SBHC Partnerships with Full-Service Community Schools

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- The views expressed in this presentation are those of the presenter(s) and may not reflect official policy of the School Based Health Alliance (SBHA), Blue Ridge Health (BRH), or United Way of Asheville/Buncombe County (UWABC).

- We are obligated to disclose any products which are off-label, unapproved, experimental, and/or under investigation (not FDA approved) and any limitations on the information that are presented, such as data that are preliminary or that represent ongoing research, interim analyses, and/or unsupported opinion.

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Learning Outcomes

Participants will be able to . . .

- Understand the Full Service Community Schools Program and how working with an SBHC program supports health and wellness
- Describe strategies for strengthening partnerships between schools, healthcare organizations, and others
- Determine other funding sources that may support your program and leverage additional resources to create a comprehensive model of care

Who is Blue Ridge Health?

To improve Health, inspire Hope, and advance Healing through access to Compassionate, Affordable, and Quality Care.

Celebrating 60 years of COMMUNITY HEALTH and 30 years of SCHOOL BASED HEALTH!

Private, Non-Profit, and Community-Governed
60% or more of our governing board is made up of Blue Ridge Health patients who represent the communities we serve.

Comprehensive, Quality Healthcare Services
Offer a comprehensive range of healthcare services to support the entire family.

Accessible Locations in High-Need Areas
Convenient locations that provide access to healthcare in the medically underserved areas of our communities.

Affordable Health
Cost of care is adjusted based on the patient’s ability to pay.

Blue Ridge Health – School Based Services

- 7 county service area in Western North Carolina with over 30 sites
- Sites provide a combination of:
  - Physical, comprehensive services
  - School-linked services
  - Telehealth services
  - Tele-mental health services
  - Behavioral health only sites
Where it started . . . .

- Blue Ridge Health has utilized a school-based health services model of care since 1993
- Original funding through federal 330 grant program at one SBHC site
- NC DHHS credentialing program
- Starting in 2008, we began expanding our program in one county
- Now we are home to 30+ school-based service sites and we are continuing to grow
  - This growth is due to being responsive to school needs and providing support in those communities with the highest needs

How it’s going . . . .

- Provided 13,713 SBH visits in 2022/2023 (ending March 2023)
- 70% were Behavioral Health Visits (not sustainable without behavioral health in the model)
- Integration with a Behavioral Health Enhanced Services Provider – expanded continuum of care for students
- Expanding infrastructure to meet demands

Strategies for success

**Leverage FQHC/Health Center Infrastructure:**
- Apply for HRSA grant opportunities
- Linkage of students and families to additional services
- Flexibility: Behavioral health counseling can be completed at the school, pediatric office, or behavioral health offices (integrated or co-located with our health center).

**Business Model:**
- Bill for services under PPS rate
- Determined staffing model over time for efficiency and cost-effective care
- Rely on start-up funding for first 2-3 years for new sites
- Begin with BH services and expand
- Always provide access to parents/faculty/students from other schools
Strategies for Success

Partnerships:
- Schools – SBHC sites, training for school teams, building protocols together, support the whole school/community/child
- Collaborative agencies – Behavioral Health, PCPs, other agencies
- Associations – SBHA, NCSBHA – share resources and knowledge with others
- Funders – local, regional, state, and national – Dogwood Health Trust, Highlands-Cashiers Foundation, NC-ORH, NCDPH (limited/ongoing)
- Serve as sites for residents, counselor internships
- Full-Service Community School partnership - UWABC

United Way of Asheville and Buncombe County

Our VISION: ALL children and youth learn, grow, and thrive in a vibrant, healthy, and connected community.

Our MISSION: To actively identify and remove barriers to opportunity and co-create solutions that support student success.

Our FOCUS: We employ the community school strategy as the organizing framework for elevating student success, supporting families, and engaging communities throughout Buncombe County.

The Why

14,500 – students in Buncombe County qualify for free and reduced lunch, and 1 in 4 children do not know where their next meal is coming from.

3 – students who don’t graduate high school are 3 times more likely to live in poverty as adults, 6 times more likely to be arrested and live an average of 9 years less than their peers.

5,525 – calls to 2-1-1 for help with physical and mental healthcare and addictions in Buncombe County last year.
Community Schools

Public schools that partner with families and community organizations to provide well-rounded educational opportunities and supports for student and family success.

United for Youth

Asheville City Schools · Buncombe County Schools
50+ Community partner organizations · Students, Families, community members
United Way of Asheville and Buncombe County

The Bold Goal

Our Goal: By 2035, ALL Asheville City and Buncombe County students graduate from high school ready and fully prepared to pursue their goals and dreams.

Community Schools

A Day In The Life
Community Schools

**Four Pillars of Community Schools**
- Integrated Student Supports
- Expanded and Enriched Learning Time and Opportunities
- Active Family and Community Engagement
- Collaborative Leadership and Practices

**Full Service Community Schools**
- Coordination of academic, social, and health services through partnerships.

SBHC & Integrated Student Supports Pillar

School-Based Health Partnerships

Coaching & Consultation

"I can say for the whole team that we have truly appreciated your expertise and support on our journey here in Asheville. You helped us lay a strong foundation for school-based health centers to be successful for years to come. We couldn't have gotten this far without you! I personally want to thank you enough for being an invaluable resource, thought partner, and coach over the past year as this initiative took many twists and turns and had many stops and starts along the way. I'm so very thankful for your listening ear and the wisdom you provided as I came up against these detours."
Partnerships

**Key Roles**
- **UWABC**
  - Community School Coordinators
  - Support staff
- **BRH**
  - Clinical staff
  - Program and Admin staff
- **School**
  - Administrators
  - Principals
  - Student Support Teams
- **Community Partners**
- **Students & Families**

Experiences & Learnings

- BRH responded to RFP from UWABC for two full service community school projects in Buncombe County
- Projects at (2) Middle Schools - one in the county and one in the city
- Implementation Challenges:
  - MOU/staff turnover in schools/districts
  - Construction
  - Referral Processes

Experiences & Learnings

- Partnership engagement in the same “space”
- Leveraging funding from other sources to support program
- Staffing Challenges
- Data collection
- Expanding program to additional full service community schools
The Impact

By the Numbers (since opening in 2022):

Total Students served = 782 (58% of enrolled students)
Reduction in student absenteeism for students seen at least once at the SBHC = 50%
Increase in number of students returning to class after visiting the SBHC = 97%

Additional data points collected monthly and quarterly related to chronic health conditions, risk assessments, ADHD, depression, etc.

The Impact

By the Stories:

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THINKING ABOUT SCHOOL BASED HEALTH SERVICES?
RESOURCES FROM THE NATIONAL SCHOOL BASED HEALTH ALLIANCE

www.sbh4all.org
The School-Based Health Alliance's Children's Health and Education Mapping Tool is a free, interactive resource for individuals seeking to address chronic inequities among low-income children and adolescents.

Powering up a partnership in your community can seem like a big task—but it doesn't have to be! Try out some of these ideas for ways to get started and important tips to keep in mind.