



Academic Benefits of School-Based Health

Healthy Kids Learn Better

Healthy kids are less likely to miss school and more likely to be academically successful.

For over 25 years, Michigan's school-based health centers (SBHCs) and school-linked health centers (SLHCs) have provided comprehensive physical and mental health services for children and teens.

Getting to Know School-Based Health Care in Michigan

- 118 total school-based/school-linked centers and programs; 99 are state-funded.
- 45% of Michigan Counties have an adolescent school-based health program.
- In 2013: Approximately 30,000 kids received health care services. Over 100,000 had health encounters through a center or program. Over 22,000 kids received mental health services.



School-Based Health Centers

- School-Based Health Centers are a pediatric office located in a school staffed by mid-level practitioners (Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants).
- They are located in areas where families are economically disadvantaged and struggle to access medical services.
- The centers are designed to appeal to young people by creating a friendly atmosphere specific to their age-group.
- Parents must sign written consents for their children to receive the full scope of services provided at the School-Based Health Center.

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How School-Based Health Centers Contribute to Academic Success

SBHCs address root causes of tardiness absenteeism.

- SBHCs address health-related problems, family-related problems, and school-related problems - all of which lead to absenteeism.
- Studies have shown that students who use SBHCs are significantly more likely to stay in school and graduate than similar students who are not using their services.

SBHCs support academic achievement.

- For high-risk students, studies demonstrated that SBHC use was strongly associated with academic improvements.

SBHCs improve learning environments.

- Research demonstrates that SBHCs in middle and elementary schools are associated with greater levels of school engagement and satisfaction with the learning environment than those in high schools.

Data Sources:

- School-Based Health Alliance Literature database, <http://www.sbh4all.org/resources/sbhc-literature-database/>

