

## Public Response to <u>06.16.23 HFS Public Notice on HBIA/HBIS Pause</u>

With the emergency rules enacted in Health Benefits for Immigrant Adults/Seniors coverage to include the pause on enrolling individuals who are undocumented ages 42-64, it is critical to note that Illinois Free and Charitable Clinics, located in communities around the state, are poised and ready to provide health care for anyone, regardless of immigration status. The Illinois Free and Charitable Clinics are the trusted health care provider for the uninsured and underinsured; providing medical, behavioral health, dental and pharmacy services. The clinics supply quality health care and have a robust, passionate team of health care providers who create safe and welcoming spaces for all. Historically, the clinics have provided health care to people who are new to the state and those that have resided in Illinois for some time—many being undocumented individuals.

The Illinois Association for Free and Charitable Clinics also raises concerns about Medicaid redetermination and how that will affect those already enrolled in HBIA/HBIS. If HBIA/HBIS policy holders lose their coverage during the redetermination process, they may find themselves unable to re-enroll due to the enrollment pause. The clinics stand firm in their ability and desire to aid those in need of care throughout the state.

To find a health care provider please go to the <u>Illinois Association of Free and Charitable</u> Clinics.