



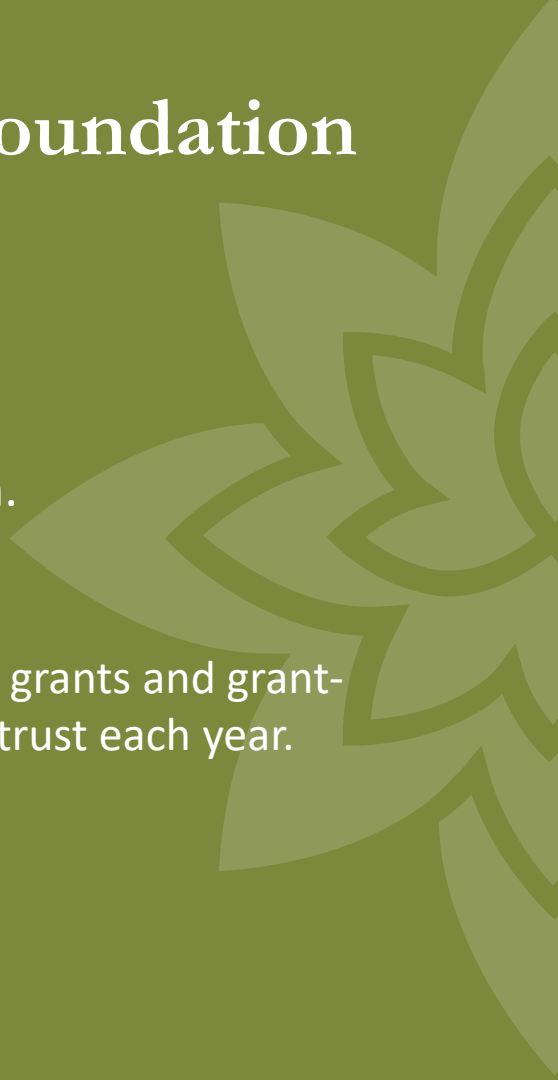
School-Based Health Centers

Presentation to the Montana State Legislature Children,
Families, Health, and Human Services Sub-Committee

Montana Healthcare Foundation | November 2021

MTHCF.ORG

About the Montana Healthcare Foundation

- We are an independent, private foundation.
 - We work statewide.
 - We are Montana's largest health-focused foundation.
 - We are a permanent resource.
 - We manage our trust investments sustainably, making grants and grant-related investments of roughly 5% of the value of our trust each year.
 - We do not lobby.
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Priority Areas

We work together with dedicated partners from around the state to improve the health and well-being of Montanans.



American Indian Health

Supporting American Indian-led solutions through our strategic initiatives:

Strengthening Health Services

Supporting Governance & Leadership

Reducing Health Disparities

Medicaid and Health Policy

Providing research and analysis on proposed health policy changes.

School-Based Health Initiative

Improving health and academic outcomes for students.

Grant Application Assistance

Leveraging our resources to bring in new sources of funding.

Behavioral Health

Providing leadership to strengthen the system through our strategic initiatives:

Integration

The Meadowlark Initiative

Continuum of Care

Strengthening Public Health

Supporting local and Tribal public health departments.

Housing is Health Care

Creating supportive housing projects to improve health outcomes.

Nonprofit Capacity Building

Helping nonprofits develop stable funding sources and new partnerships.

What is a School-Based Health Center?

- A **school-based health center** is a shared commitment between a school, community, and health care organizations to support students' health, well-being, and academic success by providing preventative, early intervention, and treatment services where students are: in school.
- Services can include medical, dental and/or behavioral health.
- Services can be provided on the school campus, through telehealth or on a mobile unit on the school campus.
- Schools and health care providers determine who the SBHC will serve. SBHCs can provide services to students, families, staff and/or community.

The Impact of School-Based Care



The Impact on Health

- Increased access to care → decreased health disparities
- Increased use of primary care and preventive services → better care coordination
- Reduction in inappropriate emergency room use
- Reduction in hospitalizations
- Improvements in social competency and behavioral/emotional functions

The Impact on Education

- Increased school engagement, safety and respect
- Improvements in academics (GPA, test scores)
- Increased teacher retention
- Decreased absenteeism and tardiness
- Increased graduation rates

Relationships with Existing Resources in Schools

School-based health services are designed to compliment the existing services within the school and not duplicate services.

Comprehensive School and Community Treatment

- School-based behavioral health services offer another level of care to support existing school counselor or CSCT services.

School Nurses

- School nurse and SBHCs have different roles within schools, but with appropriate consent, can work closely to coordinate care for students.





How are School-Based Health Centers Financed?

- Insurance reimbursement (Medicaid or private insurance)
- Local school districts
- Tax levies
- Grants (federal, foundation, etc.)
- Special education budget
- Public health funds
- Health care systems, dental organizations, or behavioral health organizations



School-Based Health Initiative

Improving health and academic
outcomes for students



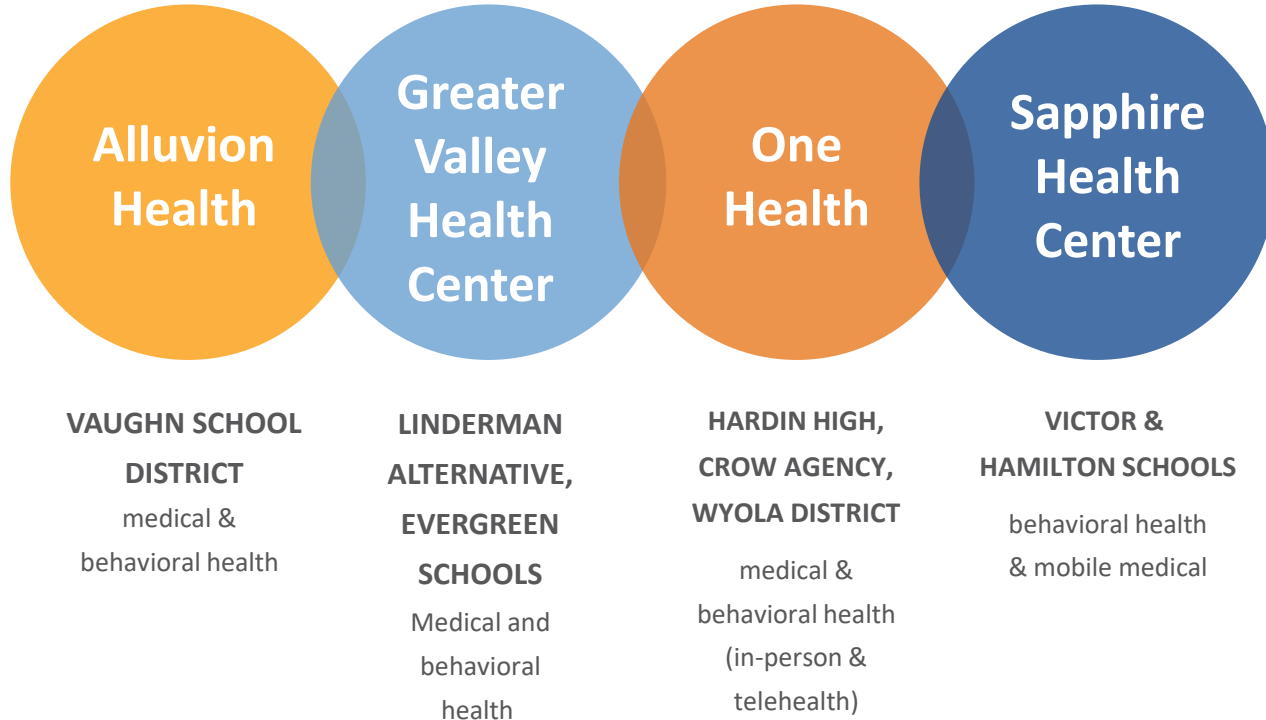
The Montana Healthcare Foundation created the School-Based Health Initiative in 2020 to support quality, convenient health care for students and their families in a safe, familiar place.

The initiative works to improve health and academic outcomes for students by supporting new partnerships between high priority schools and health care providers.



2020 School-Based Health Initiative – Cohort 1

In our first cohort we funded 4 health partners to serve 8 schools





**Prior to our formal initiative,
we funded project around
school-based services in
Belgrade, Bozeman, East
Helena, Flathead County,
Missoula and Lockwood**

**We will officially fund our
next cohort this month, we
received applications from 5
health partners**

Our Commitment to the School-Based Health Initiative



- Offering grants to offset start up costs
- Facilitates technical assistance support for schools and health partners through the Office of Public Instruction (position partially supported by MHCF)
- Facilitates technical assistance support provided through the national organization, the School Based Health Alliance
- MHCF staff also provides technical assistance and coordinates convenings
- MHCF collecting data from sites in the initiative
- Committed to the initiative for 10 years starting in 2020
- MHCF will offer support to SBHCs post grants to ensure long-term sustainability

Main Takeaways



- ✓ **SBHCs are a win/win for schools and health partners**
- ✓ **SBHCs keep kids in school**
- ✓ **SBHCs are a sustainable way to provide services that students need long term**
- ✓ **SBHCs support schools and school staff**



Thank You



School-Based
Health Initiative

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