

Driving Health Forward Digest

The Moment for Mobile Healthcare is NOW.

Launched in February 2025, [Driving Health Forward](#) is a fast-growing national campaign comprising nearly 250 organizations that are dedicated to promoting healthcare system change. The campaign advocates the expansion of mobile healthcare as an essential, high-quality, and cost-effective approach to improve access to care, reduce health disparities, and build a more resilient healthcare system.

Join Us, Follow, Comment, and Share!

To join us, learn more about and support Driving Health Forward, visit [our website](#).
Follow us on [Bluesky](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#)!

Don't forget to follow Driving Health Forward,
comment on and share our posts!



Driving Health Forward: The Road Ahead

Driving Health Forward has sped into 2026 with a monthly series of policy briefs and webinars, blog profiles, conference participation, state investment updates and more, but we have not yet reached our destination!

Here's just a preview of what's in store for the rest of this year:

- The **policy brief and webinar series** continues with one dedicated to community benefit investment options for nonprofit hospitals and health plans
- We are identifying the next set of **policy initiatives** informed by mobile healthcare programs' actual experiences and with an eye to mitigating potential access-to-care issues related to upcoming Medicaid policy changes
- We are collaborating with the Mobile Healthcare Association on its national Certificate of Excellence initiative alongside other mobile healthcare sector organizations such as the Mobile Health Map and the National Association of Community Health Centers
- We are planning our third in-person **convening** of mobile healthcare stakeholders in Kansas City, MO, on September 26, 2026 in conjunction with the Mobile Healthcare Association's annual conference



Buckle up, everyone! There's more to come.

Advocacy Alert

So far this year we have issued three policy briefs, including:

[Healthcare Planning Challenges Facing Mobile Health Programs](#)

[Designating Mobile Health Programs as Essential Community Providers](#)

[Expanding Potential Sources of Capital for Mobile Health Programs](#)

Our next policy brief, *Removing Barriers to Team-Based Care for Mobile Programs*, will be released in late April

We have held webinars on each policy brief topic to dig in more deeply and answer questions. ICYMI, all webinars are available [on our website!](#) We've had up to 250 webinar registrants across all our webinars! Stay tuned on our social media platforms. There's more to come and we invite you to join us!

Driving Health Forward gratefully acknowledges the sponsors of this policy brief and webinar series, the Leon Lowenstein Foundation, Farber Specialty Vehicles, Mission Mobile Medical, Mobile Health Care Authority, Mobile Specialty Vehicles, and TESCO Specialty Vehicles.



State of Mobile Healthcare

Forty-eight states capitalized on a once-in-a-generation funding opportunity by incorporating mobile healthcare in their Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) applications. We're keeping tabs on major developments and we invite you to do the same! Check out the [map](#) on our website that outlines what each state is doing to support mobile. Here are three examples:



Florida

The Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) is preparing to release grant applications (RFAs) to fund regional projects, including life-saving mobile health initiatives. Pending legislative budget approval, these competitive RFAs are expected to launch in April. We encourage healthcare leaders to start building their collaborative partnerships now, as final grant award announcements are currently scheduled for June 29, 2026.



Nebraska

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services released an RFA for its Chronic Disease Management Navigation and Education Initiative. This provided a critical opportunity for the mobile healthcare sector, especially programs associated with federally qualified health centers, rural health clinics, and other identified groups.



Oregon

The Oregon Health Authority hosted a webinar on RHTP efforts. The state is moving forward with a Catalyst Awards RFP initiative in year one to fund ready-to-go projects. An organization can submit up to three distinct projects under a single proposal which cannot exceed \$5 million. The projects must address at least one of the federally defined RHTP priorities as well as at least 1 of 4 OR priority groups (maternal and child health, behavioral health, individuals with chronic conditions, and individuals aging in place). The RFP will be available online in early April with proposals due in the second half of May and awards are expected in early summer.

Participant Profiles

The mobile healthcare sector and its stakeholders are making tremendous strides in growing the industry and expanding visibility of the value it brings. Here are a few illustrations:



Bethesda Community Clinic:

What does it really take to move from brick-and-mortar care to a fully mobile model, and make it sustainable at scale? No one knows better than Bethesda Community Clinic Executive Director Melissa Belfield. In a *Driving Health Forward* [blog post](#), Melissa shares candid insights on reducing no-shows, improving efficiency, and building deeper trust by meeting people where they are. She also reflects on why mobile healthcare must be treated as true primary care, not a short-term pilot, and how initiatives like *Driving Health Forward* can help remove barriers to long-term success.



Center on Health Insurance Reforms: Georgetown University's Center has released a compelling [report](#), which examines the federal and state policy landscape shaping mobile health today, identifies gaps in regulation and financing, and outlines a path forward for scaling mobile care nationwide. Report co-author Maanasa Kona elaborates in a new *Driving Health Forward* [blog post](#).



Mission Mobile Medical: In February, Mission Mobile Medical [announced](#)

the new National Mobile Health Policy Center. Led by mobile healthcare veteran Mollie Williams, DrPH, MPH, this is a new initiative dedicated to advancing policies and practices that enable mobile health programs to deliver care nationwide. It will serve as a hub for evidence and insight, translating on-the-ground experience from mobile health programs into policy priorities that expand access, strengthen delivery systems, and support financially sustainable models for mobile care around the country.



Mobile Healthcare Association:

Mobile Healthcare Association is launching a Certificate of Excellence initiative, with the goal of awarding the first certificates to mobile healthcare programs on February 1, 2027. This initiative stems from the *Driving Health Forward* campaign and is designed to elevate the visibility and credibility of the mobile healthcare sector and establish practical guidelines that support high-quality, financially sustainable programs. Click [here](#) for more details and to get involved!



National Association of Community Health Centers

(NACHC): NACHC has [announced](#) the launch of the Center for Mobile Health, an exciting new development for the field. NACHC plays an important role in extending access to care to communities, families, and individuals through its network of Federally Qualified Health Center Unified Health Network (FUHN), and deepening its focus and commitment to mobile health care is critical!



Wayne State University:

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has appointed Phillip Levy, M.D., M.P.H., the Edward S. Thomas Endowed Professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at the Wayne State University School of Medicine, to the Michigan Board of Medicine. Dr. Levy is also the director of the Wayne Mobile Health Unit program, which brings healthcare to communities and neighborhoods across southeast Michigan.

Mobile Events, News and Notes!



Early bird registration is now open for Mobile Healthcare Association's 22nd Annual [Mobile Health Clinics Conference \(September 26-28, Kansas City, MO\)](#)! This year's theme is *Meeting the Moment Together: Preparing for Growth, Sustainability, and Impact*. The conference will focus on helping programs adapt, scale, and remain sustainable in a rapidly changing landscape. Participants will gain actionable strategies, peer learning opportunities, and practical tools to support program growth, long-term sustainability, and measurable community impact. Register today!

**Has your organization been featured in the news?
We want to know!**

Help Us Grow the Campaign's Big Tent of Participants

If you know organizations that may be interested in learning about or joining the campaign, please direct them to [our website](#) to sign up!



ICYMI: In the News

[Conversations on Health Care](#)

Our own Nicky Goren and Don Blanchon were featured guests on a [video podcast](#) on the urgency for mobile healthcare and its innumerable benefits. They also addressed plans for *Driving Health Forward* and how to scale the sector. *Conversations on Health Care* is a project of the Moses/Weitzman Media Group and part of the first health system dedicated to primary care for underserved populations. The show brings together top thought leaders in public health, health policy and innovation. Each episode offers in-depth conversations and global perspectives on current trending topics. You can watch it [here](#) or listen on [Apple Podcasts](#) or [Spotify](#).

[Modern Healthcare](#) Reporter Diane Eastabrook spoke with Don Blanchon on using mobile clinics for hospital-at-home programs as well as how RHTP can advance mobile healthcare. She published [this article](#) about how a five-year federal pilot program is testing mobile medical units that provide specialized services like oncology and hospital-at-home care to rural communities. By focusing on high-demand, reimbursable specialties and operational efficiency, the initiative aims to create a sustainable roadmap for states and providers to improve medical access profitably. Don noted that a key challenge to sustainability is that "many [mobile programs] are funded through charitable grants and don't seek reimbursement for services from government or private insurers." *Note that a subscription is required to access the Modern Healthcare article.*

[International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health](#)

published a study in January on the Strategic Advantage of FQHCs in Implementing Mobile Health Units. The study notes that FQHCs leverage mobile health units as a scalable, patient-centered model to reach and engage populations who face systemic barriers to traditional site-based care. By investing resources in mobile primary care delivery to hard-to-reach populations, FQHCs enhance their ability to offer proactive, patient-centered care and strengthen patient engagement with high-quality, community-focused primary care.