



Talking Points for School-Based Health Centers

July 9, 2010

Our Partners

- Lead by Building Bright Futures, the Omaha Public Schools and Children’s Hospital and Medical Center, the School-Based Health Center Task Force was formed and included area health organizations:
 - Boys Town National Research Hospital
 - University of Nebraska Medical Center
 - Creighton University Medical Center
 - OneWorld Community Health Centers
 - Charles Drew Health Center
- As we prepare to introduce a behavioral and mental health delivery model, additional partners have actively participated in the development process:
 - Alegent Health Care System
 - Nebraska Methodist Health System
 - Douglas County Health and Human Services
 - Lutheran Family Services
 - Center for Holistic Development

Why We Need School-Based Health Care

National Perspective

- Approximately 2,000 School-Based Health Centers (SBHC) across the country provide access to high quality, comprehensive medical care, mental health services, preventative care, social services, and youth development to approximately 1.7 million children and adolescents in 44 states and the District of Columbia.
- Healthy students learn best. Yet, too many school children fight the harmful effects of poor nutrition, risky behaviors, violence, tobacco and substance use, chronic diseases, and other treatable health conditions that affect attendance and learning. All of these factors affect learning performance and are preventable if identified and treated early.
- SBHCs address physical, emotional, and behavioral health issues and foster learning readiness and academic achievement.

Local Perspective

- There are approximately 195,000 children in Douglas and Sarpy Counties. Of those children;
 - 29,000 children live in poverty
 - 82,000 do not have a regular health provider
 - 21,000 are in need of behavioral health intervention or treatment, but do not receive or do not have access to quality care

Where Are the Pilot SBHCs Located?

South	North
Indian Hill Elementary 3121 U Street Omaha, NE 68107	Kellom Elementary 1311 N. 24 th Street Omaha, NE 68102
Spring Lake Magnet Elementary 4215 S. 20 th Street Omaha, NE 68107	King Science Magnet 3720 Florence Blvd. Omaha, NE 68110
Liberty Elementary 2021 St. Mary’s Ave. Omaha, NE 68102	Belvedere Elementary 3775 Curtis Ave. Omaha, NE 68111

- For the past 12 years, Grand Island Public Schools has successfully partnered with St. Francis Medical Center to provide a SBHC within Grand Island High School. Up until now, they have been the only SBHC within the state of Nebraska.

SBHC Benefits to Schools and Educational Systems

SBHC Service or Program for Students	Benefit to School/Educational System
Identify students at risk for health and behavioral problems	To reduce obstacles to the learning process
Immunize students	To ensure the school meets governmental requirements, to minimize school-wide outbreaks, and to reduce absenteeism
Administer medication to students with chronic illness	To reduce absences, as well as disciplinary action for students with behavioral health problems
Provide mental health services	To help students concentrate in school and maintain healthy relationships with peers, teachers, and family
Provide prevention health services	To improve student health and prevent or minimize future health and mental health problems.
Provide on-site management of acute health conditions	To improve attendance and student health
Refer students to service not provided at the SBHC	To address the full spectrum of health issues that can function as barriers to learning and to case manage students receiving services elsewhere

Who Will Receive Care at SBHC?

- Nationally, students served in SBHC are predominantly members of minority and ethnic populations who have historically experienced under-insurance, a lack of insurance or health care access disparities.
- Each of the six SBHCs are located within schools with high poverty rates, with many families experiencing barriers to quality health care such as transportation, proximity, cost, language, cultural competency, and health knowledge and awareness.
- The SBHCs provide pediatric care and will serve;
 - Students and minor siblings of the host school
 - Students of linked schools (those in close proximity to the SBHC)
 - Early childhood populations

Examples of Services Provided

- SBHC will be able to provide and treat:
 - Immunizations
 - Physicals
 - Hearing Screening
 - Vision Screening
 - Fever
 - Stomach ache
 - Ear infections
 - Asthma Treatments
 - Maintenance & Treatment for Diabetes
 - Fluoride varnish for teeth
 - Migraine headaches
 - Head lice
 - Upper respiratory infections
 - Rash
- Regarding reproductive health, the availability of reproductive health services is guided by state and federal law. SBHC staff will follow all laws as they relate to reproductive health care within the state of Nebraska. For more information, reference Nebraska Legislative Bill 1106.

Staffing

- Nationally, SBHCs are staffed by a diverse array of health professionals including clinical support staff, mental health providers, health educators, nutritionists and dental providers.
- Working in partnership with the school principal, school nurse, and other building and district personnel, the SBHC will be staffed with either a Nurse Practitioner or Physician's Assistant, along with a Medical Assistant.
- The Omaha Public Schools has contracted with OneWorld Community Health Center and Charles Drew Health Center, both highly respected community-based health providers, to staff and operate the SBHCs. OPS is making space available, but will not be involved in operating the SBHC.
 - **OneWorld Community Health Center** – Indian Hill Elementary, Spring Lake Magnet Elementary, Liberty Elementary
 - **Charles Drew Health Center** – Kellom Elementary, Belvedere Elementary, King Science Magnet Middle
- When the behavioral and mental health delivery model is finalized, additional staff will be added to the SBHC to meet the needs of the student population.

SBHCs in Health Reform

- The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act provided a provision to support school-based health care.
 - Section 4101(a) *appropriated* \$200 million over 4 years, starting July 2010, to establish grants for expenditures related to construction, acquiring or improving land/facilities, and equipment for SBHCs. **(No funds for personnel or to provide health services)**
 - Section 4101(b) authorized \$50 million for establishing grants to support operational expenses for SBHCs, including training, management, and personnel. **(Authorizes the spending, but does not actually allocate the money.)**
- If provided the opportunity to speak to a member of Congress (Sen. Ben Nelson, Sen. Mike Johanns, Rep. Lee Terry):
 - Inform them of the recent addition of six SBHCs within the Omaha community, and share the various facts provided in this document.
 - If your district/school/organization is hosting or sponsoring a SBHC, share a story illustrating the impact the SBHC will have on your community.
 - If you wish to host or sponsor a SBHC within your district/school/community, share a story illustrating the need for more SBHCs within the Omaha area.

Contact Information

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