Cross-Agency Partnerships for School Health:
Medicaid & Education

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Trust for America's Health (TFAH)



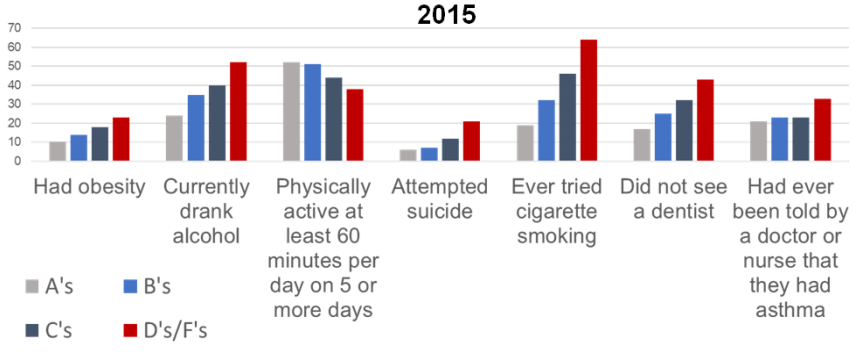
- Non-profit, non-partisan
- Evidence-based policy & advocacy
- Promotes optimal health for every person and community and makes the prevention of illness and injury a national priority

Objectives

- Provide an overview of cross-agency collaboration between Medicaid and education
- Summarize the different models of providing care in schools
- Introduce the Healthy Students, Promising Futures (HSPF) learning collaborative
- Discuss existing policy levers to expand school-based health services

Health & Academics

Percentage of high school students who engaged in select health behaviors, by type of grades earned (mostly A's, B's, C's, or D's/F's) — United States, National Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015



Health & Academics



- **1 of every 7 students** is chronically absent (2013-14 school year)
- Chronic absenteeism is linked to poor academic achievement, lower graduation rates, poor socioemotional outcomes
- Health conditions contributing to absences:
  - Asthma
  - Oral Health
  - Obesity
  - Mental and Behavioral Health

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Why Medicaid & Education?

- Meeting kids where they are
  - Children spend about **one-third** of their time in school
- Opportunity to increase EPSDT rates
  - Only **58 percent** participation among 42 million individuals birth to age 21 eligible for EPSDT (2015)
- Chance to improve Medicaid quality and access measures
  - Shift towards managed care
  - Mandatory reporting of Child Core Set in 2024

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School Health Services Models



School Health Services Models

School-Employed Providers

- School nurses
- Social workers
- OT/PT/Speech
- Counselors
- Psychologists and other mental health professionals



School Health Services Models

Partnerships with Medicaid Providers

- Federally Qualified Health Centers
- School-Based Health Centers
- School-Linked Providers
- Hospitals
- Health Departments



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School Health Services Models

Innovative Delivery Models

- Telehealth
  - Increase direct access to providers for rural communities or schools in provider-shortage areas
  - Reduce out-of-classroom time for students (and out-of-work time for parents)
- Mobile Clinics
  - Reduce out-of-school time for children
  - More economical than physical facility or temporary on-site clinic
  - Allow Medicaid providers to serve multiple schools

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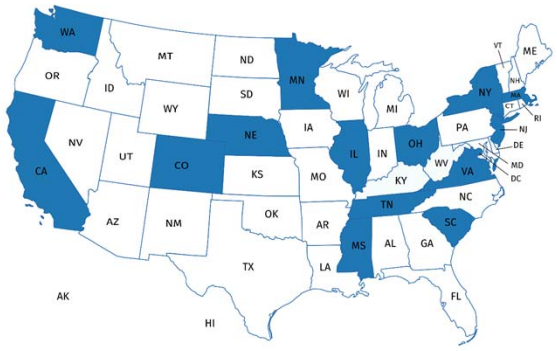
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Healthy Students, Promising Futures

State Medicaid

State Education

Local School Districts



Healthy Students, Promising Futures

Create healthier students by increasing access to school-based health services and promoting healthier school environments

Federal policy support

Building partnerships and cross-agency teams

Assessing need, data collection and data sharing

Identifying innovative strategies

Healthy Students, Promising Futures

Key lessons learned to date:

1. Get the right people to the table
2. Explore all models of service delivery
3. Establish common vocabulary
4. Bring in other cross-sector partners early
5. Clearly define your population of interest (i.e. K-12, Pre-K, etc.)
6. Focus on partnership first, then health topic
7. Align metrics across assessments when possible
8. Advocates can be your friends
9. Harness and adapt the lessons from other states
10. **There is no one size-fits-all solution!**

Policy Levers – Free Care

- 2014 CMS Guidance
  - Allows Medicaid reimbursement for physical and behavioral health care services provided to ALL Medicaid-eligible students
  - Previously limited to only students with IEP
  - In some cases, Medicaid State Plan Amendment needed
- Opportunity to:
  - Increase rates of screening and treatment under EPSDT
  - Increase school-employed providers *and* develop new partnerships between schools and Medicaid providers

Policy Levers – Child Core Set

- Change in reporting
  - Child Core Set reporting currently voluntary
  - In 2024, shifting to mandatory reporting on all measures of Child Core Set
- Schools provide access point and opportunity to improve quality measures as well as other MCO incentives

Policy Levers – Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

- Needs assessments
  - Title I, Part A
  - Title IV, Part A
- Professional development
  - Title II, Part A
  - Title IV, Part A

Thank You

Please visit TFAH's website at:
http://healthyamericans.org/

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