Roadmap to Food Security in School-Based Health Centers

June 28, 2023

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Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Food and Nutrition Security
- Integrating Food Security Interventions in your SBHC
- Readiness and Asset Mapping
- Developing solutions and engaging partners
- Sustaining Interventions
- Toolkit
- Q&A
Today’s Objectives

• Identify key factors that impact food security
• Initiate steps to address food insecurity through your SBHC
• Identify potential partners in addressing food insecurity

Today’s Speakers

• Theresa Dominguez (she/her), Senior Program Manager at School-Based Health Alliance
• Sarah Mills (she/her), Senior Manager Health Systems at Share Our Strength
• Kateri Evans (she/her), RN Program Coordinator at RUSH SBHCs
• Katherine Bissett (she/her), School Health Population Health Coordinator, MetroHealth
• Sara Hodgdon (she/her) Director, SBHC & HITCH Operations at Open Door Family Medical Center
• Mary Otwell, LCSW (she/her), School-Based Health Clinics Coordinator at Little Rock School District
Improving access to healthy food and federal food programs can have significant impact on families and children.

Families have reported physicians and school health personnel as highly trusted source of information and referrals.
Readiness

Questions to ask before you begin

- Does addressing food security align with other organizational goals and priorities?
- What is the capacity for addressing food insecurity within your SBHC services, and how could this initiative impact your operations?
- Next Step: Assessing community needs and assets

Defining the Problem & Need

- SBHC experience
- Patient risk assessments
- SBHC CHW integration
- Demographic shifts
- Community health needs assessment
- Neighborhood population health outcomes

Define the Problem and the Need

Engage the Community in Needs Assessment

“...needs assessment is an essential first step. Obtain feedback from youth, families, school staff, and school administration early on.” - Rush University Medical Center, IL

Stakeholder Engagement

- School champion interviews
- SBHC clinical team group discussion
- Parent survey
- Partner interviews
- Students
**Family Survey**

- Interest level
- Timing
- Frequency
- Choice
- Food preferences
- Assistance with health conditions
- Resource needs
- Household size
- Language

**We Want to Hear From You!**

The Rush School-Based Health Center (SBHC) wants to hear from you! Academy and KIPP Van Buren.

We’re exploring how we can support the Academy and KIPP Van Buren’s health needs. Please complete the drop survey, see our local clinic planning a food pantry or other programs in Barter.

Scan the QR code to the right or click on the link to access the survey:

@RUSH
Food is just the beginning.

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**Resources & Partners**

- Who is already doing this? What have they learned?
- What resources & programming already exists?
- Where are there gaps?
- School
- School district
- Partners
- Health system

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**Determine Assets and Possible Partners**

“Partnership is key. Each of our partner schools has additional community organizations they collaborate with to provide services to students. Creating partnership of our own with those community organizations has been vital to the planning process.”

“Explore what food programming and organizations already exist in your community for potential partnerships and resources.”

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**Asset Mapping Activity**

**Asset Mapping Worksheet**

- Scan code
- Open Google doc file
- Click "Share and Export" from menu
- Make a copy

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Learn More Here:

Sustainability – SBHA Toolkits (sbh4all.org)
Integrating Food Security Interventions in your SBHC

Developing Solutions and Engaging partners

Identify Existing Assets to Connect families

Our Workflow
1. Include the two validated hunger vital sign screening questions used system wide into our existing pre-visit questionnaire
2. Whoever schedules the appointment (RN, CHW, PSS) asks the parent the questions at time of scheduling.
3. Any positive responses are routed to the assigned CHW
4. Appropriate referrals are placed through UniteUs to CBOs
5. CHWs follow up to ensure needed connections have been made

*Can be done on paper, by any staff, without UniteUs!

Utilizing Health system's existing screen and refer model, leveraging community organizations

WHAT'S MISSING?
- Clinic SDOH Screenings - "Do you need food today?"
- 83% In past year ran out of food (no money, food stamps left)
- 84% Need food today

WHAT'S GIVING?
- Weekend food bags

Identifying Gaps & Establishing Resources

Weekend Food Bags

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Weekend Food Bags

WHAT'S HAPPENING?
• Distributed in clinic, on Fridays, at family events, Community Cafes
• Staffing with volunteers/students (City Year, university students, student workers)

WHAT'S DONE?
• 60 bags per week
• Over 1,780 bags distributed

Integrating Food Security Interventions in your SBHC

Sustaining your Intervention

What's Next?

Recap Additional Successes

Training and increasing staff awareness of resources.
Establishing new food access points in the community.

Emerging Models And Resources To Address Food Insecurity In School-Based Health Centers

No Kid Hungry and School-Based Health Alliance believe that by embracing and building on existing trust in school-based health centers, we can promote federal nutrition programs and nutritious food consumption in support of favorable health outcomes and improved food security for families.

This toolkit highlights promising practices for integrating nutrition and food access into school-based health center (SBHC) services to address social influences of health, improve food security for families, and support student success and wellness.
Questions?