



PUBLIC BENEFITS

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CONVENING

APRIL 9-10, 2024



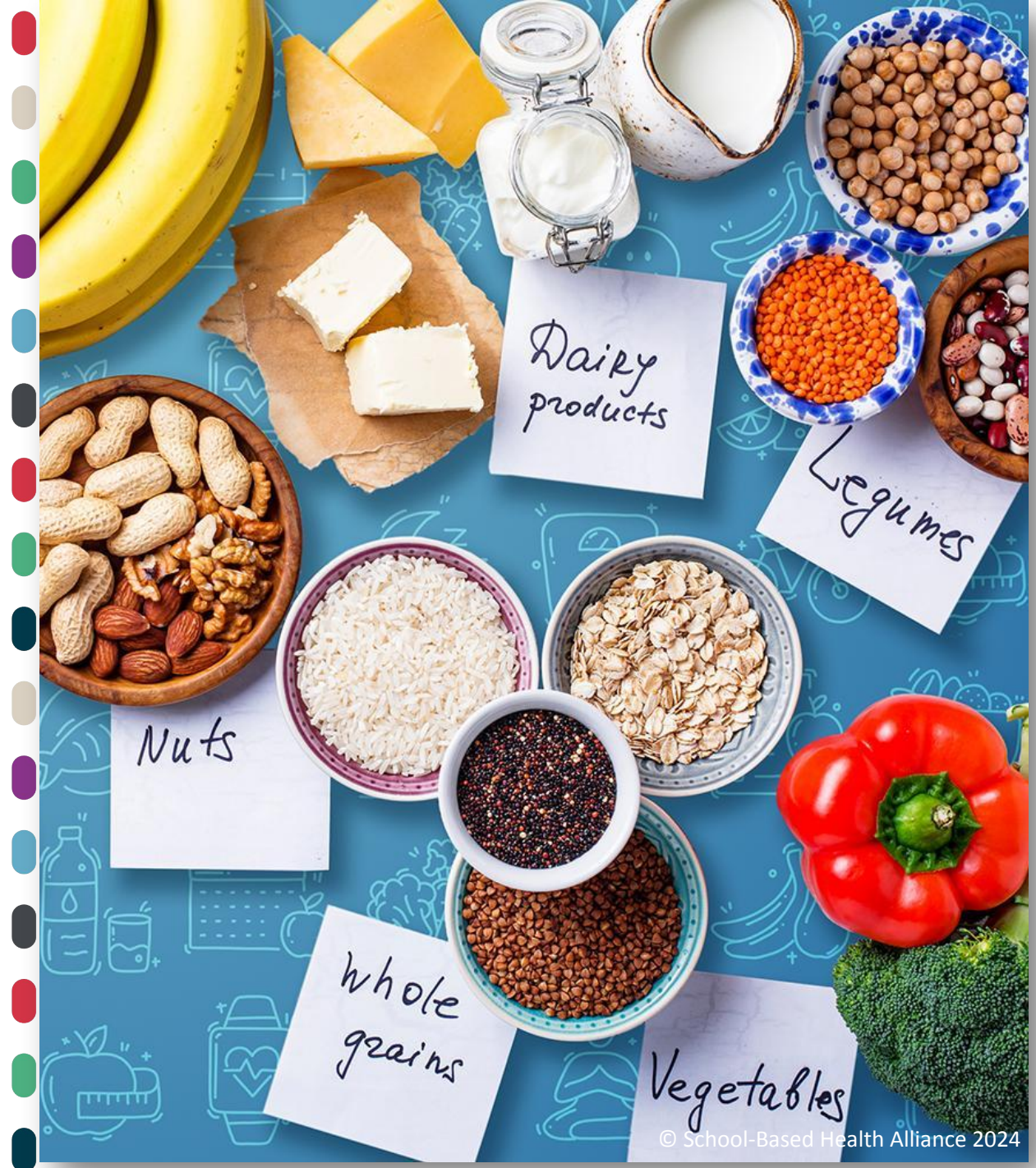


Leveraging School-Based Health Centers (SBHCs) for Public Benefits Access

April 9, 2024

Agenda

- No Kid Hungry and School-Based Health Alliance partnership
- Why school-based health centers?
- Public Benefits Access in School-Based Health Centers: lessons learned
- Youth Development in School-Based Health Centers
- Leveraging Partnership with your local School-Based Health Center

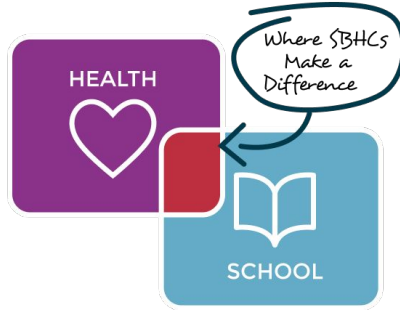


Today's Speakers



- **Sarah Mills (she/her)**, Senior Manager Health Systems, Share Our Strength
- **Addie VanZwoll (she/her)**, Director of Programs, School-Based Health Alliance
- **Rachael Schilling (she/her)**, Program Manager, Ohio School-Based Health Alliance
- **Harper Byers (she/her)**, Program Coordinator, School-Based Health Alliance

Who We Are



School-Based Health Alliance

The National Voice for School-Based Health Care

Working to improve the health of children and youth by advancing and advocating for school-based health care. When health and education come together, great things happen.

Learn more: www.sbh4all.org

No Kid Hungry

A Campaign by Share our Strength

An organization dedicated to ending hunger and poverty. Through proven, effective campaigns, that connect people who care to ideas that work.

Learn more: www.nokidhungry.org



Our Collaborative Vision

The School-Based Health Alliance and Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry campaign believe that by working together to embrace and build on families' trust in school-based health centers, we can promote federal nutrition programs and nutritious food consumption in support of positive health outcomes and improved food security.



NKH and SBHA Food Security Learning Networks

2022

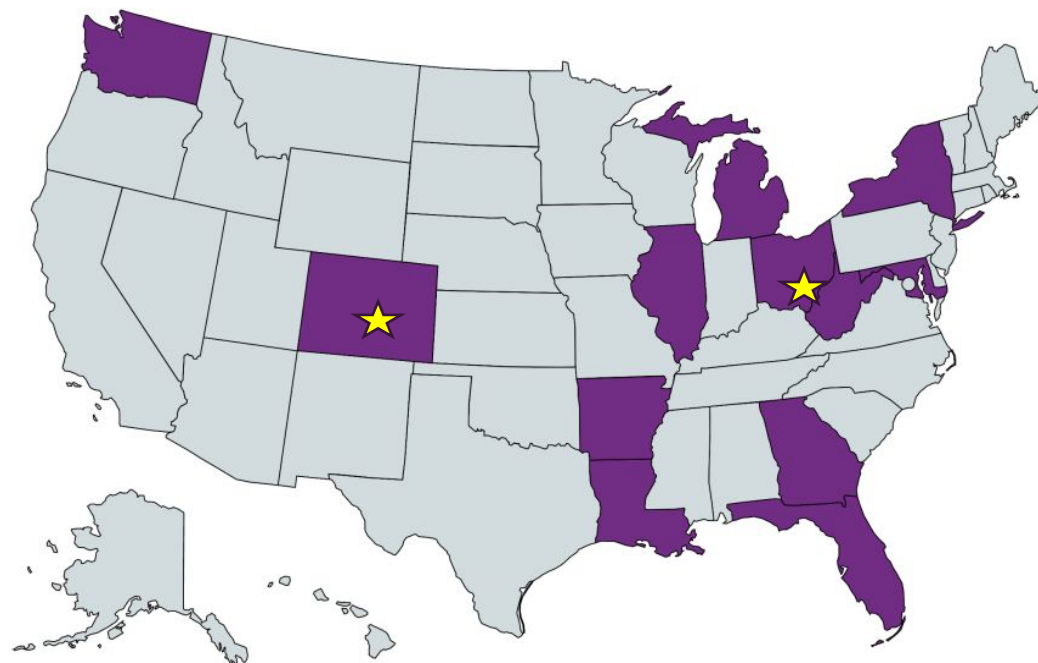
- 16 school-based health centers representing 12 states piloted integration of a range of food access interventions.

2023

- [Toolkit](#) of promising practices and learnings

2023-2024

- 2 State Affiliate organizations (Colorado and Ohio) supporting SBHCs in their states to integrate screening and referrals to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Women Infants and Children (WIC) and other food resources



What Are School Health Services?

School health services include, but are not limited to



School nurses



School psychology



School counselors



School social workers services

What Is School-Based Health Care?

School-based health care is provided through school and community health organization partnerships, and in collaboration with school administration and health services staff.

This care includes but is not limited to



Primary care



Mental health



Oral health



Vision services

School-based health centers offer the most comprehensive type of school-based health care. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Community Preventive Services Task Force recommends [school-based health centers \(SBHCs\)](#) as an evidence-based model that improves educational and health outcomes.

About School-Based Health Care:

Consents

- Parents/guardians involvement is important and encouraged. They decide what services are or are not beneficial for their children, and their consent is required for care.
- Available services are NOT provided without permission except as allowed by state minor consent law.
- Confidentiality laws and requirements between patients and providers differ across states.

Scope of Services

- Services determined at the local level and in accordance with state and local policies and/or law

Existing Services

- Does NOT replace required school health services for FAPE but instead supports and enhances
- Does NOT replace parents/guardians, school nurses, school counselors, pediatricians, or other existing services.

School-Based Health Centers...

Help students and their families overcome access barriers



Transportation



Time

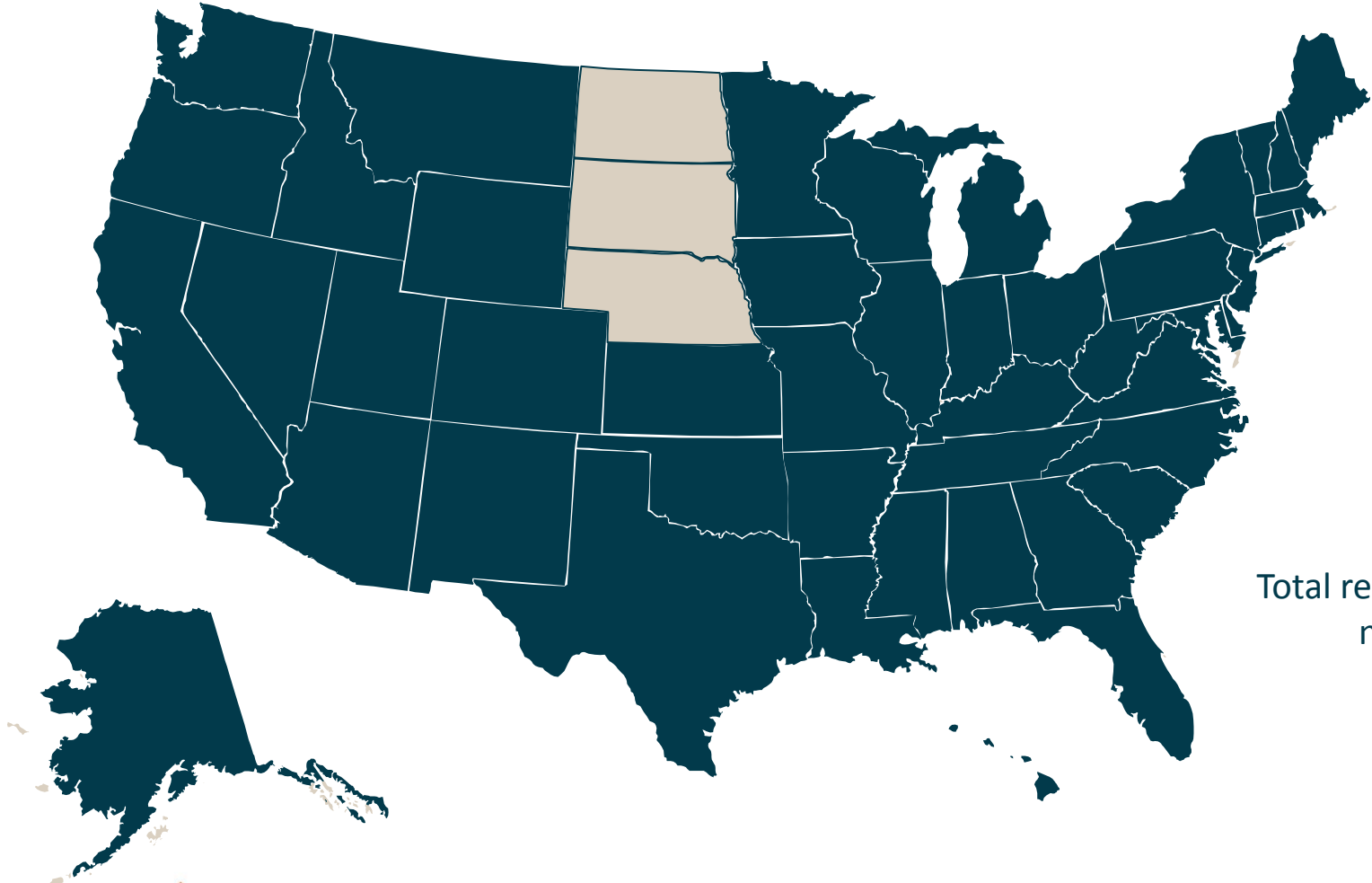


Language



Financial
Barriers

Represented States in the Census Sample



Total responses to the survey in 2022:
n=1,518 (approximately 40% of
school-based health
centers nationwide)



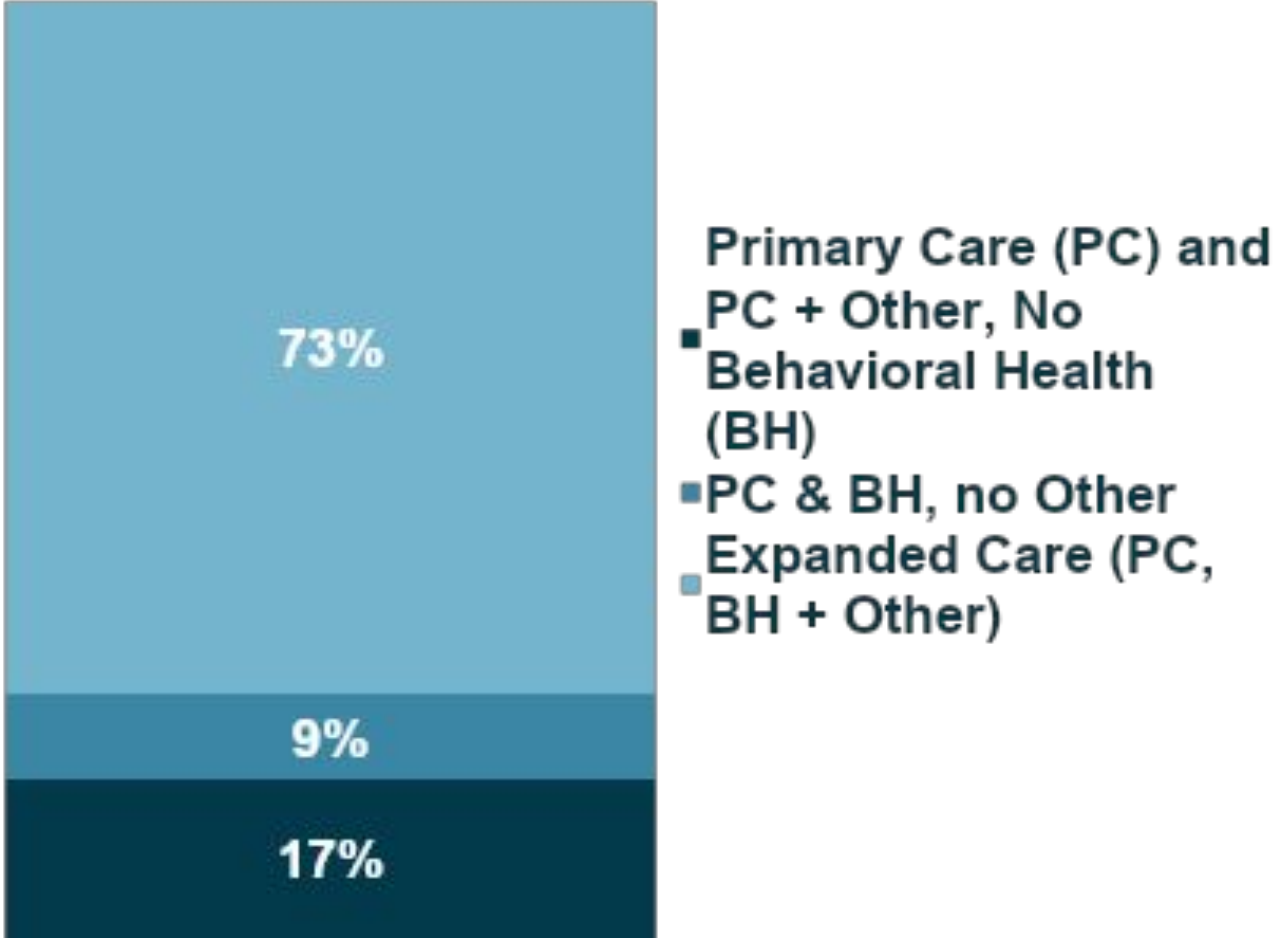
SBHC Delivery Models

	Traditional SBHCs	School-Linked SBHCs	Mobile SBHCs	100% Telehealth SBHCs
<u>Location where patient accesses care</u>	A fixed site on school campus	A fixed site near school campus	Mobile van parked on or near school campus	A fixed site on school campus
<u>Location where providers deliver care</u>	Physically onsite, and remotely for some services	Physically onsite, and remotely for some services	Physically onsite, and remotely for some services	Remotely for all services
2021-22	92%	4%	3%	2%

Total responses to this question:
n=1,518 in 2022; n=2,317 in 2017

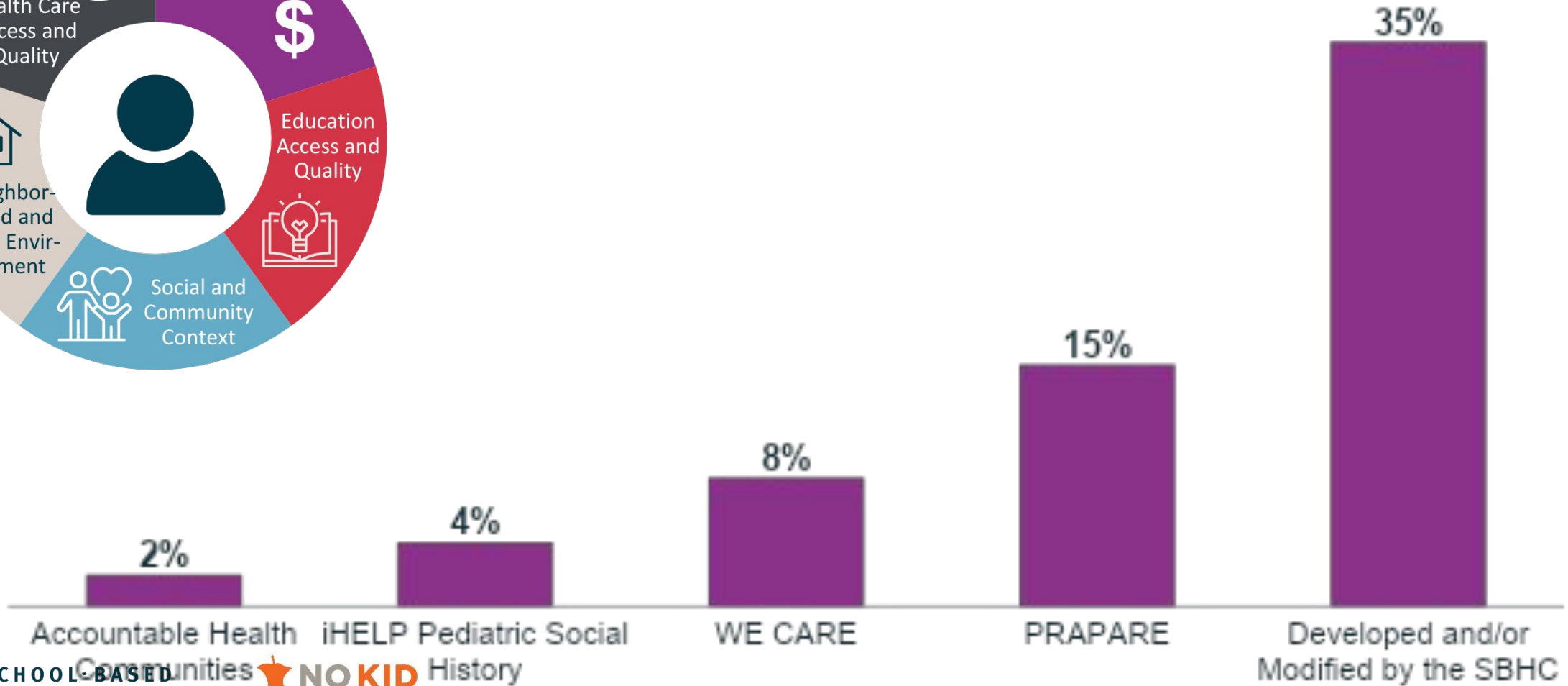


Service Delivery Models

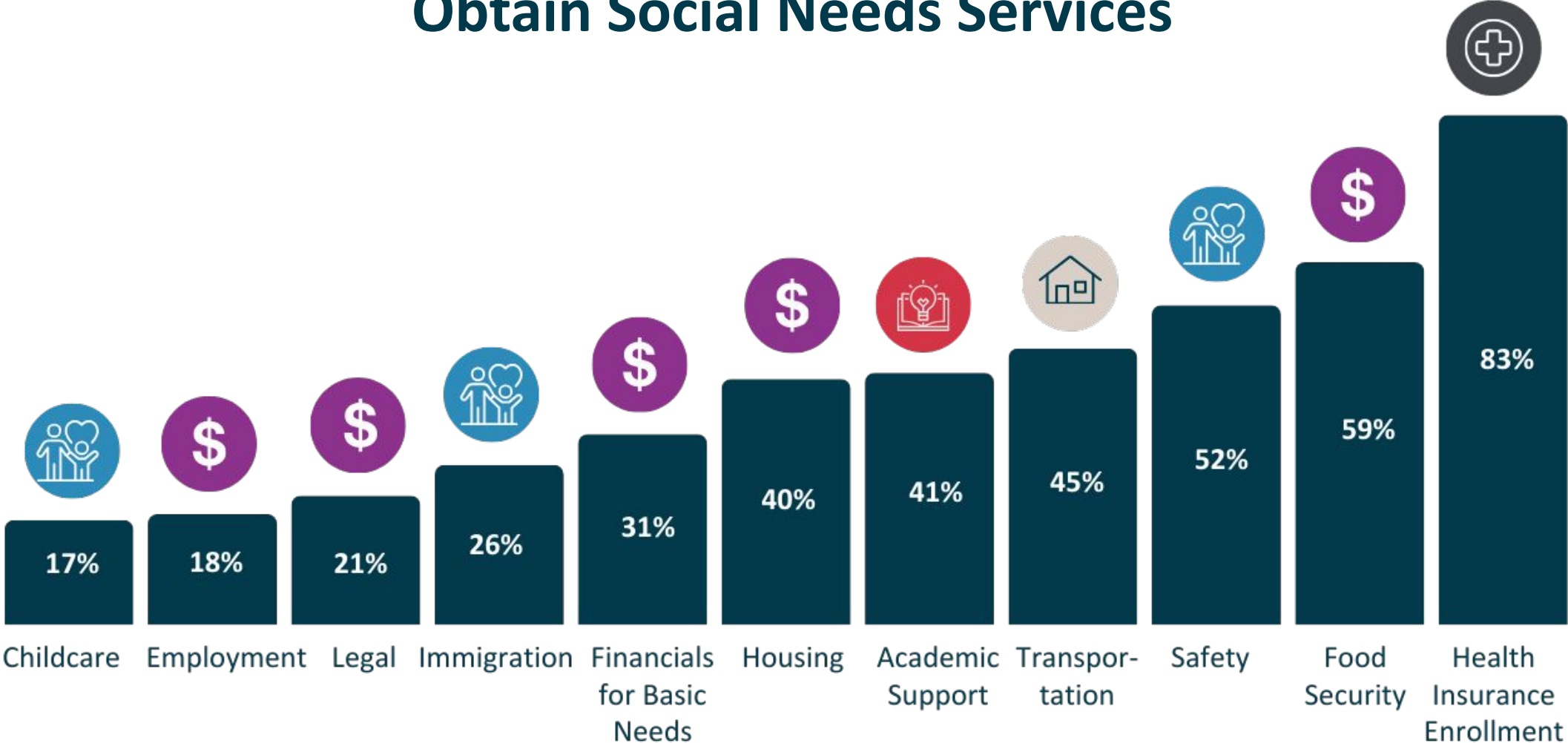


Total responses to this question: n=1,518

Standardized Screener(s) Used to Identify Social Needs



Supports Provided to Clients and/or Their Families to Obtain Social Needs Services



Emerging Models and Resources to Address Food Insecurity



Ohio School Based-Health Alliance

Learning Network Lessons Learned



© School-Based Health Alliance 2024

Ohio School-Based Health Alliance “Ohio Alliance”

Serves as the only statewide organization created to advance and support the sustainability and expansion of school-based health care

- Founded in 2002 as the Ohio School Based Health Care Association
- Relaunched statewide in 2021 as the **Ohio School-Based Health Alliance**
- State affiliate of the national School-Based Health Alliance



Vision

Build a future in which every student, family, and community has the **equitable health services, supports and systems** they need to achieve **optimal health and education outcomes**

Mission

Improve access to **comprehensive, integrated health services through school-based health care to advance equity** and improve health and education outcomes for students, their families, and communities



Areas of focus

- Facilitate regional and statewide school-based health care **learning networks and communities of practice**
- Provide **guidance, key resources and technical assistance** to start, support and sustain school-based health care partnerships
- Develop a **comprehensive assessment and inventory** of school-based health centers and other school-based health care partnerships
- **Educate and advocate** for a strengthened school-based health care infrastructure



Ohio Grantees

Funding was awarded to seven grantees across 12 SBHC sites



Project Overview



Food insecurity screenings



Referrals and connections to nutrition and food access programs



Data collection and evaluation of impact



Partnerships and sustainability



Interventions

All sites

- Implement universal food access screening, referral, and follow-up processes
- Strengthen & leverage partnerships

Site-specific interventions

- Unique interventions designed to address food access gaps in each site's community
- Examples: Food pantries/closets, power packs, cooking/nutrition classes, Youth Advisory Councils



Screening Tools

- RAAPS
- PRAPARE
- Hunger Vital Signs, may be in combination with other screening tools
- In-house Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) screeners



Challenges

Screening challenges	Referral challenges
Time constraints (n=4)	Difficulty following up (n=3)
Staff capacity (n=4)	Difficulty coordinating with partners (n=3)
EHR challenges (n=3)	EHR challenges (n=1)
Difficulty changing workflow (n=3)	Workflow challenges (n=1)
Stigma (n=1)	



Key Lessons Learned

- **Strong health provider – school district partnerships**
 - Explore healthcare provider sponsor resources that could support SBHC processes
 - Link district-level process to identify and refer families to resources with existing health system processes
- **Prioritize documentation when designing workflows**
 - How to enter screening and referral results in EHR?
 - Data analysis can help pinpoint missed opportunities
- **Build a follow-up process into workflows**



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http://eepurl.com/h_D7HX



Youth Healthcare Alliance (Colorado)

Learning Network Lessons Learned



Youth Healthcare Alliance (Colorado)



Youth Healthcare Alliance

Champions for Colorado School-Based Clinics

Who We are

Youth Healthcare Alliance is the voice of Colorado's school-based health centers, providing essential resources, guidance, and services.

Our Mission is to optimize health outcomes among young people through access to quality, integrated healthcare in schools.

Our Vision is that all Colorado school-based clinics provide high-quality, equitable, comprehensive healthcare in support of positive academic outcomes.



Youth Healthcare Alliance and No Kid Hungry

Project Overview

No Kids Hungry funding was awarded from School-Based Health Alliance in conjunction with Share Our Strength to support 10 SBHCs and statewide efforts to increase screening for and response to food security needs as part of SBHC operations. Project objectives include:

- Test and implement strategies for integrating food and nutrition program assistance (such as referrals to SNAP and WIC), into SBHC services.
- Develop an understanding of how food security integration models can be supported at the state level.
- Identify and share best practices for other state-level organizations to train and support their SBHCs in addressing food insecurity.
- Identify replicable food assistance activities across a state network of SBHCs while prioritizing local community needs and incorporating youth voice and engagement.

Colorado SBHC No Kid Hungry Grantees

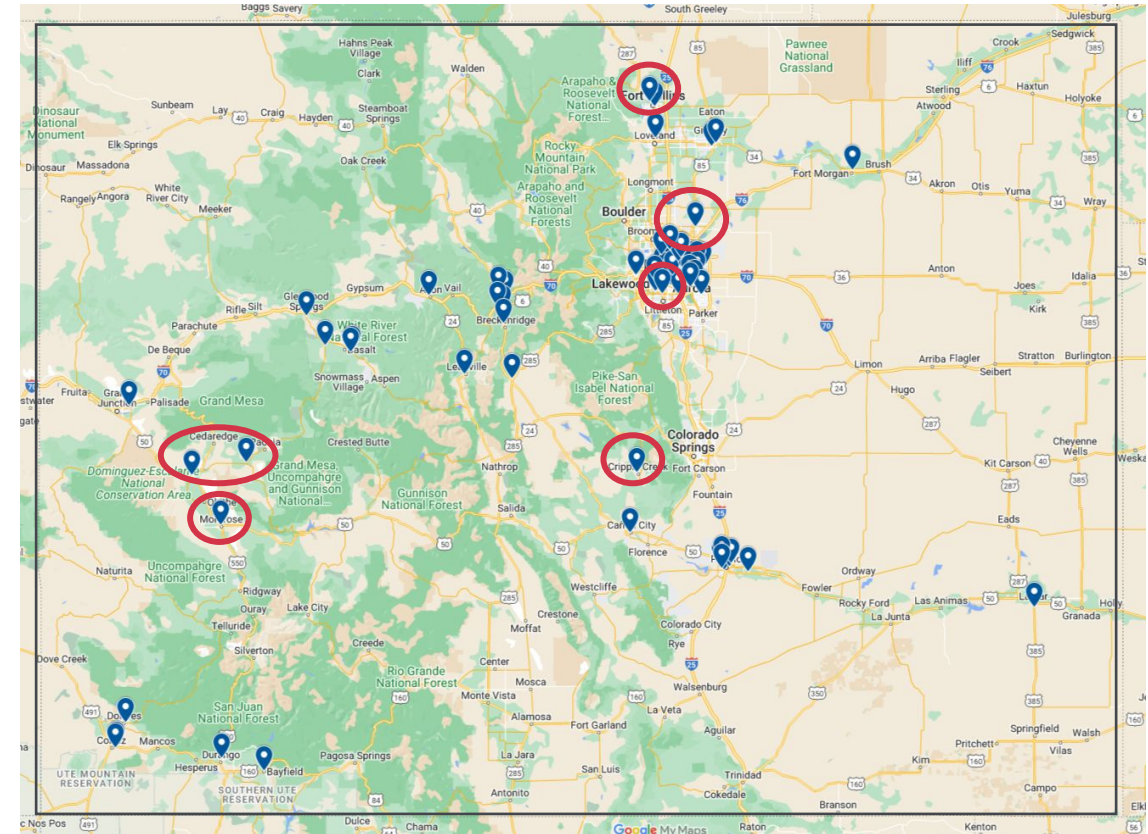
6 Organizations supporting 10 Clinics Statewide

6 Urban School-Based Health Centers

- **Kids First Health Care**, supporting 3 clinics in Commerce City, Westminster, and Thornton
- **Every Child Pediatrics' The Health and Wellness Center**, supporting 2 clinics in Fort Collins
- **University of Colorado Denver dba Sheridan Health Services**, supporting 1 clinic in Englewood

4 Rural School-Based Health Centers

- **A Kidz Clinic**, supporting 2 clinics in Delta and Hotchkiss
- **Northside Health Center**, supporting 1 clinic in Montrose
- **Gorman Medical**, supporting 1 clinic in Cripple Creek



State Level Efforts

- Collaboration with Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's (CDPHE) School Based-Health Center Program to establish Hunger Vital Signs screening tool as an option for all 62 program grantees to access to screen for food security
 - Youth Healthcare Alliance created a workflow for SBHCs to utilize this screen tool and reporting metrics. This tool compliments existing screening processes for CDPHE SBHC grantees.
- Outreach to statewide partners working in the space of food security to support SNAP and WIC enrollment as well as local and regional efforts to increase access to health food and connection of those programs to SBHCs in this project
 - Challenges have been finding concrete resources to share with SBHCs in specific communities
 - Successes have included linkages to many programs in the planning stage
- Facilitation of Learning Network Sessions for project grantees to provide more information to SBHCs to carry out screening and resources efforts.

School-Based Health Center (SBHC) Level Efforts

- **Creation and implementation of workflows for routine screening for food security at SBHCs**
 - Use of Z-codes, which is setting SBHCs up for success as healthcare policies are moving toward more reimbursement for addressing social drivers of health
 - Often done in conjunction with other screenings, normalizes the topic and contextualizes food security as a health need like others and opens a door to discuss nutrition security
- **New and strengthened community partnerships and referral resources for meeting food needs**
 - SBHC discovered and engaged with a community food collaborative and established an online community events calendar featuring events with free food
 - SBHC established a relationship with local WIC office leading to smooth referral
- **Direct connection to food resources by SBHC**
 - SBHC has a clip board by in-house food pantry for patients to share what they would like it to include



Colorado No Kid Hungry Project Takeaways

- SBHCs are well positioned to do this work, and most already are in some capacity. Formalizing the process allows for more routine screening and stronger community partnerships.
 - Including universal screening for food security normalizes it as a normal health need.
 - Opportunities to explore nutrition security and discuss creative ways to meet nutrition needs are more prevalent.
- Food is a personal topic and food security can be uncomfortable for patients and their families to discuss and hesitance around accepting resources to support food security is common.
 - Screening for food security along with other social drivers of health has been helpful.
 - Framing it as a routine screening for all patients has been well received.



Colorado No Kid Hungry Project Takeaways

- Screening patients with families present and screening adolescents accessing services on their own requires different processes and approaches.
 - Parents appear to express more hesitance than youth in disclosing food insecurity and accepting resources.
 - Contacting parents when a youth is screened without them present can be challenging and responses variable.
 - Considerations for screening youth who only access the clinic for confidential services.
- SNAP and WIC meet some needs and there is a big need for local resources to fill in gaps.
 - Undocumented families and those whose income does not qualify for [enough] food assistance
 - Delays and processing difficulties with SNAP applications once submitted



Looking Ahead

We are half-way through the project and looking forward to building on the successes and lessons learned so far. This includes:

- SBHCs utilizing resources to help families connect with summer food programs
- Increasing family and youth engagement in food security efforts
- Sharing lessons for addressing stigma and hesitance related to food security needs
- Using data to guide future work
- Sharing work being done, and resources cultivated, with the entire Colorado SBHC network



Youth Development in SBHCs



Definitions



Youth Development

Meets the physical and social needs of young people by defining their individual goals and preparing them to achieve their full potential

Youth Engagement

Identifies young people's right to participate in decisions that influence them and recognizes the skills they bring to the table

Youth Partnerships

Considers youth as equal partners with adults in the decision-making process.



Why Youth Development Matters



Expands the use, evidence of, and support for YD in improving health outcomes and reducing adverse behaviors



- Aids in the success and positive impact of the school-based health care model
- Student-Focus (Patient Engagement and Youth Advisor)
- Accountability (Student/Patient Satisfaction)
- School and Student Body Wellness
- Strong Partnerships (with Students and Families)



Supports the tenets of the Whole School, Whole Community Whole Child model



Fosters opportunities for academic and professional pathways

Youth Development in School-Based Health Centers

Strategies

- Youth Advisory Council
- Youth representation on committee and/or advisory board
- Provide feedback on services and experience
- Outreach and enrollment
- Peer education, mentoring, counseling, or support groups
- Health career pathway/ student shadowing
- Advocacy activities (local, state or national)
- Community asset mapping and needs assessments

Youth-centered Approaches

- Youth Participatory Action Research
- Photovoice
- Forum Theatre
- Storytelling

Youth and No Kid Hungry Learning Network



- Sites involved students in pantry operations and material development
 - Youth Advisory Committee providing feedback on pantry recipes
 - Youth intern input on the pantry program
 - Student council cleaning and organizing pantry, making distribution boxes
 - Students generate ideas for future work, help plan events
- Youth Advisory Council field trip to a local farm
- Ohio School-Based Health Alliance state-level youth volunteer
- Student involvement in programming led to reduced stigma and an increase in the use of on-site resources
- All sites expressed that more youth involvement was needed and wanted

Food insecurity and mental health are
interconnected,
A topic that deserves to be reflected.
When access to food becomes a concern,
Emotional well-being can take a turn.

For those who struggle to find a meal,
Stress and anxiety can become very real.
The worry of not having enough to eat,
Can lead to depression and feelings of defeat.

Nutrition plays a vital role in our brain,
Lack of proper food can cause it strain.
Mental health can suffer, it's true,
When hunger becomes a constant issue.

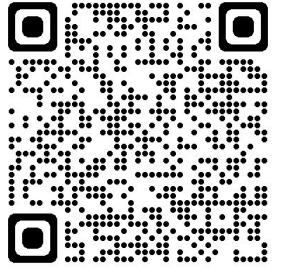
But let's remember, we can make a change,
By supporting organizations that arrange,
To provide food for those in need,
We can help them thrive and succeed.

Together, we can fight food insecurity,
And promote mental health with sincerity.
Let's spread awareness and lend a hand,
To create a world where everyone can withstand.

*-De'Mon Burse Wilborn, Youth Advisory Council Member
West High School SBHC*

Food Insecurity Poem

Toolkit Resource



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 families' 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 influencers of health, improve food security for families, and support student success and wellness.



Leveraging Partnership with your Local School-Based Health Center (SBHC)



Leveraging Partnership with your Local SBHC

State Affiliates

- Independent nonprofits that work with the SBHA to advance policy, quality, funding opportunities, training, and building awareness SBHCs
- If no state affiliate, other state-level partners can be instrumental in designing a strategy for acquiring SBHC this information

State Program Office

- SBHC State Program Offices (SPOs), generally housed in department of public health
- Regulatory bodies in states where SBHCs are supported by state funding
- School-Based Health Alliance collaborates with SPOs on data collection and reporting, performance measures, and training and technical assistance

Questions & Contact Info

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