



5-09-2019

**Senate Finance Subcommittee on Health and Medicaid  
Testimony on Substitute House Bill 166 – May 14, 2019  
Rocking Horse Community Health Center**

Dear Chairman Hackett, Vice Chair Huffman, Ranking Member Thomas, and Members of the Senate Finance Subcommittee on Health and Medicaid,

Thank you for the opportunity for Rocking Horse Health Center to provide written testimony on Substitute House Bill 166.

At a time when Ohio faces a shortage of primary care physicians and providers, The Ohio Primary Care Workforce Initiative (OPCWI) has been an advantageous tool for our Health Center. I've seen firsthand how this successful program has supported our efforts to recruit and retain the next generation of primary care providers at Rocking Horse Community Health Center in Springfield, Oh.

We are only able to provide such a comprehensive array of services if we have a strong, sustainable workforce. The Ohio Primary Care Workforce Initiative (OPCWI), housed at the Ohio Department of Health (ALI440-465) helped us with recruiting students to our center. We have hired several students to become providers at our center. The money helps with getting the students the equipment and time that they need for effective learning.

On behalf of the patients and communities that RHCHC serves, I respectfully request full restoration of the state's investment of the OPCWI program in the state biennial budget, House Bill 166. Please feel free to reach out if you would like to know more about the OPCWI Program at our Health Center or if you would like to learn more about the innovative care we provide.

Sincerely,

Teresa Hockett RN DON  
Rocking Horse Community Health Center  
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## Primary Care Medical Homes

Main Office: 651 S. Limestone St., Springfield  
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## Our Mission

Rocking Horse Community Health Center creates a caring environment where quality services empower adults and children to improve their physical and emotional health.