

SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER PROGRAM

WHY SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS?

School-based health centers are a crucial part of Colorado's safety net for vulnerable children and youth. They provide high-quality, affordable health care to those who may not have access to the care they need.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) works with local health care providers, schools and community groups to locate health clinics on school property to provide primary, behavioral and oral health services to low-income students and assist with enrollment in children's health plans. School-based health centers also equip students to make healthy life choices through health promotion and education.

Many families still face barriers to health care access. Lack of insurance coverage, transportation, time off work and child care keep many low-income families from seeking health care. Many community clinics have limited capacity to serve nearby residents. As the number and quality of school-based health centers grow, they can help alleviate these barriers.

[The Community Preventive Services Task Force](#) recommends school-based health centers in low-income communities to help increase high school completion, reduce educational gaps and advance health equity.

EVIDENCE SHOWS THAT
SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS
**IMPROVE EDUCATION
& HEALTH OUTCOMES**



RESEARCH SHOWS THAT STUDENTS
**ARE MORE LIKELY TO DO
WELL & STAY IN SCHOOL**
WHEN THEIR HEALTH CARE
NEEDS ARE MET

SNAPSHOT: COLORADO'S CHILD POPULATION*

8th fastest growing
population
in the nation

13% growth
between
2000 and 2014

1.3 population
million
in 2014

1 in 7 live in
poverty

The poverty rate
is higher for:

27% Latinos

31% African
Americans

40% Children in
Saguache County

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, www.coloradokids.org/KIDSCOUNT2016

WHAT IS THE SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER PROGRAM?

Pursuant to C.R.S. 25-20.5-503, the School-Based Health Center (SBHC) Grant Program provides annual funding to support existing centers and expand school-based health centers statewide.

In Fiscal Year 2015-2016, the SBHC Program funded two planning sites and 17 contractors representing 53 centers at a cost of \$4.6 million. In Fiscal Year 2016-17, the program supports three planning sites and 16 contractors representing 48 centers at a cost of \$4.4 million. As school-based health centers become sustainable, some move forward without SBHC Program funding.

The SBHC Program prioritizes quality, quantity, sustainability and partnerships. To ensure quality, it invests in programs that meet state standards, clinical outcomes and performance measures. To increase access, it aims to increase the number of centers, students served and services provided. To support sustainability, it supports infrastructure, quality improvement and technical assistance. And to ensure success through collaboration the program actively engages health care providers, school staff and other stakeholders.

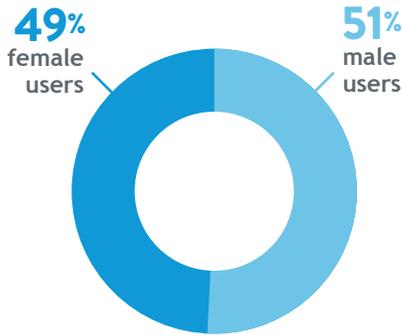
WHAT SERVICES DO SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS PROVIDE?

School-based health centers prioritize services for low-income children and youth without health care access or adequate insurance coverage.

Every center must provide a minimum level of 24/7 primary, behavioral and oral health care on-site, with a contracted provider or by referral to other community providers. They also help enroll patients in public and private insurance coverage. Centers work with host schools to promote health care and education. Each center is required to have an active Community Advisory Council comprised of local partners, community members, youth and parents.

CDPHE FUNDED CENTERS:
colorado.gov/cdphe/about-sbhc-program

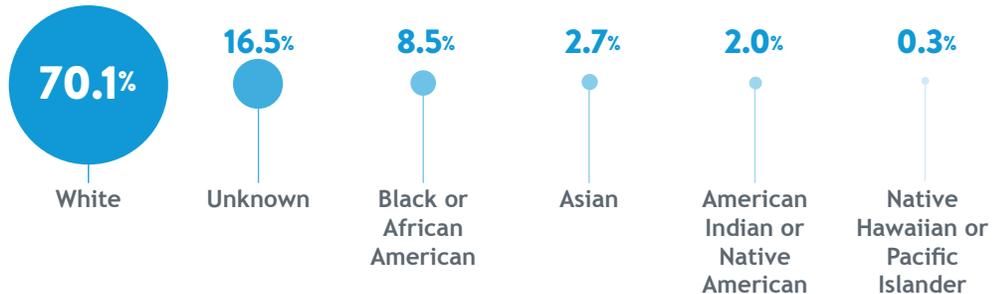
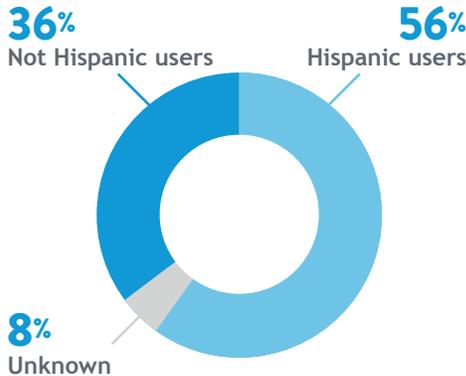
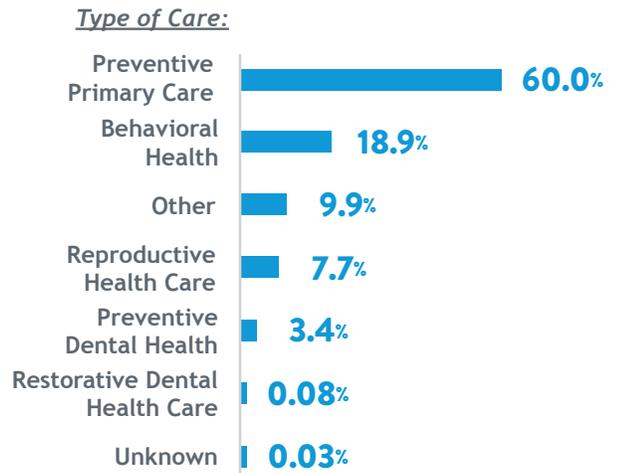
ALL COLORADO CENTERS:
casbhc.org/CO_sbhcs.html



96,926
TOTAL VISITS TO
CDPHE-FUNDED SBHCs



33,548
TOTAL USERS



* Revised March 2017

WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER PROGRAM?

Colorado's school-based health centers continue to serve Colorado's most vulnerable children and youth. The number of centers and the number of Colorado children using them has grown. Policymakers, foundations and local communities continue to invest in the SBHC model.

As the program helps open new centers, expand services and grow sustainability, more children have easy access to quality, affordable health care at their school.

As the SBHC Program moves ahead to fund the development of new school-based health centers, it will continue to evaluate the care provided at existing centers.

The program's five-year evaluation framework started July 1, 2016 and the first annual evaluation report is due August 2017. The framework documents use, quality and direct patient impact with specific performance measures on well-child checks, vaccinations, risk assessment, healthy weight, physical activity and screening for depression and oral health.

Colorado centers continue to integrate different kinds of care. More centers are offering primary, behavioral, reproductive and oral health care in the same place and providing multiple services during the same visit.

More children using the centers are covered by Medicaid because of the state's expansion under the Affordable Care Act.

Several high-need schools and districts have centers, but most do not. The greatest need for new centers in urban schools are in Denver and Adams counties. The highest-need rural districts without existing SBHCs are primarily located in the San Luis Valley. CDPHE and its partners aim to work with high need schools and communities.

The School-Based Health Center Program has made great progress in meeting the needs of students without other health care options. Continuing the SBHC model means better health care for Colorado children.

LEARN MORE AT:

colorado.gov/cdphe/about-sbhc-program

http://www.coloradohealthinstitute.org/uploads/downloads/Final_SBHC_Needs_Assessment_2015.pdf

<http://www.casbhc.org/>

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