



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 2020

## **Statement from Illinois Primary Health Care Association on Gov. Pritzker's State of the State Address**

**SPRINGFIELD** – The Illinois Primary Health Care Association, representing the state's Federally Qualified Health Centers, today released the following statement in response to the Governor's State of the State address:

"Today, Governor Pritzker delivered his second annual State of the State address, reaffirming his commitment to a safer, healthier and more fiscally stable future for Illinois.

We commend the Governor for leading the bipartisan effort to secure last year's capital bill that promises historic levels of investment in the state's infrastructure, including \$50 million for building, renovating, and repairing community health centers.

As the Governor prepares to introduce his fiscal year 2021 budget, IPHCA will continue to advocate for greater access to high-quality, affordable health care. Our community health center members provide integrated medical, behavioral, and dental care in nearly every community throughout the state and they have a demonstrated ability to improve patient outcomes and reduce healthcare costs. In fact, they save our state's Medicaid program nearly \$2 billion every year by keeping people out of emergency rooms and reducing their need for more costly healthcare services.

IPHCA recognizes the need to balance our state's budget and make greater investments into infrastructure, healthcare, social services, and education. For this reason, IPHCA supports the graduated income tax proposal that will provide the revenue necessary to make these investments.

We look forward to the continuing to work with the Governor, his Administration, and the General Assembly to continually increase access to high-quality, comprehensive care in communities across Illinois."

Jordan Powell  
President and CEO  
Illinois Primary Health Care Association  
Springfield