



**United Community
Health Center**

2023 Annual Report



**UNITED COMMUNITY
HEALTH CENTER**
Serving Southern Arizona Since 1983

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Celebrating 40 Years of Care	4
Caring by the Numbers	6
Year In Review	7
Financial Overview	8
Community Engagement	9
Commitment to Rural Care: Dr Donald Smith	10
Meet Our New CEO	11
Looking Ahead	12
Acknowledgements	13

Celebrating

40

2023 marked a milestone for United Community Health Center -Maria Auxiliadora, Inc

2023 marked a milestone for United Community Health Center -Maria Auxiliadora, Inc (UCHC). Forty years of providing health care in southern Arizona! From the time the University of Arizona Rural Health Program made its way out to Green Vally to provide care for mine and agricultural workers in the early 1980's to the hospitals, clinics and specialists in southern Arizona, accessibility to quality health care has always been important and our priority.

UCHC started with 10 employees and a budget of \$310,000 in 1983 and has grown into an organization with more than 170 employees and a budget close to \$20 million. It still does not seem like enough to support the growing population that choose to call beautiful southern Arizona home.

2023 marks several more milestones such as the Grand Opening of the Training, Development and Education Center (TED) during our Health Fair held in August 2023, during National Health Center Week. This center while provide a place to keep staff trained in the latest medical tools and knowledge, it's a place for community education as well.

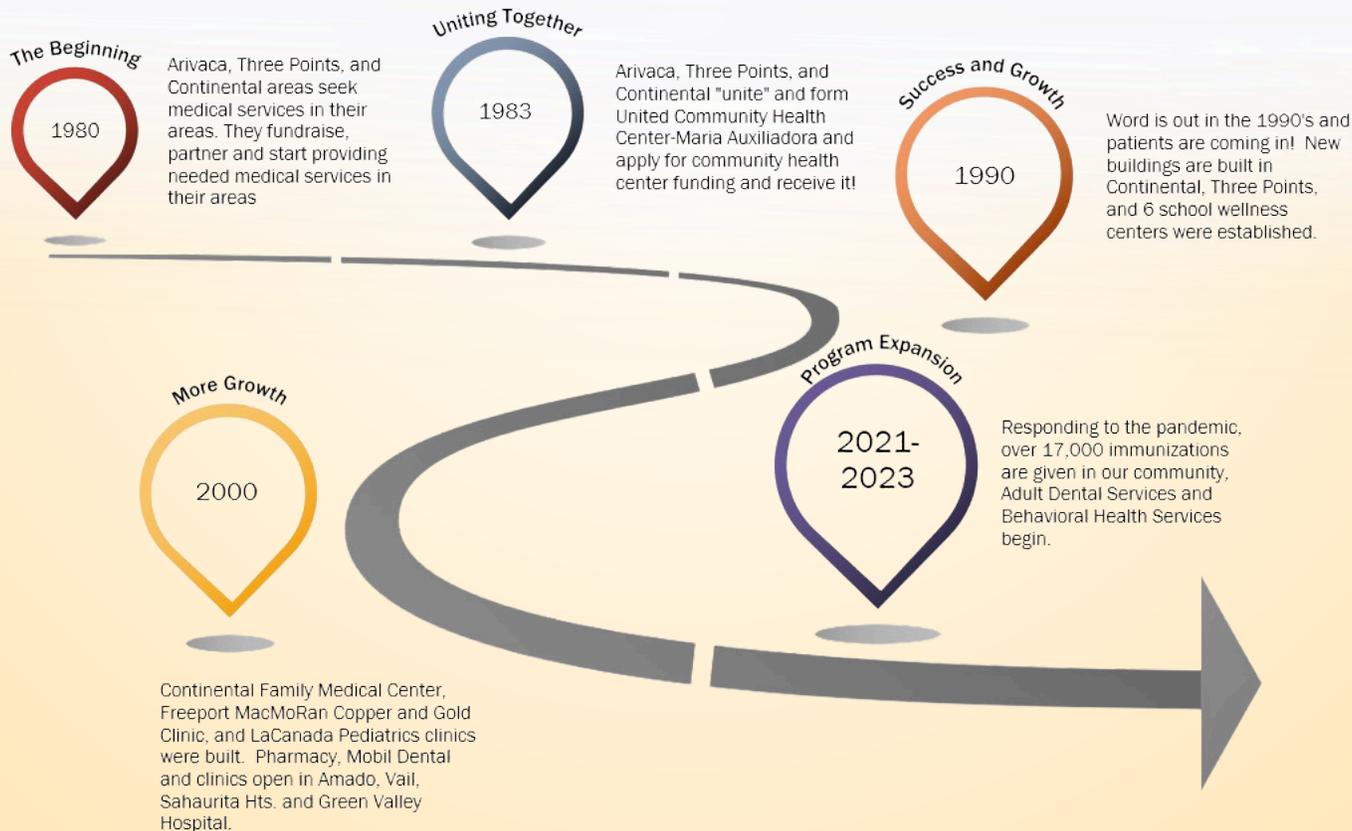
UCHC is delighted to share that the organization completed and passed its 2023 Operational Site Visit. This is a multi-day on site visit by our federal partners to perform a full organizational assessment of the health center's ability to meet health center program requirements in the clinical, fiscal, administrative and governance areas. Meeting these requirements help us meet our mission of delivering quality care that is accessible, comprehensive, innovative, compassionate, and culturally sensitive.

Finally, 2023 marks further milestones in our growth by offering adult dental services. In our patient satisfaction surveys, this is a service our patients wanted to see, and we were able to finally deliver under the leadership our of our Dental Director, Dr. Eric Black. Our latest statistics show that over a third of adults in Pima County have not seen a dentist in past year and while 94% percent of Arizonans recognize the importance of oral health for their wellbeing, only 66% visited the dentist in the past year. We hope to improve these statistics.



Celebrating 40 Years of Care: A Retrospective of United Community Health Center

In 1983, United Community Health Center (UCHC) opened its doors with a clear mission: to provide quality, affordable healthcare to the residents of Southern Arizona, particularly in rural and underserved areas. As we celebrate 40 years of service, we reflect on the profound impact this organization has had on the community, and the incredible journey that has shaped UCHC into the trusted healthcare provider it is today.





UCHC's Continental Clinic 1984-1991

"We raised money for an old trailer and we put it behind in the back lot behind the mercantile store and doctors would come down from from the U of A and see patients in this little trailer." Audrey Reida (former Board President, regarding Arivaca)

"Because there was some other private organizations, let's just say doctors offices, but you couldn't walk in there without having any insurance or any money. So this was the only clinics that would help people out in those situations, where they knew they could go and be taken care of, and they weren't going to be turned away because they didn't have an insurance card or a way to pay the bills."

Edilia Quiroz, Outreach Manager, 27 years at UCHC



Laurie Jurs has been on the front lines for sixteen years.

"It was the best job I ever had 22 years. A lot of change and growth."- Laurie Jurs, Founding CEO



ID COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS, Dr. Lane P. Johnson, Family Nurse Practitioner Hazel Jendritza and Dr. to Ortiz, in the early days of the non-profit.



"I like that we're here to help people. Its part of who I am, anyways. And even in my role, I don't work with the public like I used to. But I feel like I help the people who help the people that help the people outside."

Sandra Tyra, Payroll Manager





Caring by the numbers

At UCHC, we continue to assess the needs of our communities and continue to deliver the highest quality, innovative, and compassionate care to all people no matter their economic status.

In 2023, UCHC staff cared for:



19,661 Patients



49,631
Adult medical visits



5,193
Adult and children
dental visits



8,962
Pediatric visits



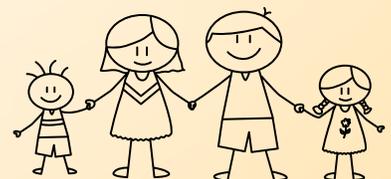
4,550
Behavioral Health visits



One of our unique services is door-to-door courtesy transportation for our patients.

936 rides in 2023!

Total number of visits: 68,336



Training, Education and Development

As part of our 40th anniversary celebration, UCHC proudly inaugurated the **Training, Education, and Development Center**. This milestone event brought together community members, healthcare professionals, and stakeholders to explore the innovative resources and programs our new center will offer.

Among the distinguished guests was Tom Murphy, the Mayor of Sahuarita, whose presence underscored the importance of this initiative. The TED Center is dedicated to enhancing the skills and knowledge of our staff, ensuring we continue to provide high-quality care to our community.



Accessibility is our Goal!

In the past year, our dental clinic proudly extended services to include adults, ensuring that individuals of all ages can receive the essential care they need.

Our mobile dental units have also allowed us to reach rural areas, delivering preventative care and treatments directly to schools and underserved communities.



According to the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA), Green Valley, Sahuarita, Amado, Arivaca, Three Points and Vail have a total population of 80,248 residents.

35% have not seen the dentist in the past year.

In total, our dedicated team provided dental care to over 5,000 patients, reflecting our commitment to enhancing the oral health of our rural communities and addressing barriers to access.





Financial Overview

As a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), UCHC receives funding from several sources, including federal grants, state and local funding, and contributions from community partners. These funds enable us to provide essential primary and preventive health services to our patients, regardless of their ability to pay. The support we receive allows us to maintain a sliding fee scale, expand access to care, and ensure that no one is turned away due to financial hardship.

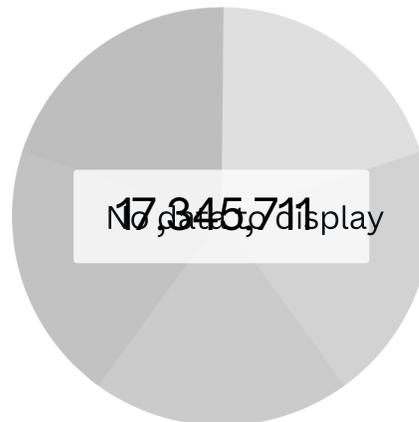


Type of Funding

- 1 13,784,937
Patient Service Revenue
- 2 3,701,120
Federal Grant Funding
- 3 433,198
Contributions
- 4 1,130,037
Other Revenue

Utilization of Funding

- 1 14,451,032
Program Services
- 2 3,701,120
Capital Investments
- 3 433,198
Administrative Services



Community Engagement

The 2023 Health Fair, held in conjunction with our 40th anniversary celebration, was an impactful two-day celebration that brought together over 150 community members.

Designed to promote health and wellness for both adults and children, the fair featured essential services such as sports physicals, along with informative workshops on women's health, behavioral health, and diabetes education.

This event not only highlighted our commitment to community health but also celebrated four decades of service, fostering connections and encouraging healthier lifestyles!

Corporate Citizen's Award

In 2023, UCHC was recognized as one of the Most Influential People by Green Valley News in the Corporate Citizen category.

This prestigious acknowledgment highlights our unwavering commitment to improving community health and well-being through accessible services and programs.

Our initiatives have made a significant impact in the region, demonstrating our dedication to not just providing care, but also fostering partnerships and supporting local efforts.

This recognition reflects the hard work of our team and our mission to be a proactive force in promoting health equity and enhancing the quality of life for all community members.

Green Valley News | **sahuaritasun.com** | **Nogales International**
gvnews.com | sahuaritasun.com | nogalesinternational.com

2023 AZ19 MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE

2023 GOOD CORPORATE CITIZEN AWARD

United Community Health Center

Arizona in the mid-1980s was not the picture of health. Without insurance or money your best bet was a nurse who worked out of the back of his pickup. Spurred on by those early efforts and a lot of tenacity, United Community Health Center has grown from 18 employees and three community clinics to 160 employees, 10 locations and a new training, education and development center. This year, UCHC celebrated its 40th anniversary.

Laurie Jura, the first executive director, built a team, created policies and procedures, dealt with lots of personalities and wrote grants to fund a big vision for the forgotten rural areas. It wasn't easy, but it worked. Eventually, UCHC added pediatrics, dental and mental health care, among other services.

Today, UCHC still pushes to improve its reach and hasn't lost the vision. —make rural Arizona healthy with quality care, education and development compassion. These days, UCHC is serving second and third generations of its original clients.

Estelita Quinto, UCHC's enrollment and outreach supervisor, started her career at UCHC nearly three decades ago as a community health worker making home visits to pregnant women and young mothers to teach them about prenatal care and child development.

"I think we're celebrating 40 years because we have so many people that care," she said.

TOP: UCHC at Freeport building.

RIGHT: United Community Health Centers' Dr. Laine P. Johnson, Family Nurse Practitioner Hazel Jendryka and Dr. Augusto Ortiz in the early days of the non-profit.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

SOUTH32 | **La Posada GREEN VALLEY** | **UCHC**

Commitment to Rural Care: Dr. Donald Smith

Dr. Smith is a second generation native Arizonan whose family arrived here over 100 years ago. He grew up in the Phoenix area. He then attended the University of Arizona where he obtained a BS at the college of agriculture with the degree in range management where he spent many hours working out on the Santa Rita experimental range prior to entering medical school at the University of Arizona.

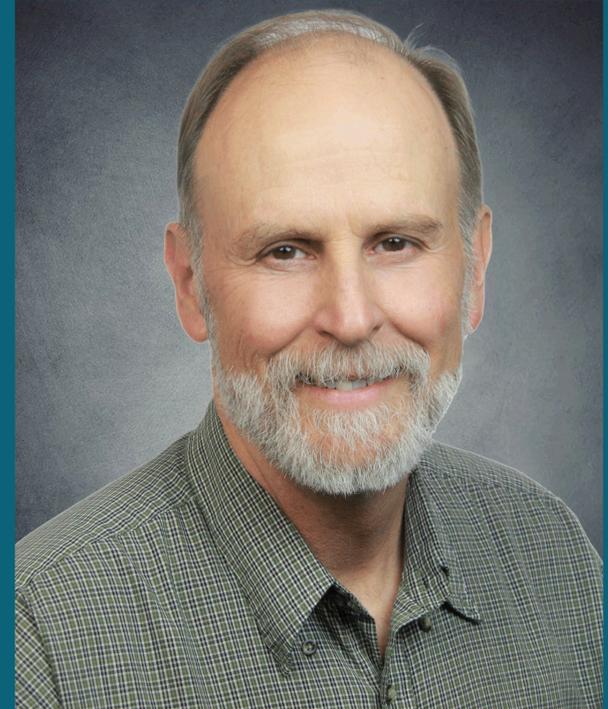
He graduated from medical school in 1985 and then did a family medicine residency in Ogden Utah. He then returned to Arizona and practiced on the Hopi Reservation until 1992. After that moved back to Tucson and joined up with the rural health office at the University of Arizona and took a class in teaching medical students and residents. During this time he was providing locum tenens or part-time doctoring to rural practices across the state of Arizona where doctors were either on vacation or not available to the communities.

This is how Dr. Smith first encountered United community Health Center and worked part time as a fill-in doctor until January 1995. At that time he took a long-term position with UCHC as he needed to settle down because he was getting married.

He did not intend to keep this job for ever but UCHC would not let him leave and it turned out to be a good fit. He became the medical director in October 1995 when UCHC had about 18 total employees and 3 tiny clinics. Dr. Smith worked in all 3 clinics for several years as well as being the medical director. In the early days most of the patients were pediatrics and prenatals. with UCHC.

The clinic patient population was expanding quickly during those years. It was rapidly outgrowing the space that was available. Also the job of medical director was requiring more time than Dr. Smith wished to give to that position. He preferred clinical care rather than managing other healthcare providers and so gave up the role of medical director in 2002 to become a full-time clinician.

This coincided with the opening of the Continental family Medical Center. Dr. Smith was instrumental in getting funding for that building and also initiated Saturday and after hours services for the community of Green Valley. Dr. Smith got sponsorships for every mile that he ran over one summer and raised \$16,000 from patients and local businesses to support the new construction.



The grand opening of Continental family Medical Center was attended by our founding physician Dr. Agosto Ortiz. Dr. Smith also oversaw the building of the new 3 Points clinic and worked hard to bring the Arivaca clinic up to standards.

He planted all of the trees around the clinic and insisted on a good new fence and a kitchen where employees could eat inside. Previously employees ate underneath the Mesquite tree on a picnic table.

Throughout Dr. Smith's time at UCHC he has been committed to providing quality rural health care to patients and has done home visits and nursing home visits for many years.

He has been the recipient of multiple teaching awards from the University of Arizona and was also Arizona's family physician of the year in 2007. He hopes to retire at the end of 2025 after 30 years

Meet our New CEO

The Board of Directors at United Community Health Centers (UCHC) is thrilled to announce the selection of their next CEO, Jon Reardon, MBA, MSW, LCSW.

Jon brings over 25 years of experience in healthcare, leveraging his clinical background and compassionate leadership to deliver exceptional care to the communities he has served. He began his educational journey with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Pennsylvania State University, which laid a solid foundation in human behavior.

He furthered his education by earning a Master of Social Work in Policy and Administration from Arizona State University, graduating Summa cum Laude, and an Executive MBA from the University of Arizona's Eller College of Management, also with Summa cum Laude honors. This combination of degrees has honed his business acumen and analytic skills.

Jon has been involved in the Community Health Center movement since 2013, starting as the Deputy Director of Behavioral Health at MHC Healthcare. Over the next decade, he took on progressive leadership roles including Chief Behavioral Health Officer and Chief Operating Officer. In these positions, he advanced the organization in strategy, technology, integrated care, and clinical residency training programs. Jon is also deeply committed to community service, having served as chair of More Than a Bed and Board Treasurer of the Behavioral Health Coalition of Arizona.

Jon is tremendously excited to join UCHC as CEO. He is committed to team and individual development and is eager to contribute to UCHC's mission and vision. His focus will be on delivering quality care that is accessible, comprehensive, innovative, compassionate, and culturally sensitive, in an atmosphere of trust and respect.

Please join us in welcoming Jon Reardon to UCHC!

Board of Directors



Looking ahead: The next 40 years

What an incredible 40+ year journey United Community Health Center has embarked on! Our story is rich with the remarkable contributions of many who have served our communities and forged essential partnerships to fulfill our mission. I am truly honored to join the UCHC team and to build upon the strong foundation laid by my predecessors and the dedicated individuals who have devoted their careers to providing vital healthcare services to our members in Green Valley, Arivaca, Three Points, Amado, Vail, and Sahuarita. This success is a testament to the hard work and commitment of so many.



So what's next for UCHC? In the coming year, we will focus on several key initiatives:

- 1. Recruitment of Medical Providers:** Expanding our team to address community growth through partnerships with Arizona-based learning institutions and fellow healthcare providers.
- 2. Enhancement of Behavioral Health Workforce:** Hiring additional therapists, case managers, and psychiatric providers to strengthen our behavioral health services.
- 3. Facility Renovation:** Remodeling our CFMC medical and dental site in Green Valley with HRSA funding to create a modern healthcare environment for patients and staff.
- 4. Dental Provider Recruitment:** Following renovations, we will recruit more dental providers and support staff to ensure timely access to oral care.
- 5. Staff Development:** Investing in ongoing professional development for our existing staff to recognize and support their extraordinary contributions.
- 6. Needs Assessment:** Conducting a thorough assessment to identify the location and type of healthcare services most in demand, allowing us to allocate resources effectively.
- 7. Grant Pursuit:** Actively seeking grants and other funding sources to enhance our ability to provide outstanding healthcare services.
- 8. Community Partnerships:** Building and reinforcing relationships with community partners to leverage expertise and collaborate on efficient resource use.

I have been given a wonderful opportunity to lead this talented team made up of exceptional people dedicated to our mission. I am beyond excited to see what we will accomplish in the year ahead, and in the years to come.

Acknowledgements:

UCHC extends our heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated staff, compassionate providers, and committed board members whose tireless efforts and unwavering support have been instrumental in our mission.

We also recognize our invaluable community partners and the generous grants that have enabled us to continue serving the community for over 40 years.

Your partnership and belief in our vision drive us to make a meaningful impact on the lives of those we serve.

Board of Directors:

Debbie Andrus, President
Ray Weisgarber, Vice-President
María Esparza, Secretary
Anne Gresham, Treasurer
Ellen Rigli, Director
Mary Ann Dobson, Director

Margarita Salcido, Director
William Praust, Director
Audrey Reida, Director
Rosa Alvarez, Director
Anna Tometczak, Director
Peggy Runnyon, Director

We invite you to stay connected with us through our social media channels and our website, where you can find the latest updates, resources, and opportunities to engage with us.

<http://uchcaz.org>

<https://www.instagram.com/uchcaz/>

<https://www.facebook.com/UnitedCommunityHealthCenter>

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/uchcazma>

