

**A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF DEKALB COUNTY,
GEORGIA TO PROVIDE ANNUAL FUNDING FOR
CLARKSTON COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER**

WHEREAS, Clarkston Community Health Center (CCHC), located in Clarkston, Georgia is a free health clinic with a mission to provide a compassionate, welcoming medical home to uninsured and underserved individuals in DeKalb County, serving those who do not have health insurance and are living at or below the 200% federal poverty level; and

WHEREAS, CCHC is DeKalb County's only 100% indigent care health clinic; and

WHEREAS, Since opening in 2015, CCHC has served more than 7,500 patients, including refugees and immigrants, with patient-centered, culturally competent healthcare by staff and volunteers who speak over 10 languages; and

WHEREAS, CCHC provides primary health care, preventive health care, and specialty clinics, including vision, dermatology, cardiology, mental health, gynecology services and more, and free medications through its pharmacy, delivering comprehensive care to those who otherwise have none; and

WHEREAS, The CCHC model is built on important, critical partnerships to increase the impact of patient services with only two part-time paid nurse practitioners and over 75 medical professional volunteers, including students and physicians, who provide hundreds of hours of pro bono services; and

WHEREAS, Partnerships with top-tier institutions include Emory University and Emory Healthcare (Emory Healthcare, Emory School of Medicine, Emory School of Nursing, Emory Institute for Health Improvement, and the Emory Rollins School of Public Health), the University of Georgia, the Morehouse School of Medicine, Mercer University, Clayton State University, the University of North Georgia, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that are critical for delivering health care to the indigent and underserved; and

WHEREAS, With the closure of Wellstar Atlanta Medical Center, leaving a critical overflow to Grady Hospital, Emory Healthcare, and other hospitals in the Metro-Atlanta area, it is imperative to mitigate resources for CCHC to care for the uninsured and underinsured; and

WHEREAS, CCHC is located in a state that has the third highest rate of uninsured individuals in the country, a county where 1 in 6 individuals do not have healthcare, and a city where it is estimated that half of the population does not have access to health care, and CCHC is a safety net advancing an innovative, sustainable health care model that is meeting a clear need in DeKalb communities; and

WHEREAS, Current funding levels enable CCHC to provide core health services only 2 days per week and additional funding is needed to meet the demand for increase patient services and medical care and increase staffing, as well as open its doors to 5 days per week; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Authority of DeKalb County, that the Governing Authority will:

1. Approve American Rescue Plan funding for fiscal year 2023 in the amount of \$1,518,583 for CCHC to provide critically needed care for the indigent and underserved. Funding will enable CCHC to meet the demand for increased patient services and increase operations to 5 days a week.
2. Establish an annual appropriation of \$1.5 million for CCHC in the County's operating budget, beginning fiscal year 2024 to provide health care to patients served in DeKalb County each year, which has increased with the closing of the Wellstar Atlanta Medical Center.
3. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer of DeKalb County to execute all necessary documents for such purposes.

ADOPTED by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, this ____ day of ____, 2023.

ROBERT J. PATRICK

Presiding Officer
Board of Commissioners
DeKalb County, Georgia

APPROVED by the Chief Executive Officer, this ____ day of ____, 2023.

MICHAEL L. THURMOND

Chief Executive Officer
DeKalb County, Georgia

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO SUBSTANCE:

BARBARA H. SANDERS-NORWOOD, CCC

County Clerk
Board of Commissioners and
Chief Executive Officer

ZACHARY L. WILLIAMS

Chief Operating Officer
DeKalb County, Georgia

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

VIVIANE H. ERNSTES

County Attorney
DeKalb County, Georgia