Bakersfield City School District
Wellness Centers

Debbie Wood, RN, MA
Coordinator, School Health and Neighborhood Support Programs

May 30, 2017
Our Vision

Our goal is to help every child be in school every day healthy and ready to learn by:

- Increasing availability of health care providers of all kinds.
- Decreasing time parents need to be away from work.
- Decreasing time away from class.
- Increasing overall health and wellness of students.
- Supporting families in overcoming the barriers they face in getting their child to school.
- Providing early education and teaching parents to be their child’s first teacher.
The Path to School Based Wellness Centers

• Began by identifying health related issues that interfered with attendance and learning.
  • Data gathering – district, local HEDIS, ED
  • Began bring in partner services – dental, vision, kinder physicals
• Ongoing education and information regarding the impact of health on attendance and learning with principals, administrators, teachers, parents and school nurses
A 10 Year Process

• First was dental absences
• Partnered with Big Smiles to bring school based dental services
• Kindergarteners not starting school on time – partnered with local residency program
Continued Addressing Identified Needs

- School Nurse on SARB
- Missing Immunizations – VFC provider
- Asthma - partner to provide asthma education by school nurses
- Grant seeking
Vision Services through Onesight.org and Advanced Center for Eye Care

- January 2014 mobile van - 74 students.
- March 2015 moved to the fairgrounds and saw 498 of our students.
- January 2016 moved to East Hills Mall and 900 BCSD Students.
- February 2017 1000+
LACP Goal 2 - Ensure a safe, healthy, and secure environment for all students, parents, and employees.

- First year of LCAP 2014
  - Not funded
- Second Year of LCAP 2015
  - Asked for 1 got 3
  - Long process to build Centers
  - Opened August 2016
- This year 2017
  - Asked for 2 getting 1 with a five year plan for more.
Determining Placement

- **Factors we looked at:**
- Identifying the areas with the greatest need - lack of medical services within the areas.
- Schools with the highest poverty rates
- Space
- Integrating care
- A “Whole Child” Approach
Frequency of Issues Causing Absenteeism

- Late Start Days (Kinder): 5%
- Mental Health (Parent): 5%
- Substance Abuse (Parent): 4%
- Student Medical Appointment: 3%
- Refusal/Runaway: 2%
- Homeless: 2%
- Head Lice: 2%
- Sibling Medical: 2%
- Custody Issues: 2%
- Death of Family Member: 2%
- Medical (Flu, headache, nutrition): 20%
- Medical (Asthma): 13%
- 1st of Month (Payday): 2%
- Clean Clothing: 2%
- Medically Fragile: 1%
- Student Baby Sitting: 1%
- Medical (Pregnancy): 0%
- Other: 10%

- Transportation (No Car): 8%
- Weather (Rain): 10%
Services Offered

- Well child physicals and checkups including Kindergarten Physicals.
- Sick child care - return to school as quickly as possible so students can be in school learning.
- Chronic disease management - asthma, anemia, severe allergies, etc.
- Individual and group counseling.
- Social skills groups.
- Transition groups (elementary to middle school, middle school to high school).
- Prevention focus with the school site staff.
More Services

• **Vision Services** - glass provided through Advanced Center for Eye care and One Site Vision non-profit.

• **Dental Services** through Big Smiles.

• **Case management** with School Community Facilitators to support students and families in school attendance and academic success.

• Parent and student education classes

• **Partnering** with Family and Community Engagement at Parent Centers (LCAP), After School, Student Services, and more.

• Coordinated with credentialed school nurses
Outcomes

• What we are already seeing:
  • Kindergarteners coming to school sooner.
  • Immunization related absences down.
  • Same day for sick care.
  • Early identification of chronic diseases that impact attendance and learning.
  • Decrease in Chronic absenteeism
What we expect to see going forward:

- Increase attention to learning.
- Decrease in illness related absences especially partial day.
- Shorter absence time from school due to quicker treatment.
- Increased learning due to needed care especially vision.
- Decrease in problem behaviors
“You can't educate a child who isn't healthy, and you can't keep a child healthy who isn't educated.” Dr. Joycelyn Elders