



School Based Health Centers

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School-Based Health Centers

Health care where young people learn and grow

PRESENTED BY
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National Assembly on School-
Based Health Care

Definition of a School-Based Health Center

- Partnerships created by schools and community health organizations
- To provide on-site medical and mental health services
- To promote the health and educational success of school-aged children and adolescents who lack access to care.

Partnerships (1/2)

Most frequent sponsors of SBHCs

- Hospitals (32%)
- Health departments (17%)
- Federal CHCs (17%)
- School districts (14%)
- Nonprofit agencies (12%)

Partnerships (2/2)

Most frequent partners that provide staff and services:

- School (60%)
- Health department (41%)
- Local hospital (29%)
- Mental health agency (26%)

Comprehensive Services: Primary Care

Primary care is provided by physicians, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners. Most frequent medical services include:

- Treatment of acute illness (94%)
- Screening such as vision, hearing, scoliosis (91%)
- Asthma treatment (90%)
- Comprehensive physicals (89%)
- Sports physicals (87%)
- Immunizations (85%)

Comprehensive Services: Mental Health

Mental health professionals are present in 67% of SBHCs. Most frequent mental health services include:

- Assessment (74%)
- Crisis intervention (72%)
- Screening (71%)
- Grief and loss therapy (62%)
- Brief therapy (62%)

Prevention and Early Detection (1/2)

- Nurses, health educators, nutritionists and social workers provide critical education and skills building.
- Health topics are addressed in individual counseling, small group, classroom, and school-wide settings.

Prevention and Early Detection (2/2)

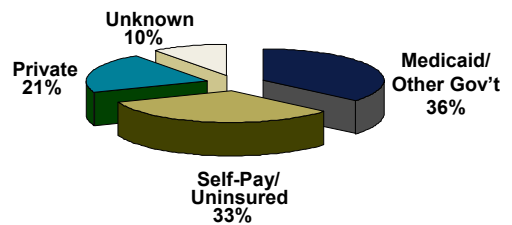
Health topics most frequently addressed by SBHCs include:

- Tobacco (87%)
- Alcohol and drug abuse (82%)
- Violence prevention & conflict resolution (82%)
- HIV/STD prevention (76%)

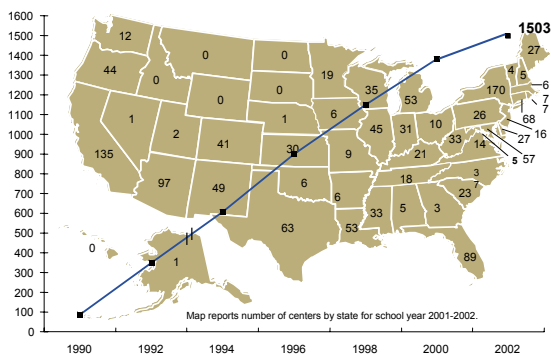
SBHC Serve Students in Need

- 51% of students in schools with health centers are African American or Hispanic.
- An estimate of 39% of students served by SBHCs have no other medical home.
- 65% of SBHCs also serve other populations such as family members of students, school faculty, and students from other schools.

Students in Need: Insurance Status

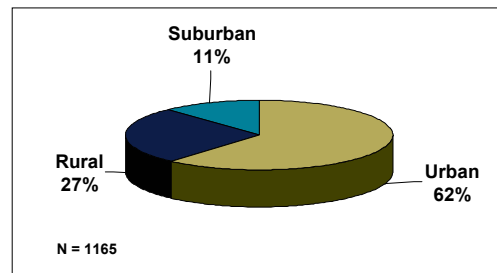


Growth of SBHCs, 1990-2002



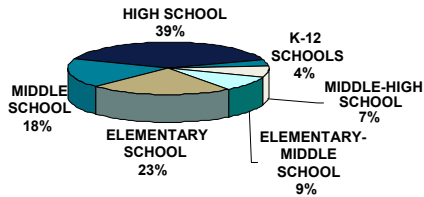
Data from the 2002 State Survey of SBHCs sponsored by the Center for Health and Health Care in Schools

Community Characteristic of School-Based Health Centers



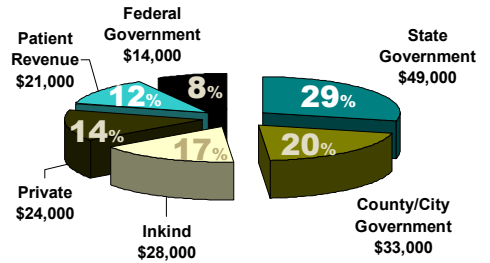
Types of Schools Housing School-Based Health Centers

SBHC by School Type (N=1154)



SBHC Financing

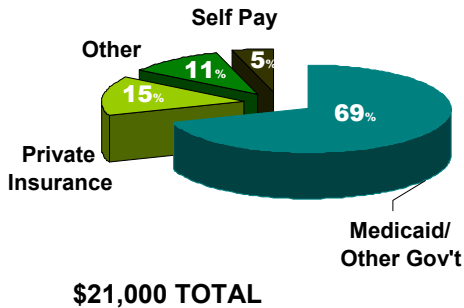
2000-01 Revenue Survey (n=412)



Average revenue = \$169,000

SBHC Financing

Patient Revenue by Source



Impact

- Increase preventive health care, including vaccinations, physical exams and risk assessments, for students who typically go without and have the greatest need
- Decrease school absenteeism associated with chronic disease or acute illness

Impact

- Lessen emergency room visits by uninsured students needing primary care
- Reduce parents' time off from work associated with health care visits

Impact

- Improve access to mental health and substance abuse services for students who need support
- Reduce unhealthy behaviors that compromise health and education success

Impact

- Reduce health care access disparities for low-income and minority children and adolescents
- Strengthen community services to serve young people more efficiently and effectively

Challenges

- Tenuous financing: public health funds, patient revenue, private grants
- Defining a role for SBHCs as primary care providers, co-provider of primary care and specialty care

Challenges

- “Insurance versus access” as national policy focus
- Balancing tension between acute needs and prevention mission
- Maintaining comprehensiveness while maximizing billable revenues

Opportunities

- HEDIS/EPSTDT benchmarks for preventive health
- Expansion of dental and mental health services
- Healthy People 2010
- Emerging education reforms
- Community health center expansion into new access sites