Celebrating 50 Years of Care

SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER
50TH ANNIVERSARY
1976 - 2026
SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

1976
Concerned citizens and local agencies formed the West End Neighborhood Advisory Council and secured Section 330 funding to address urgent healthcare needs.

1977
The Health Center was formally established, and the Advisory Council transitioned into Southwest's Board of Directors.

1978
Health services relocated from the P.T. Barnum Apartments to St. Stephen's School on Bird Street.

1980
Southwest was incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

1991
Southwest received Ryan White Part C funding to provide comprehensive care for individuals living with or at risk of HIV/AIDS.

1998
Behavioral Health Services moved to 510 Clinton Avenue, the first building owned by Southwest.

1999
Southwest received accreditation from The Joint Commission for the first time.

2001
Behavioral Health Services relocated to its current headquarters at 1046 Fairfield Avenue.

2003
Southwest joined the Health Improvement Alliance in partnership with local hospitals and community health providers.

2007
A new main facility opened at 968 Fairfield Avenue, expanding integrated medical, dental, and behavioral health services.

2009
Services expanded to five school-based health centers through the Connecticut Department of Public Health.

2011
Southwest began providing WIC nutrition services through the Department of Public Health.

2013
Partnership with the Bridgeport Housing Authority strengthened connections between healthcare and supportive housing.

2015
Participation in the inaugural Medical Mission at Home program broadened community outreach.

2020
Southwest led COVID-19 testing and vaccination efforts across Bridgeport.

2021
Acquisition of a mobile medical unit increased access to care across neighborhoods.

2022
Southwest broke ground on a new Wakeman Boys & Girls Club location and opened sites at 509 Park Avenue and 1020 Fairfield Avenue.

2023
A new location opened at Hall Neighborhood House.

2024
Southwest expanded services with a new site at the Thomas Merton Family Center.

2026
Southwest celebrates its 50th anniversary and prepares to open a new Wakeman Boys & Girls Club location.