School-Based Health Services in Ohio

Access to quality health services is vital to the overall physical and mental health of children and adolescents and K-12 schools have played an increasingly important role in ensuring students and their families have access to this care. SBHS benefits to students include:

- increased healthcare utilization and access, especially for mental health services, for students who might not otherwise receive care 1-3
- reducing time out of the classroom and increasing time spent learning⁴
- reduced absenteeism 5-6 •

SBHSs in Ohio have played a valuable role in student education and healthy development.

The Ohio School-Based Health Alliance partnered with the Schubert Center for Child Studies to conduct a survey on the scope and basic operating procedures of Ohio SBHS providers. 46% of Ohio SBHS providers (64 of an estimated 140) completed the survey. View the full report.

Ohio Counties with SBHS sites



 Counties with known SBHS sites Counties with known SBHS sites and at least one site that completed the survey



67% of SBHS sites in Ohio are open yearround

Did you know...?



Over 95% of SBHS sites serve students AND school staff, families, or children and adults from the communities

SBHS sites offer a range of 7 to 14 services, including sick and well-child visits and vaccinations



SBHS sites adapted throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic to offer testing, vaccinations and telehealth services

How can we use SBHSs to support Ohio's students?

- Improve data collection from SBHS providers to update statewide and national information, inform partnerships, and highlight the positive impact they are having on Ohio's students. Greater SBHS provider engagement would also provide more detailed knowledge on the needs and opportunities to expand SBHSs and better support for existing providers.
- Advocate for funding to be directed towards Ohio's SBHS providers. Investment in SBHS providers will ensure students and communities have access to healthcare that they might not otherwise receive. Although most SBHS sites receive some federal or state support, opportunities exist for further investments, including private funding.
- Strengthen partnerships with state and local agencies to improve collaboration and service provision. The Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Department of Education, and Ohio Department of Medicaid could coordinate resources for SBHSs while also providing data collection and monitoring support for service improvement.

Ohio SBHS Resources: "School-Based Health Care Support Toolkit" and "Each Child, Our Future: Ohio's Strategic Plan for Education: 2019-2024"

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