



Ashland

9th Street Dental
567-217-7040

Ashland Health &
Wellness Center
567-217-7778

Bucyrus

Bucyrus Health &
Wellness Center
419-834-8889

Community Counseling -
Bucyrus
419-562-2000

Mansfield

Cornerstone OB/GYN
419-522-6800

Five Points Primary Care
419-522-2239

Malabar Care Connect
567-309-7333

Mansfield Family Health
419-525-6737

Third Street Family
Health Services
419-522-6191

Marion

Marion Area Counseling
740-387-5210

Shelby

Shelby Health &
Wellness Center
419-525-6795

Peggy Anderson
Third Street Family Health Services
House Insurance Committee
Testimony on House Bill 276
June 17, 2025

Chairman Lampton, Vice Chair Craig, Ranking Member Tims, and Members of the House Insurance Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 276, the Ohio 340B Pharmacy Access Act. My name is Peggy Anderson, and I serve as the Chief Executive Officer of Third Street Family Health Services, a federally qualified health center also known as a Community Health Center (CHC).

Third Street Family Health Services opened its doors in 1994 to serve those without access to healthcare in Richland County. We now operate 10 sites in Ashland, Crawford, Marion, and Richland counties in north central Ohio. In 2024, we served over 24,000 patients with primary care, OB/gyn care, dental treatment, mental health and psychiatric care, substance use disorder treatment, podiatry care, school-based primary care and mental health treatment, community health worker access, and pharmacy services.

At the heart of our mission is a commitment to deliver comprehensive, high-quality, and affordable healthcare to every Ohioan—especially those in underserved communities. A critical tool that enables us to fulfill this mission is the 340B Drug Pricing Program.

The 340B program is not just a policy—it is a foundational support system for Community Health Centers across our state. It allows us to reinvest savings into vital services that would otherwise be out of reach for many patients. I respectfully refer to the Ohio Association of Community Health Centers' (OACHC) testimony for a full overview of the program's structure and history. Today I want to focus on how 340B directly impacts Third Street Family Health Services and the people we serve.

When Congress created the 340B program, they made their intent clear: to allow safety-net providers to "stretch scarce federal resources as far as possible, reaching more eligible patients and providing more comprehensive services." Community Health Centers like ours were designed to do exactly that. At Third Street Family Health Services, we use 340B savings to cover the cost of dental care, women's healthcare, and primary care for our indigent, uninsured patients. Without the 340B program, we would not be able to provide dental treatment to our head start and school-aged children at their facilities. Our 340B program allows us to offer sliding fee discounts to our patients who have income below 200% of poverty, which is a large portion of our patient population, and if that population grows, our only way to continue our sliding fee program is our 340B program.

Unfortunately, the sustainability of this essential program is now at risk. Since 2020, more than 35 drug manufacturers have imposed unilateral restrictions on the 340B program—ranging from refusing to ship medications to contract pharmacies to forcing health centers like ours to designate only a single pharmacy for all dispensing, regardless of geography or patient need.



For example, at Third Street Family Health Services, we've faced significant barriers serving our highest need patients with affordable prescriptions. Our 340B pricing is blocked at all but 4 contract pharmacies for 25 specific drug manufacturers which covers over 1,700 different drugs. That means if we want to help our patients who have no insurance with their prescription medications, we only have four pharmacies in a 4-county region to assist them. Currently, our only options are in Mansfield, thus increasing transportation challenges for many of our rural patients. These restrictions harm our ability to serve patients efficiently and comprehensively. Patients may now be required to travel significant distances to access medications—or worse, go without. This undermines both the clinical effectiveness of treatment and the care our patients deserve.

These attacks not only disrupt care—they jeopardize the financial viability of Community Health Centers. At Third Street Family Health Services, we opened our own pharmacy to retain as much 340b revenue as we could, however, covering four counties, most of which are very rural, many patients can't get to our pharmacy easily. In the last year, we lost \$1.9 million in revenue due to manufacturers blocking claims at contract pharmacies. That amount accounts for over 2,500 claims. We closed a primary care site in Richland County in 2025 to offset some of that loss.

HB 276 is a concise, targeted bill that addresses this issue head-on. It prohibits manufacturers from limiting access to necessary medications simply because the provider is a 340B grantee. In doing so, it safeguards access to care for all Ohioans across urban, rural, Appalachia, and medically underserved areas.

This legislation closes dangerous loopholes and reaffirms the original intent of the 340B program. Though narrowly focused, HB 276 will have a wide-reaching and lasting positive impact on patients, communities, and the overall health of our state.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this important matter. I would be pleased to answer any questions you may have



Peggy Anderson
President & CEO
Third Street Family Health Services