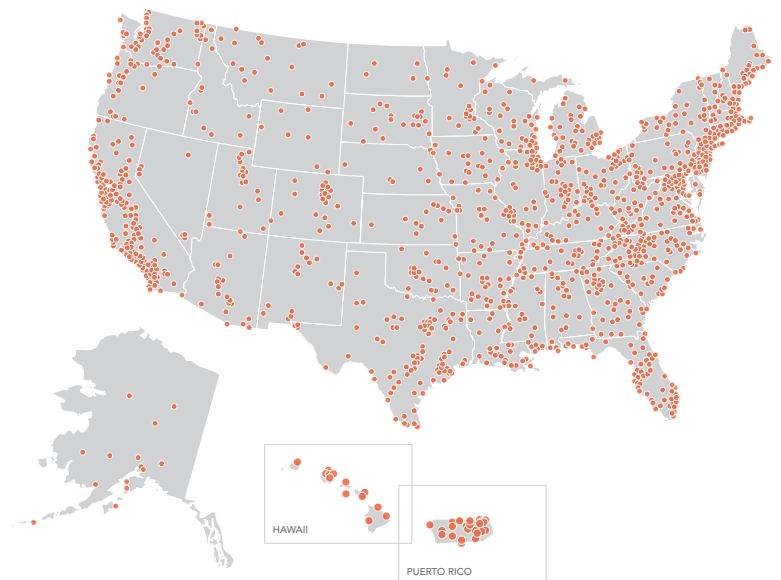
Those without insurance have few options to receive quality, affordable health care. One essential source of care is the network of nonprofit health centers and clinics located throughout the nation. In 2004, Direct Relief launched a program to support the medically underserved. To date, more than 1,400 health centers and clinics across the country have received donations of medicines and medical supplies valued at more than \$1.3 billion (wholesale) and over \$68.7 million in cash grants.

### **AMERICA'S HEALTHCARE SAFETY NET**

Health centers and clinics are key components of America's healthcare safety net. These centers and clinics provide comprehensive, culturally competent health services to over 25 million U.S. residents every year. Over 72% of patients have incomes below the federal poverty level, and 35% are uninsured.

### **ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGE**

Access to affordable prescription medication is an obstacle uninsured patients at health centers and community clinics face every day. Direct Relief is tackling this challenge by partnering with healthcare companies to provide needed medications and supplies, on an ongoing basis and during disasters, to those who need it most.



# SUPPORTING THE SAFETY NET

Direct Relief strengthens health centers & clinics throughout the U.S. through three programs:

ANDREW SCHONEBERGER



## ◀ SAFETY NET SUPPORT: INCREASING ACCESS TO MEDICATION FOR UNDERSERVED PEOPLE

Every month, Direct Relief informs partner clinics of available medicines and medical supplies. Partners order what they need for low income, uninsured patients, and Direct Relief ships the requested items at no-cost.



## ◀ REPLENISHMENT PROGRAM: PROVIDING A RELIABLE, NO-COST SUPPLY OF MEDICATION

As an alternative to typical Patient Assistance Programs (PAPs), Direct Relief has partnered with multiple healthcare manufacturers to distribute PAP medications more effectively. The program provides free pharmaceuticals to certified partners through a replenishment model for dispensing to qualified patients. This enables partners to receive medications on a consistent basis, through a single source, and at no cost.



## ▲ EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE: BUILDING RESOURCE CAPACITY IN TIMES OF CRISIS

Direct Relief provides targeted assistance to help safety net providers prepare for and respond to emergencies. Response efforts—which include distribution of pharmaceuticals, medical supplies, personal care items, equipment, and cash—are swift, involve local partners, and are coordinated with other nonprofit organizations and public health authorities to ensure the most effective use of resources.

### FIVE THINGS TO KNOW

- 1 More than 70 years of experience delivering medical aid to organizations treating the underserved
- 2 Relationships with over 1,400 health centers and clinics nationwide
- 3 Partnership with over 100 healthcare manufacturing and pharmaceutical distributor companies
- 4 Only nonprofit in the U.S. licensed to distribute pharmaceuticals in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico
- 5 First and only U.S. nonprofit to be certified by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy as a Verified-Accredited Wholesale Distributor (VAWD)

Delivering free medicines to health centers & clinics

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