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Milestone One

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**The Community Health Center**

**Business Profile**

The Community Health Center (CHC) is a non-profit organization that has 14 comprehensive primary care centers across Connecticut. Each of these primary care centers offer medical, dentistry, and behavioral health services. CHC has a special commitment to the uninsured, underinsured, and key populations such as individuals who have HIV/AIDS. The first CHC site opened on May 1, 1972, offering free dental care in a converted second floor apartment located in Middletown, CT (Center, 2016). Mark Masselli along with community activists and a group of Wesleyan University students whose missions were to address the lack of healthcare offered to people in need, started the first CHC site. Today, Mark Masseli is the CEO of the Community Health Center. Although the community health center has been very successful, there are still many governmental impacts that the company has to confront. In this analysis, I will be describing what governmental impacts affect CHC.

**Governmental Actions**

One of the major governmental impacts CHC faces is funding from the government. The Community Health Center is a federally funded organization, so it can face the threat of not receiving enough funds from the government. The Affordable Care Act made a multi-faceted investment in health centers. In addition, the legislation makes a major near-term investment to increase health center funding dramatically, laying the groundwork for major health center growth (Comission, 2010). According to *Community Health Centers: Opportunities and Challenges of Health Reform,* the law anticipates and underscores that the real engine driving long-term health center growth is the expansion of insurance coverage for low-income populations (Comission, 2010). So the success of the expansion for health centers will be based off of the ability of patients to gain access to health insurance and for health center to attain and attract newly insured patients. If there are not enough individuals that obtain insurance, the health center will not expand. Therefore, there will not be any investments if the health centers are not expanding.

The company receives different grants from the government. For example, CHC has a suboxone program which is a treatment program for patients that are dependent on pain prescriptions, methadone, heroin, and opiates. The program director has to write a grant and submit it to a federal agency. Usually, the grants are submitted to federal agencies such as HRSA or SAMHSA. Both of these federal agencies provide grants to CHC for healthcare all of its key populations. Overall, CHC has about seven key populations which includes individuals with HIV/AIDS, HEP C, sexually transmitted disease prevention, LGB care, transgender health, substance abuse disorders, and primary care for the homeless (CHC, 2016).

# References

Center, C. H. (2016, July). *Our History*. Retrieved from Community Health Center: http://www.chc1.com/About-Us/Our-History

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