## Report to the Public Health and Education Committees on School Based Health Centers

Pursuant to Section 19a-6i of the General Statutes

School-Based Health Center Advisory

Committee 2023

### School Based Health Center Advisory Committee Bi-Annual Report and Recommendations

#### **Executive Summary**

School Based Health Centers (SBHC) provide access to comprehensive, coordinated, high quality health care, including medical, mental health and dental services to students in schools. SBHC's support schools by keeping students healthy, in the classroom, and ready to learn. American Academy of Pediatrics "School Based Health Centers and Pediatric Practices" October 2021 Volume 148, Issue 4 notes the following.

- SBHCs reduce health disparities by providing services to students from diverse racial and socioeconomic backgrounds, particularly the underinsured and uninsured child.
- SBHC mental health interventions offer an opportunity to reach the greatest number of youths who may not receive behavioral health care in any other setting.
- SBHCs are critical to supporting schools in addressing bullying, violence, and suicide.
- SBHCs help to identify and support social or emotional sources of stress that interfere with students' academic achievement. This decreases absenteeism, tardiness, and school discipline referrals.

#### Report recommendations

- The School Based Health Centers Advisory Committee continues to strongly support the
  adoption of minimum quality standards for both SBHC and Expanded School Health Sites
  (ESHS). The quality standards are contractually required and adhered to as a condition
  of current outpatient clinic licensure. The standards clarify the requirements for operations
  to safeguard the quality, sustainability, accountability, and consistency of services.
- The committee strongly recommends an increase in funding for mental health services and medical care at our school-based health centers to meet student demand.
- The School Based Health Centers Advisory Committee supports the CT Association of School Based Health Centers legislative priorities which include, maintain funding for all SBHC in the state budget, advocate for an increase in Medicaid reimbursement rates and expand service coverage and expansion of Medicaid eligibility to include under-insured and uninsured.

#### **Legislative Mandate:**

Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) Section 19a-6i established a School Based Health Center(SBHC) Advisory Committee for the purpose of advising the Commissioner of Public Health (DPH) on matters relating to:

- 1. Statutory and regulatory changes to improve health care through access to SBHC and Expanded School Health Sites (ESHS);
- 2. Minimum standards for providing services in SBHC and ESHS to ensure the provision of high-quality health care services are provided in SBHC and ESHS, as such terms are defined in CGS Section 19a-6r; and
- 3. Other topics of relevance to the SBHC and ESHS, as requested by the Commissioner.

In 2022, SBHC Advisory Committee meeting dates included; January 18<sup>th</sup>, April 19<sup>th</sup>, July 19<sup>th</sup>, October 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Introduction**

The intent of this report is to provide the Commissioner and chairs of the Public Health Committee with an update on the activities of the School Based Health Centers and the successes and challenges in meeting the needs of Connecticut's children. This information will be important as the 2023 legislative session continues, and budgetary and regulatory considerations are made and will support informed decision making on issues that affect the healthcare access for Connecticut's children and families.

#### History & Overview of Connecticut's Traditional School Based Health Center Model

Since 1982, Connecticut's School Based Health Centers (SBHCs) have been delivering comprehensive, coordinated, high quality health care, including medical and behavioral health and oral health care services to students in schools, earning the recognition as an essential component of the state's safety net for over 36,550 enrolled students (Pre-K-Grade 12) residing in twenty-seven communities. During FY 2021-2022, the 90 state-funded SBHC's served almost 22,000 students with a total of 128,365 visits.

SBHCs are a partnership between the school and community. SBHCs support schools by

keeping students healthy and in the classroom so that they can maximize their opportunities for learning. Throughout Connecticut, school administrators and faculty have come to recognize the unique role of SBHCs in ensuring that students come to school ready to learn. Often overburdened by many demands, educators welcome the presence of a team of health professionals, dedicated to effective prevention and treatment of student's physical and emotional concerns.

A SBHC is a fully licensed primary care facility, staffed by teams of professionals specializing in child and adolescent health; including licensed nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, clinical social workers, medical assistants, and licensed oral health professionals who operate under the guidance of a medical, behavioral health and dental directors. Like health care provided in a private physician's office or hospital clinic, all services provided by SBHC follow HIPPA (Federal Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information) and all state laws regarding health confidentiality. Health information is shared with the Primary Care Provider. Parents must sign a Parent Permission Form for students to receive services. Certain health services are protected and accessible under state guidelines. It is the mission of SBHCs to work in partnership with parents while respecting the age, cultural values, and family situation of every student.

#### **Benefits of School Based Health Centers**

SBHCs are intentionally located in schools where students are predominantly members of disadvantaged, minority, or ethnic populations, who have historically experienced health care access disparities and are often publicly insured, underinsured, or uninsured. Children from low-income or racial and ethnic minority populations are more likely to develop chronic health problems, are less likely to have a consistent source of medical care and are at greater risk of school failure than their more affluent peers. SBHCs can help to reduce both health and educational disparities by increasing access to care and school attendance and by improving both health and educational outcomes of students.

Mounting research has provided evidence of many proven health, educational and financial benefits that SBHCs have afforded students, families, school staff and the community. Some are obvious to most, while others are not. Some of the more commonly expressed benefits of SBHCs include increased parental work time, convenience for both parents and students,

preventing missed school and absenteeism, eliminating transportation issues, and decreased healthcare costs to families.

A study published in 2019 in the journal, Global Pediatric Health, titled The Evidence on School-Based Health Center's: A Review concluded that SBHCs provide the following:

- Financial savings to families by preventing secondary losses of time and productivity for parents who would have to leave work to attend medical, dental, or mental health appointments.
- A reduction in unnecessary emergency room visits.
- Medicaid expenditure reduction from the cost savings associated with SBHCs, with estimated savings ranging from \$30 to over \$900 per visit and between \$46 and over \$1,000 per Medicaid enrolled students with SBHCs.
- SBHC utilization has been associated with improved academic outcomes, such as improved GPAs, attendance, grade promotion, college preparation, and reduced rates of suspensions.
- Improved academic performance indirectly by increasing school connectedness, particularly in lower income youth populations.

According to an article published in October 2021 in the American Academy of Pediatrics, Volume 148, Issue 4, School Based Health Centers, and Pediatric Practices, SBHC's.

- Reduce health disparities by providing services to students from diverse racial and socioeconomic backgrounds, particularly the underinsured and uninsured child.
- SBHC mental health interventions offer an opportunity to reach the greatest number of youths who may not receive behavioral health care in any other setting.
- SBHCs are critical to supporting schools in addressing bullying, violence, and suicide.
- They help to identify and support any social or emotional sources of stress that interfere
  with students' academic achievement, decreasing absenteeism, tardiness, and school
  discipline referrals.

It is well documented that health outcomes and educational achievement are interrelated. Health problems (e.g., vision and oral health problems, asthma, teen pregnancy, malnutrition, obesity, chronic stress, trauma, and risk-taking behaviors) are associated with high student absenteeism, dropout rates and low scholastic performance. By addressing physical and mental health issues

and providing consistent support to students in school, SBHCs help all students to be mentally and physically healthy, to stay in school and able to reach their full potential in school and in life.

#### **Challenges**

Access to students and new technology were challenges faced by SBHCs around the state during the 2020-2021 school year and while SBHCs were back on track and students were inperson learning full-time for the 2021-2022 school year, SBHCs faced a different set of challenges. With limited access to primary care providers in the community and pediatric practices still being inundated with Covid related sick visits, many families turned to SBHCs for school physical and immunization catch up and same day sick visits.

Over 5,800 physicals were conducted across the SBHC medical sites. Of the 57,485 medical visits conducted, 6,288 students were determined to be overweight or obese with over 5,000 of those identified receiving physical activity and nutrition counseling. Due to the lack of resources, over 1,000 students were not able to receive the necessary nutrition and physical activity counseling to help address healthy living styles.

A significant challenge related to the sustainability of SBHCs is the percentage of uninsured students receiving care in the 90 SBHCs. Thirty-one percent of students who received medical, mental health or dental treatment are uninsured, meaning that the SBHCs receive no reimbursement for any of the services provided at the SBHC. Therefore, 39,793 visits went unpaid to the SBHC due to lack of insurance.

Of the 128,365 visits provided at the SBHCs, 63,556 visits were mental health visits, provided to 4,091 students. Unfortunately, the biggest challenge faced by SBHC mental health clinicians is that the need outweighs the availability of staff. Many sites need multiple clinicians to address the mental health needs of students enrolled, but workforce shortages as well as financial shortages faced by these centers have forced students onto waiting lists. Funding in the amount of twelve million dollars was allocated to SBHCs to support the needs of students during Covid. In addition, the state legislature allocated \$10 million dollars in American Rescue Plan Act funds to address expansion of SBHCs including mental health services with priority given to schools within districts based on community need as identified in the Public Act 21-35 Section 16 Report on the Expansion of School Based Health Centers. A Request for Proposal

was posted, a fiduciary selected and the funding will be distributed to the SBHC sites through an evaluation tool that prioritizes the delivery of health care services for school-based health center clients who attend schools listed in the PA 21-35 Section 16 Report on the Expansion of School Based Health Centers. Funding will be awarded based on the highest scores to several criteria including statement of need, proposed scope of SBHC services, marketing and outreach, work plans with measurable objectives, financial profile and sustainability plan.

#### **Innovations**

As the COVID-19 pandemic continued into the 2020-2021 school year many schools throughout Connecticut, SBHC strategically modified their service delivery process to ensure that they were available to meet the myriad physical and mental health needs of Connecticut's children. Access to mental health services continued to provide challenges to families. SBHCs continued to utilize telehealth to increase service time availability. Mental health providers at one location could now easily provide services at other SBHCs before and after school, during professional development days, on half day closures or when student access was limited due to testing, field trips or other unavoidable situations. Telehealth services also continue to support family and community provider engagement in treatment. It has allowed psychiatric services to manage higher caseloads by eliminating travel times between SBHCs and has increased parent engagement by allowing families to be involved from any location.

#### **Partnerships and New Connections**

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, SBHCs have recognized the need to further develop partnerships to share information and leverage resources. SBHCs stressed the importance of strengthening existing community partnerships and building new ones during the pandemic. Existing relationships with school administrators and other school staff strengthened as they continued to work together to develop ways to meet student's healthcare needs as students continue to face significant mental health needs.

SBHCs worked with local non-profits to provide needed medical and mental health services to homeless youth, partnering with sponsoring hospitals to continue to provide COVID-19 testing site resources. Working with the school support staff, including school nurses and school social workers, to identify students needing a higher level of support.

Connecticut Association of School Based Health Centers (CASBHC) has continued to work directly with State level agencies including the CT Department of Public Health and the State Department of Education to provide insight and information about how SBHC could be utilized to support statewide strategies. CASBHC provided consultation regarding the expansion of SBHCs through the state mandated SBHC Expansion Workgroup. CASBHC worked with policy analysts to support the SBHC language in Senate Bill 1 An Act Concerning Childhood Mental and Physical Health Services in Schools in the 2022 legislative year. CASBHC and its Board of Directors worked with legislators to support a monetary determination for Senate Bill 1 in the 2022 legislative year and testified on behalf of it.

#### **Recommendations:**

1. The committee continues to strongly support the adoption of minimum quality standards for both SBHC and ESHS, as defined in Appendices A and B.

Each item in the recommended SBHC and ESHS standards that are attached to this report are contractually required and adhered to as a condition of current outpatient clinic licensure. The standards do not require any new provisions, but simply reflect and codify the operational, facility, and core element requirements for outpatient clinic licensure. The standards clarify the requirements for operations of these facility types to safeguard the quality, standardization, sustainability, accountability, and consistency of those service sites falling under the definition of a SBHC or ESHC and hold contractors accountable for ensuring the integrity of services delivered through these unique models of care. This report, and the development of quality standards for SBHC and ESHS, was the result of the continued commitment and dedication on the part of committee members to ensure that Connecticut's SBHCs are of the highest quality. The committee strongly recommends the adoption of the minimum quality standards for SBHC and ESHS in state statute or regulations as a priority area of its work. The committee strongly recommends an increase in funding for mental health services and medical care at our school-based health centers to meet student demand.

Connecticut students are continuing to suffer from increasing feelings of anxiety and depression, peer relationship issues, school avoidance, identity concerns, as well as social determinants of health. The uncertainty of the new variants puts additional stress on our children. Our school-based health centers require increased levels of funding to provide adequate mental health counseling and medical care. The demand for services exceeds hours and staffing. Without mental health support in place, student outcomes will continue to suffer dramatically. Current research continues to show increased mental health concerns and needs in the pediatric population, especially ages 12-18 which have had a marked increase in Emergency Room visits for mental health. There is additional concern for this age groups' access to mental health services and concern for adolescents' access in lower socioeconomic groups, certain races, and ethnic groups. These needs and access concerns encompass physical health needs which have been affected by the pandemic and in turn affect mental health status. SBHCs play a critical role in reaching these populations.

- 2. The committee strongly recommends an increase in funding for mental health services and medical care at our school-based health centers to meet student demand. Additional funding for SBHC expansion would allow for new initiatives to serve a greater number of Connecticut children, including increased telehealth and mobile services, initiatives to assist students in loss and grief services, aggressive outreach to re-engage students who have not been attending school, and programs to enhance already existing SBHC services.
- 3. The School Based Center Advisory Committee supports the CT Association of School Based Health Centers legislative priorities for 2023 include:

#### Maintain funding for all School Based Health Centers in the state budget.

- Support expansion of comprehensive SBHCs
- Support expansion of SBHC service into rural areas

# Advocate for an increase in Medicaid reimbursement rates and expand service coverage to include coverage for:

- Educational services are considered to be psychoeducational.
- Weight reduction programs and preventative counseling for physical activity and nutrition.

- Assessments of social determinants of health including but not limited to suicide, depression, anxiety, nutrition needs, brief substance intervention.
- Dental screenings by medical providers.

## Advocate for the expansion of Medicaid eligibility to include Under-insured and Uninsured to include:

- The undocumented populations.
- Those facing Medicaid redetermination.
- Underinsured.

## **SBHC Advisory Committee Membership (Updated 1/2023)**

Appointing Authority	Member Role	Member Name
		John Flanders
House speaker – Matthew Ritter	child uses SBHC services	John Flanders
Senate president pro tempore – Martin Looney	One school nurse	Christin Kondash
House majority leader - Jason Rojas	One representative of a SBHC sponsored by a community health center	Tricia Orozco
Senate majority leader – Bob Duff	One representative of a SBHC sponsored by a nonprofit healthcare agency	Sherry Linton-Massiah
House minority leader - Vincent Candelora	One representative of a SBHC sponsored by a school or school system	Lynn Weeks
Senate minority leader - Kevin Kelly	One representative of a SBHC that does no receive state funds	Judy Kanz
Governor – Ned Lamont	One representative each of (a) the American Academy of Pediatrics' Connecticut Chapter and (b) a hospital sponsored SBHC	(a) Robert Dudley (b) Vacant
DPH Commissioner – Manisha Juthani	One representative of a SBHC sponsored by a local health department	Ali Mulvihill
DPH Commissioner – Manisha Juthani	One representative of a SBHC from a municipality that has a population of at least 50,000 but less than 100,000 and operates a SBHC	Sharon Bremner
DPH Commissioner – Manisha Juthani		Debbie Chameides
State agency representatives -	The Commission on Women, Children and Seniors executive director, or designee	Steven Hernández
State agency representatives  – Manisha Juthani	DPH	Alice Martinez
State agency representatives  – Charlene Russell-Tucker	SDE	Amanda Pickett
State agency representatives  – Nancy Navarretta	DMHAS	Andrea Duarte
State agency representatives  – Andrea Barton Reeves		Catherine Holt (Alternate Dana Robinson-Rush)
State agency representatives - Vannessa Dorantes	DCF	Yvette Cortez
CASBHC Executive Director / BOD member	Executive Director	Melanie Wilde-Lane
CASBHC Executive Director / BOD member	CASBHC Board of Director Member	Jill Holmes Brown
CASBHC Executive Director / D member	CASBHC Board of Director Member	Melanie Bonjour

## **Checklist for Quality Standards for Connecticut School Based Health Centers (SBHCs)**

Core Requirements		
1. Administrative		
yes no	Organizational chart with clear lines of authority and supervision	
yes no	An administrator responsible for overall program management, quality of care,	
	coordination with school and collaborating partner agency personnel; an identified	
	coordinator for each SBHC site	
yes no	Written job descriptions for all staff providing care or involved in SBHC operations	
yes no	a signed school nurse/SBHC communications' agreement	
yes no	Written policy addressing compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and	
	Accountability Act (HIPAA) and Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)	
yes no	Periodic performance evaluation of staff per sponsoring organization requirements	
yes no	Appropriate credentialing/licensure and re-credentialing of all clinical providers	
yes no	Each student shall have a completed, signed enrollment form on file which includes:	
	demographic information; parent/guardian contact information; third-party billing and	
	primary care providers' information; consent to treat; and a medical history.	
yes no	Written policy regarding SBHC responsibilities in case of a school emergency or disaster	
2. Staffing		
Staff includes:		
yes no	On-site support staff	
yes no	On-site licensed medical clinician	
yes no	On-site behavioral health clinician (licensed or license-eligible)	
yes no	Designated health care provider available to clinic staff to discuss clinical issues as	
	needed	
3. Facility		
a. Location		
yes no	Health Center is established and operated within a school building or on school grounds	
yes no	SBHCs occupy a dedicated space for the purpose of providing SBHC services	
b. Regulations		
yes no	In schools renovated after 1990, the facility meets Americans with Disabilities Act	
	requirements for accommodation of individuals with disabilities	
yes no	Facility meets local, state, and federal building codes (including lights, exit signs,	
	ventilation, etc.); Occupational Safety and Health Administration requirements and any	
	other local, state or federal requirements for occupancy and use of the space allocated	
	for the SBHC	
c. Physical space		
Although some rooms/areas may serve more than one purpose in delivering SBHC services, the center		
	following functional elements:	
yes no	A designated waiting/reception area	
yes no	At least one exam room	
yes no	One accessible sink with hot and cold water	
yes no	A counseling room/private area	
yes no	Access to a handicapped accessible toilet facility with a sink with hot and cold water	
yes     no	Office/clerical area	

	yes		no	A secure, locked storage area for supplies (e.g. medications, lab supplies)
	yes		no	A designated lab space with clean and dirty areas
	yes		no	Secure and confidential records storage
	yes		no	A phone line exclusively dedicated to the center
	yes		no	A minimum of one secure data connection
	yes		no	Walls extend from floor to ceiling, with doors in appropriate locations to facilitate
				privacy and confidentiality
	yes		no	Each room/area includes adequate lighting
	yes		no	The school's central office intercom system connects to the SBHC
d	. Equi	pm	ent and Su	upplies
T	he SB	HC	includes:	
	yes		no	Equipment and supplies necessary to provide all services
	yes		no	SBHC equipment checked regularly to ensure good working order, and maintained and calibrated as recommended by manufacturer
	yes		no	Processes for inspecting emergency medical equipment monthly for items that need to be replaced or replenished
	yes		no	The SBHC is compliant with the current vaccine storage standards.
	yes		no	Procedures for checking medications and supplies monthly for outdated materials, and for processing them accordingly
S	ponso	rsl	nip Require	ements
1	. Lead	Sp	onsoring A	Agency
	yes		no	a. SBHC has one lead sponsoring agency
b	. Туре	of	flead spons	sor is: (check only one)
	Scho	ool	or school o	district
	Pub	lic	health depa	artment
	Com	ım	unity healtl	n center
	Hos	pita	al	
	Priv	ate	nonprofit	health or human services organization
	Trib	al (	Governmen	nt/Indian Health Service
С	. Requ	iire	ments and	responsibilities of the sponsoring agency:
Г	yes	_	no	Assures provision of one or more of the following: funding, staffing, medical oversight
			_	and/or medical and general liability coverage
	yes		no	Negotiates and maintains a valid access agreement between the sponsoring agency and the school district
	yes		no	Maintains current agreements with any other organizations that provide services in the SBHC
	yes		no	Ensures that interagency agreements specify priorities, responsibilities and a process for resolving differences
	yes		no	Ensures confidential electronic collection and storage of service data
d	. Com	тı	ınity Advise	ory Board (CAB)
h	n colla	bo	ration with	n the local school district, the sponsoring agency:
	yes		no	Ensures a role for the CAB that includes reviewing and advising on student needs;
				program planning; implementation and evaluation; and provides input about
				governance, management, services and funding. The sponsoring agency solicits
				participation from other key community stakeholders including parents/guardians,
				school administration, school health providers, youth, community health providers and
				public health organizations, as well as appropriate specialty care providers and insurers

yes no	Holds a minimum of two CAB meetings per year		
2. Licensed Entity			
a. More than one agency may offer health care services in the SBHC; each must be a licensed entity.			
yes no	SBHC has at least one licensed entity		
b. The Licensed Entit	ty		
yes no	Ensures available consultation and oversight for health care services provided in the		
	SBHC through a designated health care provider		
yes no	Provides evidence of ongoing involvement of the designated health care provider, as		
	necessary, in clinical policy and procedures development, records review and clinical		
	oversight		
yes no	Medical, behavioral health, and dental services shall be provided by a licensed entity		
yes no	Ensures provision of 24-hour, seven-days-per-week coverage for services needed by		
	users of the SBHC		
yes no	Provides evidence of required liability and malpractice coverage and worker's		
	compensation		
yes no	Maintains ownership of clinical records		
yes no	The licensed medical entity maintains a Certificate of Waiver to provide waived		
	laboratory tests, per the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA)		
Program Operations			
1. Eligibility, Enrollm			
yes no	Develops and maintains a written policy on consent for treatment, within the scope of		
	the law, including Minor Consent laws		
yes no	At a minimum, extends eligibility for all services to all students attending the school that		
	hosts the SBHC		
yes no	Ensures students' access to services regardless of their race, national origin, religion, immigration status, sexual orientation, disability, gender, or insurance status		
	The SBHC provides written information about the center to parents/guardians and		
yes no	youth, which includes the scope of services offered, including how to access 24-hour,		
	seven-days-per-week health services for SBHC users during non-school hours and		
	vacation periods shall be included		
2. Records and Conf			
yes no	a. Optimally, a single, integrated electronic health record facilitates the provision of care		
	and the services provided		
b. At a minimum, th	e required health record includes the following:		
yes no	Signed consent form		
yes no	Personal information		
yes no	Individual and family medical history		
yes no	Problem list		
yes no	Medication list		
yes no	Immunization record		
yes no	Screening and diagnostic tests, including laboratory findings		
yes no	Health and behavioral health progress notes or encounter forms		
yes no	Treatment plan		
yes no	Referral system		
c. Requirements reg	arding records management:		
yes no	Maintain and store records in a manner that restricts access to records to SBHC staff, in		
	accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)		
yes no	Keep records separate from any part of student's educational record		

☐ yes ☐ no	Release information only with a signed consent by the parent/guardian, a youth 18 years
	of age or older, or a youth receiving services under the minor consent law
d. Requirements reg	arding confidentiality and sharing of health information:
yes no	Signed parent/guardian consent (or student permission, as appropriate) to obtain school
	health services records or to share SBHC records (other than immunizations) with school
	health staff
yes no	Comply with HIPAA and FERPA regulations for sharing information
yes no	Utilize release of information forms for sharing information with community providers
,	outside of the SBHC
3. Quality Improvem	ent and Program Evaluation:
	y improvement plan includes:
yes no	A designated staff member to serve as the quality improvement coordinator
yes no	A mechanism for monitoring clinical services and evaluating program goals
yes no	At least two clinical or practice management measures per year to be monitored and
— yes — 110	evaluated for improvement.
yes no	A plan for improvement
yes no	A written record of progress toward improving selected measures
4. Data Collection ar	
	ns an electronic data collection system that includes the following minimum data
variables:	Unique nationt identifier
yes   no	Unique patient identifier  Date of birth
yes   no	
yes in no	Gender
yes no	Race
yes I no	Ethnicity
yes no	Grade
yes   no	Insurance status
yes   no	Date of visit
yes   no	Location of visit
├─ yes ├─ no	Provider type
├─ yes ├─ no	Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) visit code(s)
☐ yes ☐ no	Diagnosis code(s): most recent ICD or DSM
□ yes □ no	<b>b.</b> Capacity exists for the SBHC to report service data
5. Financing and Sus	tainability
yes I no no	a. Prior to implementation, new SBHCs develop a sustainability plan
yes no	b. SBHCs create and periodically update a strategic plan
n/a	
□ yes □ no	c. SBHCs develop an annual budget that describes all sources and uses of funding,
	including the estimated value of in-kind support
□ <sub>yes</sub> □ <sub>no</sub>	d. SBHCs collect financial data and are capable of reporting revenues and expenses by
,	commonly accepted line item types
e. Written billing pol	licies for SBHCs provide:
yes no	Processes for recording, charging, billing and collecting for services rendered that
	facilitates care for users of the SBHC regardless of ability to pay
yes no	Assurances that services that are confidential by law are billed for in a manner to protect
,55	patient confidentiality
yes no	Outreach and application assistance to families with students eligible for public or
700 110	The fact of the second

	private health insurance, directly or through referral		
6. Compliance with Applicable Federal and State Regulations			
yes no	a. Compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990		
yes no	b. Compliant with Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments		
yes no	c. Compliant with Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, published by the Department		
	of Education		
yes no	d. Compliant with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act		
yes no	e. Compliant with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration		
yes no	f. Compliant with applicable CT public health code regulations		
<b>Program Core Eleme</b>	nts		
	integrated and coordinated medical care, behavioral health care, and oral health care		
onsite through treat			
yes no	Scheduled and same-day appointments available to SBHC users for non-urgent, acute,		
	and chronic health problems including referral if needed		
yes no	24 hour, seven-days-per-week access to health services for SBHC users during non-		
	school hours and vacation periods to ensure the continuity of care		
yes no	Outreach activities to enroll students in the SBHC		
yes no	Activities to promote awareness of SBHC services		
yes no	Activities to promote utilization of SBHC services		
yes no	Services are provided in accordance with Cultural and Linguistically Appropriate		
	Standards (CLAS)		
yes no	Care coordination among SBHC staff and through communication with the youth's		
	community providers		
yes no	A referral system for health services not available in the SBHC		
-	e and primary physical health care with an emphasis on prevention of health risks and		
chronic disease thro			
1) Annual preventive			
yes no	History, risk/developmental screening and physical assessment; EPSDT; anticipatory		
	guidance		
yes no	Screening, offering and/or administration of immunizations per CDC recommendations		
yes no	Oral health assessment, identification of observable problems, date of the last oral		
	health visit, appropriate oral health education and referral as needed		
yes no	Identification and management of chronic disease in collaboration with the student's		
	PCP and community providers		
yes no	2) Diagnosis and treatment of acute illness and injury with referral as necessary		
yes no	3) Provision for medications		
yes no	4) Waived laboratory tests onsite, as included in the Clinical Laboratory Improvement		
	Amendments (CLIA)		
	I health services, including:		
yes no	Mental health screening, assessment, and treatment on site		
yes no	Individual, group, and family therapy; crisis management		
	d. For sites that provide oral health services:		
yes no	Oral health screening, assessment, and treatment and/or referral		

## **Checklist for Quality Standards for Connecticut Expanded School Health Sites (ESHS)**

<b>Core Requirements</b>		
1. Administrative		
yes no	Organizational chart with clear lines of authority and supervision	
yes no	An administrator responsible for overall program management, quality of care,	
	coordination with school and collaborating partner agency personnel; an identified	
	program coordinator for the expanded school health site(s)	
yes no	Written job descriptions for all staff providing care or involved in ESHS operations	
yes no	a signed school nurse/SBHC communications' agreement	
yes no	Written policy addressing compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and	
	Accountability Act (HIPAA) and Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA	
yes no	Periodic performance evaluation of staff per sponsoring organization requirements	
yes no	Appropriate credentialing/licensure and re-credentialing of all clinical providers	
yes no	Each student shall have a completed, signed enrollment form on file which includes:	
	demographic information; parent/guardian contact information; third-party billing and	
	primary care providers' information; consent to treat; and a medical history.	
yes no	Written policy regarding ESHS responsibilities in case of a school emergency or disaster	
2. Staffing		
Staff includes:		
yes no	On-site licensed dental clinician	
yes no	On-site licensed medical clinician	
yes no	On-site licensed behavioral health clinician	
yes no	Designated health care provider available to clinic staff to discuss clinical issues as needed	
3. Facility		
a. Location		
yes no	Expanded School Health Sites are established and operated within a school building or on school grounds	
yes no	Occupy a dedicated space for the purpose of providing ESHS	
b. Regulations		
yes no	In schools renovated after 1990, the facility meets Americans with Disabilities Act requirements for accommodation of individuals with disabilities	
yes no	Facility meets local, state, and federal building codes (including lights, exit signs,	
_ , _	ventilation, etc.); Occupational Safety and Health Administration requirements and any	
	other local, state or federal requirements for occupancy and use of the space allocated	
	for the expanded school health site.	
c. Physical space		
	ns/areas may serve more than one purpose in delivering ESHS, the center includes at	
least the following functional elements:		
Coding: (1) Medical S	Services (2) Behavioral Health (3) Dental Health	
yes no	A designated waiting/reception area (1): optional for (2) (3)	
yes no	At least one exam room (1)	
yes no	One accessible sink with hot and cold water (1) (3)	
yes no	Access to a handicapped accessible toilet facility with a sink with hot and cold water (1) (2) (3)	
yes no	Office/clerical area (optional)	

		yes	no	A secure, locked storage area for supplies (e.g. medications, lab supplies) (1) (3)
		yes	no	A designated lab space with clean and dirty areas (1) (3)
		yes	no	A counseling room/private area (1) (2)
		yes	no	Secure and confidential records storage (1) (2) (3)
		yes	no	A phone line exclusively dedicated to the center (1) (2) (3)
		yes	no	A minimum of one secure data connection (1) (2) (3)
Ī	=	yes	no	Walls extend from floor to ceiling, with doors in appropriate locations to facilitate privacy
				and confidentiality (1) (2)
		yes	no	Each room/area includes adequate lighting (1) (2) (3)
		yes	no	The school's central office intercom system connects to the ESHS
	d. E	quipm	ent and Su	
•	The	ESHS i	includes:	
		yes	no	Equipment and supplies necessary to provide all services (1) (2) (3)
		yes	no	Equipment checked regularly to ensure good working order, and maintained and
				calibrated as recommended by manufacturer
		yes	] no	Processes for inspecting emergency medical equipment monthly for items that need to be
				replaced or replenished
		yes 🗌	no	The ESHS is compliant with the current vaccine storage standards (1)
		yes	] no	Procedures for checking medications and supplies monthly for outdated materials, and
				for processing them accordingly (1) (3)
	_		ip Require	
•	1. L	ead Sp	onsoring A	
	_	yes	no	a. Expanded School Health Site has one lead sponsoring agency
-				sor is: (check only one)
Ц			or school c	
Ц			nealth depa	
Ц	_		inity health	n center
Ц	_	Hospita		
	F	Private	nonprofit	health or human services organization
	_			nt/Indian Health Service
	c. Requirements and responsibilities of the sponsoring agency:			
		yes	no	Assures provision of one or more of the following: funding, staffing, clinical oversight
				and/or medical and general liability coverage
		yes	] no	Negotiates and maintains a valid access agreement between the sponsoring agency and the school district
		yes	] no	Maintains current agreements with any other organizations that provide services in the ESHS
		yes	no	Ensures that interagency agreements specify priorities, responsibilities and a process for
			,	resolving differences
	_	yes	no	Ensures confidential electronic collection and storage of service data
			•	ory Board (CAB): In collaboration with the local school district, under the umbrella of the
H	$\overline{}$		g agency	Ensures a role for the CAP that includes reviewing and advising an student people.
L		yes	no	Ensures a role for the CAB that includes reviewing and advising on student needs;
				program planning; implementation and evaluation; and provides input about governance,
				management, services and funding. The sponsoring agency solicits participation from other key community stakeholders including parents/guardians, school administration,
				school health providers, youth, community health providers and public health
1				1 Johnson Hearth providers, youth, community ficultif providers and public ficultif

	organizations, as well as appropriate specialty care providers and insurers			
2. Licensed Entity				
a. More than one ag	a. More than one agency may offer ESHS; each must be a licensed entity.			
yes no	ESHS is licensed under its SBHC sponsoring organization			
b. The Licensed Entit	ty			
yes no	Ensures available consultation and oversight for health care services provided in the ESHS			
	through a designated health care provider			
yes no	Provides evidence of ongoing involvement of the designated health care provider, as			
	necessary, in clinical policy and procedures development, records review and clinical			
	oversight			
yes no	Medical, behavioral health, and/ or dental services shall be provided by a licensed entity			
yes no	Ensures provision of 24-hour, seven-days-per-week coverage for services needed by users			
	of the ESHS			
yes no	Provides evidence of required liability and malpractice coverage and worker's			
	compensation			
yes no	Maintains ownership of clinical records			
yes no	The licensed medical entity maintains a Certificate of Waiver to provide waived laboratory			
	tests, per the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) (medical services			
	only)			
<b>Program Operations</b>				
1. Eligibility, Enrollm	nent and Consent			
yes no	Develops and maintains a written policy on consent for treatment, within the scope of the			
	law, including Minor Consent laws			
yes no	At a minimum, extends eligibility for all services to all students attending the school that			
	hosts the ESHS			
yes no	Ensures students' access to services regardless of their race, national origin, religion,			
	immigration status, sexual orientation, disability, gender, or insurance status			
yes no	The ESHS provides written information about the center to parents/guardians and youth,			
	which includes the scope of services offered, including how to access 24-hour, seven-			
	days-per-week health services for ESHS users during non-school hours and vacation			
	periods shall be included			
2. Records and Conf	identiality			
yes no	a. Optimally, a single, integrated electronic health record facilitates the provision of care			
	and the services provided			
b. At a minimum, th	e required health record includes the following:			
yes no	Signed consent form			
yes no	Personal information			
yes no	Individual and family medical history			
yes no	Problem list			
yes no	Medication list			
yes no	Immunization record			
yes no	Screening and diagnostic tests, including laboratory findings			
yes no	Health progress notes or encounter forms			
yes no	Treatment plan			
yes no	Referral system			
c. Requirements regarding records management:				
yes no	Maintain and store records in a manner that restricts access to records to ESHS staff, in			
<u> </u>	accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)			

	_ yes _	no	Keep records separate from any part of student's educational record
	] yes [	no	Release information only with a signed consent by the parent/guardian, a youth 18 years
			of age or older, or a youth receiving services under the minor consent law
d.	Requi	rements reg	arding confidentiality and sharing of health information:
	ges [	no	Signed parent/guardian consent (or student permission, as appropriate) to obtain school
			health services records or to share ESHS records (other than immunizations) with school
			health staff
	yes	no	Comply with HIPAA and FERPA regulations for sharing information
	] yes [	no	Utilize release of information forms for sharing information with community providers
			outside of the ESHS
		<u> </u>	nent and Program Evaluation:
a.	Contin	nuous qualit	y improvement plan includes:
	yes	no	Sponsoring organization provides the quality improvement coordination
	yes	no	A mechanism for monitoring clinical services and evaluating performance measures
	] yes [	no	At least two clinical or practice management measures per year to be monitored and
			evaluated for improvement.
	yes	no	A documented quality improvement plan
	yes	no	A written record of progress toward improving selected measures
4.	Data (	Collection a	nd Reporting
			ins an electronic data collection system that includes the following minimum data
V	ariable	s:	<del>,</del>
	yes	no	Unique patient identifier
L	yes	no	Date of birth
	yes	no	Gender
	yes	no	Race
	yes	no	Ethnicity
	yes	no	Grade
	yes	no	Insurance status
	yes	no	Date of visit
	yes	no	Location of visit
	yes	no	Provider type
	yes	no	Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) visit code(s)
	yes	no	Diagnosis code(s): most recent ICD or DSM
	] yes [	no	<b>b.</b> Capacity exists for the ESHS to report service data
5.	Financ	ing and Sus	tainability: Sponsoring Organization will
	yes	no	a. Prior to implementation, develop a sustainability plan for the ESHS
	_ yes _	no	<b>b.</b> Create and periodically update a strategic plan
n,	/a		
L	_ yes _	no	c. Develop an annual budget that describes all sources and uses of funding, including the
			estimated value of in-kind support
	_ yes _	no	d. Collect financial data and ensure reporting of revenues and expenses by commonly
			accepted line item types
e.		n billing po	licies for ESHS provide:
L	_ yes _	no	Processes for recording, charging, billing and collecting for services rendered that
			facilitates care for users of the ESHS regardless of ability to pay
L	_ yes _	no	Assurances that services that are confidential by law are billed for in a manner to protect
			patient confidentiality
	yes	no	Outreach and application assistance to families with students eligible for public or private

	health insurance, directly or through referral		
6. Compliance with Applicable Federal and State Regulations			
yes no	a. Compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990		
yes no	b. Compliant with Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (medical only)		
yes no	c. Compliant with Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, published by the Department		
	of Education		
yes no	d. Compliant with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act		
yes no	e. Compliant with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration		
yes no	f. Compliant with applicable CT public health code regulations		
<b>Program Core Eleme</b>	nts		
yes no	Scheduled and same-day appointments available to ESHS users for non-urgent, acute, and		
	chronic health problems including referral if needed		
yes no	Provisions for 24 hour, seven-days-per-week access to health services for ESHS users		
	during non-school hours and vacation periods to ensure the continuity of care		
yes no	Outreach activities to enroll students in the ESHS		
yes no	Activities to promote awareness of ESHS services		
yes no	Activities to promote utilization of ESHS services		
yes no	Services are provided in accordance with Cultural and Linguistically Appropriate Standards		
	(CLAS)		
yes no	Care coordination among ESHS staff and through communication with the youth's		
	community providers		
yes no	A referral system for health services not available in the ESHS		
-	e and primary physical health care with an emphasis on prevention of health risks and		
chronic disease throu			
	e health exams: Medical Services		
yes no	History, risk/developmental screening and physical assessment; EPSDT; anticipatory		
	guidance		
yes no	Screening, offering and/or administration of immunizations per CDC recommendations		
yes no	Oral health assessment, identification of observable problems, date of the last oral health		
	visit, appropriate oral health education and referral as needed		
yes no	Identification and management of chronic disease in collaboration with the student's PCP		
	and community providers		
yes no	2) Diagnosis and treatment of acute illness and injury with referral as necessary		
yes no	3) Provision for medications		
yes no	4) Waived laboratory tests onsite, as included in the Clinical Laboratory Improvement		
	Amendments (CLIA)		
	I health services, including:		
yes no	Mental health screening, assessment, and treatment on site		
yes no	Individual, group, and family therapy; crisis management		
yes no	Referral for further assessment/treatment for services beyond the scope of the expanded		
school health site			
_	ide oral health services:		
yes no	Oral health screening, assessment, and treatment and/or referral		