A "Healthy Learners Alliance" promotes partnerships with the SBHC, local public health agencies, community health organizations, and hospitals and involves teachers and coaches, school administrators and staff, and students, to eliminate inequities in educational achievement and health care access.

Contact the National Assembly today for technical support and information.

"We cannot even think about educating our youth successfully without acknowledging the importance that a student's mental and physical health plays in academic outcomes. School-based health programs effectively improve a student's success in schools because SBHC providers work with parents and teachers to eliminate health obstacles that mar student performance."

Laura Cavares, PhD
Secretary, US Department of Education, 1988-90

22 ways that school-based health centers support a healthy learners alliance

Student Support
- Identify students at-risk for health and behavioral problems
- Treat acute conditions
- Immunize students
- Manage chronic conditions
- Increase attendance
- Assist in IEP development
- Provide mental health services
- Provide preventive health services
- Conduct sports activities
- Enroll students in health insurance
- Refer students to services not provided in the SBHC
- Encourage student involvement in school activities

School, Family, and Community Support
- Provide individual, group and classroom health education consistent with the school curriculum
- Coordinate with other school and service providers for the well being of the students
- Support teachers concerned about students' physical or mental health
- Maintain health records for migratory students
- Address the health needs of specific high-risk populations
- Offer selected health services to school staff
- Employ staff that can serve as mentors and role models
- Participate in community initiatives on public health such as obesity and emergency planning
- Encourage parental involvement
- Participate in community public health initiatives

School-based health centers (SBHC) deliver results that matter to schools.

Studies have found direct links between SBHC use and learning readiness:

- SBHC users had a 50% decrease in absenteeism and 25% decrease in tardiness 2 months after receiving school based mental health and counseling


- African American male SBHC users were 3 times more likely to stay in school than their peers who did not use the clinic


- Medical services helped decrease absences by 50% among students who had three or more absences in a six-week period; students who received mental health services had an 85% decline in school discipline referrals.


- SBHCs reduced hospitalization and increased school attendance among inner-city school children with asthma.