

School-Based Health Center Success & Sustainability Community of Practice

November 2025 – February 2026

The School-Based Health Alliance (SBHA) is excited to announce a new cohort of our virtual community of practice focused on school-based health center (SBHC) sustainability and success. This initiative aims to support partnerships between healthcare organizations and schools to provide or expand access to primary care and behavioral health services in schools. Throughout the community of practice, participating teams will:

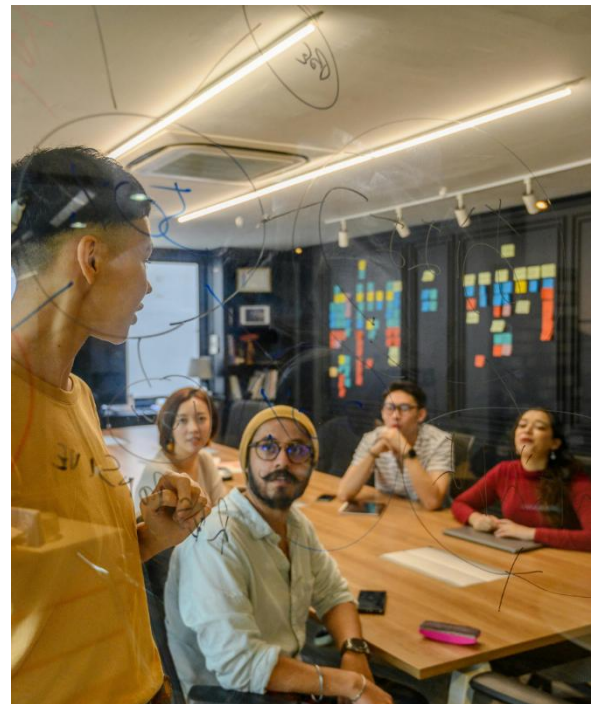
- Identify action steps for strengthening partnerships, improving sustainability, and maintaining high-quality care.
- Identify areas of strength and areas for growth.
- Connect with and learn from expert faculty and school-based health center colleagues from across the country.

This community of practice is designed for teams planning an SBHC, as well as teams with existing SBHCs who feel they would benefit from revisiting SBHC basics. It is free and open to school-based health center teams, with a focus on Health Center Program and Look-Alike health sponsors. Other health sponsor types are welcome to apply as well. “Health sponsor” refers to the healthcare organization whose staff will provide health services (primary care, behavioral health, etc.) in the SBHC. **Participants must commit to incorporating knowledge and skills from the training into their work.** Continuing education credits will be offered for this activity for physicians, nurses, and behavioral health professionals.

Why Focus on School-Based Health Centers?

School-based health centers bring healthcare into schools. With services offered by licensed providers, SBHCs offer high-quality care for every student, much like a local community health center or pediatrician, where students spend most of their time – in school. School-based health centers offer primary care; many also offer behavioral health, oral health, and vision care. Learn more [here](#).

School-based health centers are a partnership among a community healthcare organization, a school district, and the community. The healthcare organization, called a health sponsor, oversees the SBHC’s clinical and managerial operations.



**Applications due October
10, 2025.
Apply Now!**

Community of Practice Outline

The community of practice includes **six 90-minute learning sessions**. These sessions are facilitated by expert faculty from the school-based health center field, including School-Based Health Alliance staff and nationally recognized leaders from across the country. Each session, held from 1:00 p.m. through 2:30 p.m. Eastern time, will include a presentation and discussion facilitated by expert faculty, as well as time for participants to work with their teams on action planning. The community of practice curriculum includes the following topics:

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| 1. <i>Session 1: Welcome and SBHC Basics</i> | <i>Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2025</i> |
| 2. <i>Session 2: Strong Partnerships</i> | <i>Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2025</i> |
| 3. <i>Session 3: Sound Business Model</i> | <i>Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2025</i> |
| 4. <i>Session 4: High-Quality Practice</i> | <i>Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2026</i> |
| 5. <i>Session 5: Core Competencies</i> | <i>Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2026</i> |
| 6. <i>Session 6: Wrap up and Action Planning</i> | <i>Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2026</i> |

Over the course of the community of practice, each team will have the option to participate in **one 60-minute individual technical assistance call** with expert faculty. These calls will cover topics requested by individual teams to support their growth.

In May 2026, each team will participate in **one 30-minute follow-up call** to share their progress and receive additional support from SBHA.

Eligibility

SBHA invites applications from two types of teams:

- **New SBHC Planning Teams:** Teams composed of health sponsor staff and school staff who have a shared commitment to implement an SBHC by the start of school year 2026–27.
- **Existing SBHC Teams:** Teams with existing SBHCs who feel they would benefit from revisiting SBHC basics.

Each team should include a minimum of two health sponsor staff members and one school staff member/champion:

1. Health sponsor staff member with the ability to make decisions related to SBHC planning and implementation.
2. Health sponsor staff member who will perform the day-to-day work of planning and implementing the SBHC. This may be a clinical person or an operations person.
3. School staff member who leads the SBHC planning process on the school side.

Additional team members are also welcome to participate!

Participant Requirements

Participants in the School-Based Health Center Success & Sustainability Community of Practice will:

- Participate in a **brief virtual meet-and-greet** with SBHA in late October/early November 2025.
- Participate in **six 90-minute learning sessions** (November 2025 – February 2026) by engaging in community of practice activities and discussions. Complete brief feedback polls at the end of each session.
- Share learned information with colleagues.

- Complete **baseline, midpoint, and end-point surveys** to help improve community of practice activities.
- As a team, complete a **90-day survey** in May 2026.
- Participate in a **30-minute 90-day follow-up call** in May 2026.

System Requirements for Participation

Participants will need a quiet place for each 90-minute community of practice session. All sessions will operate through Zoom (see the [Zoom Help Center](#) for detailed system requirements), and participants are encouraged to have their cameras enabled during the session.

How To Apply

Complete the application [here](#). To view a PDF of the application, please click [here](#).

For any questions, contact Emily Baldi at ebaldi@sbh4all.org.

Application Review Timeline

Oct. 10, 2025: Application deadline

Oct. 24, 2025: Applicants notified

Oct. 27 – Nov. 12, 2025: Virtual meet-and-greets

Nov. 18, 2025: Community of practice begins

This community of practice is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$625,000 with 0% financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit [HRSA.gov](https://www.hrsa.gov).