# 2014-2015 Program Report Card: New London and Waterford School Based Health Centers (Grades Pre-K-12)

New London High, Bennie Dover Jackson Middle, Jennings Elementary, Hale Elementary, Winthrop Elementary, Regional Multicultural Magnet (RMMS) Elementary Waterford: Friendship School (Early Childhood Learning Center, Ages 3-5)

Quality of Life Result: All Connecticut children will grow up in a stable environment, safe, healthy and ready to succeed.

Contribution to the Result: School Based Health Centers provide healthcare access for school aged students, so that they are healthy and ready to learn.

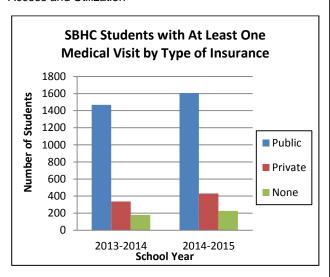
Program Expenditures	DPH SBHC Funding	Other State Funding	Federal Funding (MCHBG, ACA)	Total Other Funding (Other federal, Local, Private)	Reimbursement Generated	Total Site Funding
Actual SFY 15	\$745,743	\$0	\$0	\$13,583*	\$92,320	\$851,646
Estimated SFY 16	\$710,813	\$0	\$0	\$11,637*	\$58,833	\$781,283

Sponsoring Organization: Child and Family Agency of Southeastern Connecticut, Inc.

Partners: Parents, Students, CASBHC, DPH, DSS, DMHAS, DCF, The CT Chapter of the AAP, School Based Health Alliance, Board of Education, Local Health Department, School Nurses, School Administrators and Faculty, Child & Family Agency Programs, SWAT Program

### How Much Did We Do?

Access and Utilization



## Story behind the baseline:

In 2013-2014 the school population of these schools was 4,048. Of those, 3,185 (77%) were enrolled in the SBHC. Of those enrolled, 1,984 (62%) had at least one medical visit. For those 1,984 students, 1468 (74%) were publically insured; 337 (17%) were privately insured; 179 (9%) reported no insurance.

In 2014-2015 the school population was 4,139. Of those, 3,246 (78%) were enrolled in the SBHC. Of the enrolled, 2,262 (70%) had at least one medical visit. For those 2,262 students, 1606 (71%) were publically insured; 430

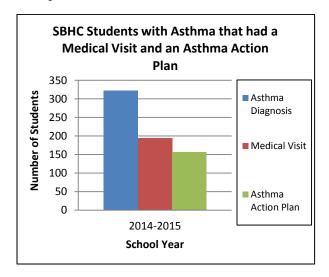
(19%) were privately insured; 226 (10%) reported no insurance.

The school population and enrollment in the SBHCs each increased by 2% in 2014-2015. There was also an increase of 12% in the number of students that had at least one medical visit during this time period.

## Trend: [▲]

#### How Well Did We Do?

Reduce the severity and frequency of asthma symptoms among students with asthma who utilize the SBHC.



Asthma has been chosen to demonstrate the positive impact that the school based health centers are making in terms of ensuring that students have good asthma control. Asthma is a persistent health concern in southeastern Connecticut. A local hospital confirmed this in their 2007 and 2013 Regional Community Health Needs Assessments, especially among Hispanic and non-Hispanic Black children. Asthma is cited by school officials as a primary cause of school absences. Absenteeism caused by asthma puts vulnerable children at risk for academic failure (CT Department of Public Health). Asthma can be a very serious condition and if not adequately treated can lead to a critical life-threatening event. Having an Asthma Action Plan is important because they serve as a tool that helps to reduce or prevent flareups and emergency department visits.

In 2014-2015, 322(14%) of the students who used the SBHC had a diagnosis of asthma. Of those, 194 (60%) students had at least one medical visit. Of those, 157 (81%) had an Asthma Action Plan in place.

The flu vaccine has been a recommendation for individuals with asthma by the American Academy of Pediatrics, The American Academy of Family Medicine, and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. In 2014-2015, 64 (20%) SBHC students with asthma received a flu vaccine at the Center.

In a special project conducted at RMMS, Winthrop, Jennings and Nathan Hale, it was found that 30 students received the vaccine at a community practice. Seventeen of eighteen (94%) practices responded to an inquiry about the specific students who received the vaccine.) The very

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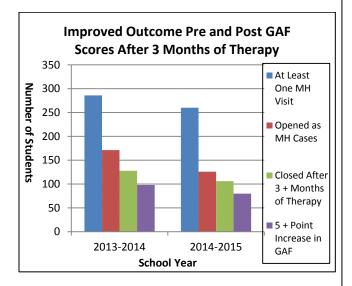
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low number was likely due to the fact that many of the students in the other 3 schools have a primary care provider (PCP) in the community or as middle/high-schoolers, choose not to receive the vaccine.

Trend: ◀▶

## Is Anyone Better Off?

Mental Health Improvement



**Story behind the baseline:** In 2014-2015, 260 students (11% of users) had a least one mental health (MH) visit. Some were seen only once, others may have been evaluated but did not want to engage in therapy (or the parent declined treatment). Others may already be in treatment with a community provider.

One hundred twenty-six (48%) of them were opened as "cases" for continued therapy services by the clinician and were administered the Global Assessment of Functioning Scale (GAF) to determine a baseline level of psycho-social functioning. Of those 126 students initially assessed using the GAF, 106 (84%) received 3 or more months of therapy. Of those 106 students were re-administered the GAF after three or more months of therapy, eighty (75%) of them significantly increased (by 5 or more points) their GAF

score. This is slightly less than the 77% improvement calculated in 2013-2014.

As for the 26 (25%) students whose cases closed but did not improve their score graduated, moved, or did not want to continue in therapy. As for the 26 (25%) students that did not receive 3 or more months of therapy, they or their parent(s) didn't want to continue treatment, moved out of district, didn't attend therapy regularly, or were referred to a higher level of treatment such as the partial hospitalization program.

Funding cuts resulting in a reduction of available mental health hours at some SBHCs likely contributed to the reduction in students served. Four out of five (80%) SBHCs had waiting lists for mental health services.

The SBHC nurse practitioners continue to do behavioral health screening on all students having physicals or who present to them with vague complaints. Those who have a positive (high) score are referred to the mental health clinician for further evaluation? The parent is informed of this by the nurse practitioner. If they are in therapy with a community provider, an offer to call that provider is made to the parent. In the event that a student is at high risk for suicide, either the emergency mobile psychiatry services are called or 911 for transport to the emergency room.

Trend: [◀▶]

Notes: \*Other Funding is from United Way

## **Proposed Actions to Turn the Curve:**

#### Access and Utilization:

 Information and registration forms in English and Spanish will be given to Welcome Center/registrar at the school for all incoming students. Information and forms are also available on Agency and school website.

### **Asthma Improvement:**

 The SBHC APRNs will work closely with the school nurses to identify students with asthma not enrolled in

- the SBHCs who will be provided enrollment forms and information about the availability of the flu vaccine through the Center.
- SBHC APRNs will identify any new SBHC users with asthma to determine if they have an Asthma Action Plan in place and, if one is needed, will ensure that one is developed and implemented.

#### **Mental Health Services:**

- With the institution of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM 5), the Ohio Scales, brief measures of outcome for **youth** receiving mental health services will be used in the coming years as a measure of improvement. The GAF scale will no longer be utilized.
- SBHC mental health clinician will incorporate Trauma Based Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TFCBT) with many of the students with mental health issues based in past trauma.
- Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Trauma in Schools (CBITS) groups will be offered in all schools next year.
- The SBHC APRN will expand the behavioral health screening protocol to at least 30% more students that utilize the SBHC (in addition to those having physicals).

## **Data Development Agenda:**

- To align EHR generated reports to meet DPH requirements
- To streamline the process of exporting our data from EHR to DPH
- Further refine data collection capability of the electronic record to define parameters for better identification and management of specific conditions (ex. students who have participated in select programs, students who have an asthma action plan on record, etc.)