

Project Health Access helps clinics and healthcare organizations meet the growing needs of Greater Atlanta's uninsured, underinsured and homeless populations.

THE ISSUE

According to American Health Rankings, Georgia ranks 40th in the nation for health outcomes and has some of the lowest rates of individual health coverage, with about 189,000 uninsured children. Our state also ranks 36th in the number of primary care physicians, creating a shortage of health professionals. Approximately 15 percent of Georgia residents live in a designated Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Area.

UNITED WAY'S ROLE

United Way AmeriCorps members serve at free clinics and health centers that provide services to uninsured, underinsured and homeless individuals. AmeriCorps members provide care coordination services so patients maintain their appointments, health education to raise awareness and knowledge around healthy living, and volunteer recruitment of medical professionals in order to increase access to critical health services.

THE RESULTS

Since implementation in 2010, Project Health Access AmeriCorps members have served more than 25,000 individuals in the Greater Atlanta area. From 2015 to 2016, AmeriCorps members served more than 6,000 uninsured and underinsured individuals through referrals to health and social services, providing follow-up calls and appointments, delivering health education sessions, and providing necessary benefits enrollment for the homeless.

