

Central Texas Community Health Centers dba CommUnityCare Health Centers

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Dr. Angel,

For the 12 month period ending September 30, 2022, CommUnityCare Health Centers cared for 7304 unique patients that were 65 years of age or older. Like many of the over 125,000 total unique patients we served during that period, many of our geriatric patients live in Austin and many have limited financial means (i.e. have an income level below 200% of the federal poverty level).

And, over the last several years, we have seen a steady increase in the number of patients we are serving that are over the age of 65 with this increase indicative of the increasing need for accessible and affordable health care by our geriatric neighbors. So, as Austin continues to grow and expand, it is imperative that residents, and in particular vulnerable residents including older individuals, have access to needed services within the communities they know and live.

With this in mind, CommUnityCare strongly supports the City of Austin's feasibility study to establish a Geriatric Center as contemplated in Resolution 20181018-041. CommUnityCare is also very interested in participating and informing this assessment including helping to determine what the current gaps in geriatric health care services are, what these gaps will look like in the future, and how we can best support an initiative that ensures that our most vulnerable geriatric residents have access to the health care they need and deserve.

With my very best regards,

Jaeson T. Fournier, DC, MPH

President and Chief Executive Officer