

School-Based Health Center (SBHC) 101: From Startup to Implementation

Katherine Bissett, RN, BSN
SBHC Consultant, Ohio School-Based Health Alliance
February 1, 2024



Ohio School-Based Health Alliance “Ohio Alliance”

Serves as the only statewide organization created to advance and support the sustainability and expansion of school-based health care

- Founded in 2002 as the Ohio School Based Health Care Association
- Relaunched statewide in 2021 as the **Ohio School-Based Health Alliance**
- State affiliate of the national School-Based Health Alliance



Areas of focus

- **Facilitate** regional and statewide school-based health care learning networks and communities of practice
- **Provide guidance, key resources and technical assistance** to start, support and sustain school-based health care partnerships
- **Develop a comprehensive assessment and inventory** of school-based health centers and other school-based health care partnerships
- **Educate and advocate** for a strengthened school-based health care infrastructure



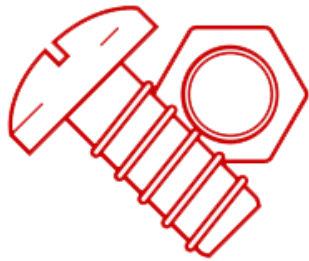
Learning objectives

- Be familiar with the SBHC model, including components of an SBHC
- Understand how to assess community need and readiness
- Know the key steps to planning for and setting up an SBHC

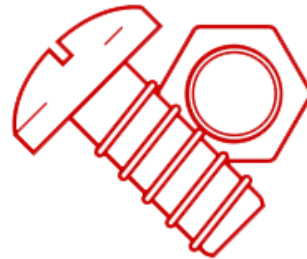


Surveying the room

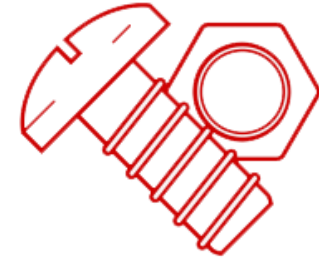
101 SBHC nuts and bolts



**Understanding
the SBHC model**



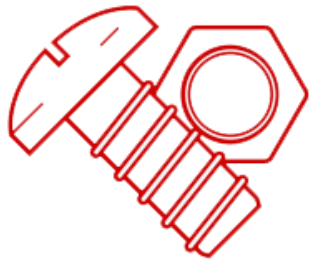
**Assessing
community need
and readiness**



**Key steps to
setting up an
SBHC**



101 SBHC nuts and bolts



**Understanding
the SBHC model**



**Key steps to
setting up an
SBHC**



**Assessing
community need
and readiness**



School-based health centers (SBHCs) are created through a *partnership* between a school/school district and a healthcare provider to increase access to, at minimum, primary healthcare services to students on a school campus.





Health and health care impacts

- ✓ Increased utilization of critical healthcare services, such as well child visits, immunizations, preventative screening, prenatal care, substance use treatment, and mental health counseling
- ✓ Decreased unnecessary healthcare utilization, emergency department visits, and hospitalizations
- ✓ Increased identification and management of chronic disease
- ✓ Reduced engagement in poor health behaviors, including smoking, alcohol consumption, and illicit drug use
- ✓ Improved physical activity and consumption of healthy foods
- ✓ Increased health literacy



Education impacts

- ✓ Increased rate of high school completion and graduation
- ✓ Increased school engagement
- ✓ Higher GPA and grade promotion
- ✓ Decreased absenteeism
- ✓ Decreased school disciplinary actions and suspensions



Cost impacts

- ✓ Reduced societal costs associated with unnecessary healthcare utilization, economic productivity loss (including averted parental/guardian time off work), and decreased transportation needs
- ✓ Net savings to Medicaid programs

Source: School-based health care in Ohio: A closer look at school-based health centers (SBHCs), Ohio Alliance (Feb. 2023)



Key components of an SBHC



**Onsite school
presence**



**Comprehensive
primary care**



**Continuity
of care**



Partnership



Key components of an SBHC



Onsite school presence

- Located in and operates on a school campus
- Necessary to achieve SBHC goals:
 - Reducing absenteeism
 - Increasing seat time
 - Quick response to student health needs
- SBHC provider is integrated into school community and serves as a trusted resource



Key components of an SBHC



Comprehensive primary care

- Services offered should be comparable to offerings of a community-based primary care practice
- Provide a breadth of preventive and acute care services
 - Well-child checks, vaccine administration, and triaging acute illnesses and injuries
- Established referral pathways



Key components of an SBHC



Continuity of care

- Regular, known schedule
- Consistent providers that can develop trusting relationships
- Ability to handle follow-up appointments



Key components of an SBHC



Partnership

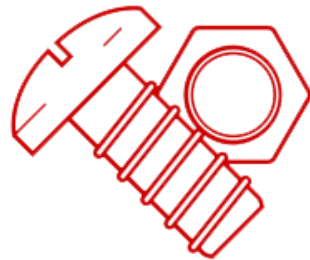
- Healthcare provider sponsor and school district partner
- Purposeful partner workflow integration
- Regular communication pathways
- Aligned incentives



101 SBHC nuts and bolts



Understanding
the SBHC model



**Assessing
community need
and readiness**



Key steps to
setting up an
SBHC



Steps to planning

1



**Establish a
planning team**

2



**Conduct a needs
assessment**

3



**Evaluate the
data and
determine fit**





Establish a planning committee

Purpose

1. Assess community need
2. Develop relationships
3. Design mission, vision & structure

Recommended representation

- School health services team
- School administrators
- Teachers and faculty
- Students and families
- Community members
- Community healthcare providers
- Other?





Planning the planning committee

✓ **Who?**

Who are the stakeholders that need to be involved in the planning committee?

✓ **What?**

What is the purpose of the committee?

✓ **Where?**

Where will the planning team meet? Where is the planning team focusing their assessment (i.e., school building, district, community?)

✓ **When?**

When will meetings be held? What does the timeline look like for planning?

✓ **How?**

How will decisions be made? How will the planning team operate?





Conduct a needs assessment

Historical context and root causes of needs

Quantitative and qualitative data

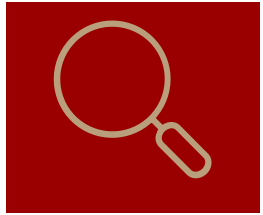
Community engagement and voice

Mapping of community resources



Shareable
report that
summarizes
findings





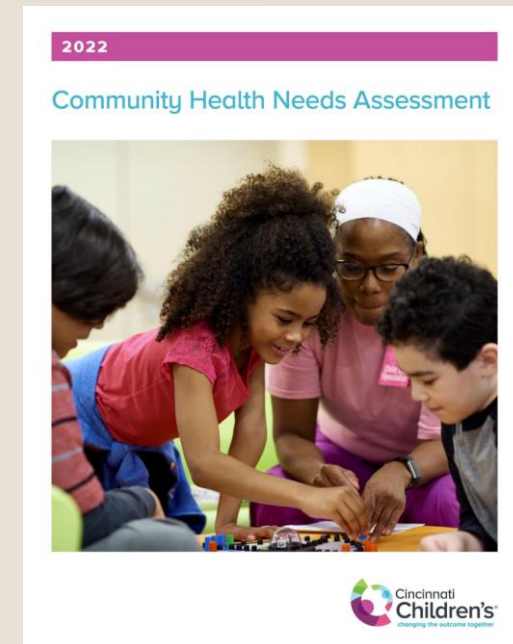
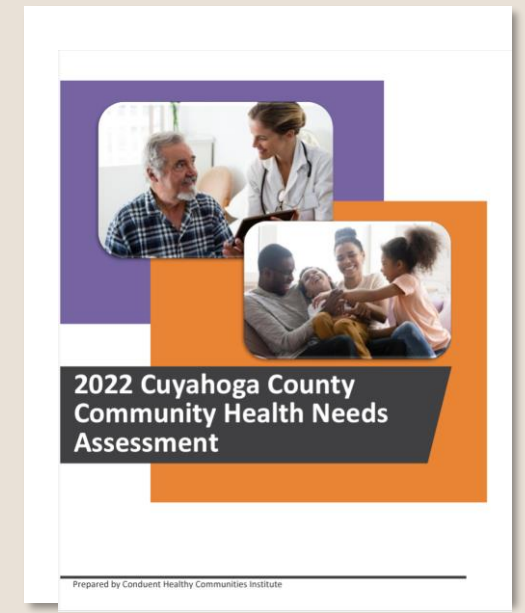
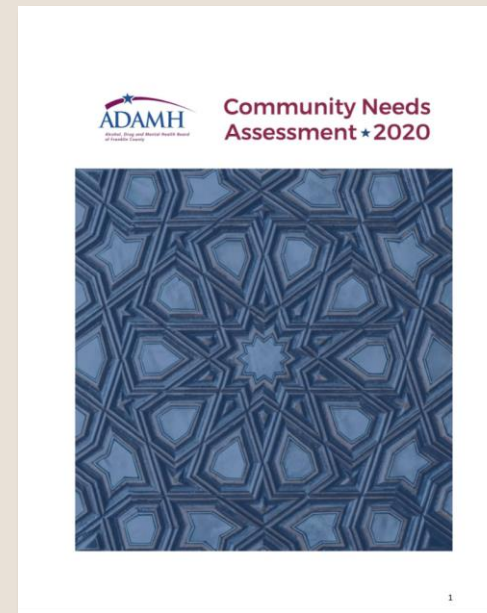
Tools

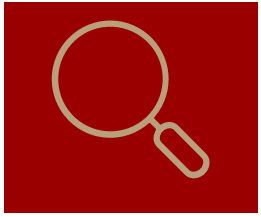


A RECIPE FOR MEANINGFUL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



County Health
Rankings & Roadmaps





Data sources

Zip code level

PLACES: Local Data for Better Health

<https://www.cdc.gov/places/index.html>

School building/district level

Ohio's Healthy Students Profiles

<https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/School-Wellness/Healthy-Students-Profiles>

County/census tract level

Ohio Health Improvement Zones

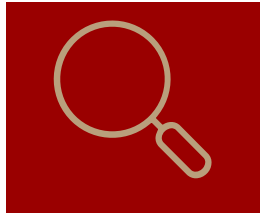
<https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/health-equity/health-improvement-zones>

County level

County Health Rankings & Roadmaps

<https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/explore-health-rankings/ohio/data-and-resources>





Questions to answer

- What are the key health challenges facing students and the community? What are the key education challenges?
- What barriers are faced in accessing health care? What are the drivers of these barriers?
- What school and community assets currently exist to support student health and well-being? Where are there gaps in existing assets and resources?





Evaluate the data and determine fit



PAUSE HERE: The results of a comprehensive needs assessment should inform your next steps.

Objectively assess: Does the data and community input endorse the need for an SBHC?



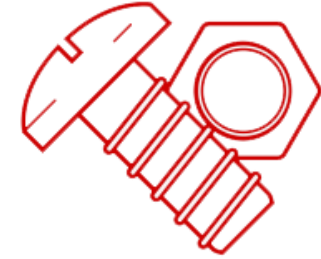
101 SBHC nuts and bolts



Understanding
the SBHC model

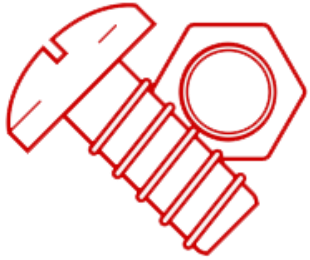


Assessing
community need
and readiness



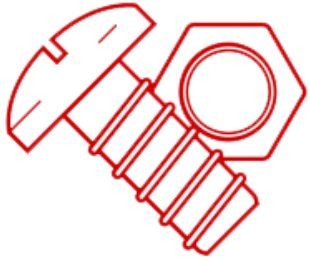
**Key steps to
setting up an
SBHC**





Key steps to setting up an SBHC





Key steps to setting up an SBHC



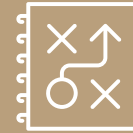
What are the goals of your SBHC?



Mission



Vision



Logic model





Vision



Broad strokes
of the dream

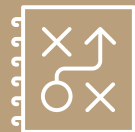


Mission



Outcome oriented





Logic model

**Define
the
problem**

**Why do
you need
an SBHC?**

**Identify the
intervention**

**What is
your SBHC
going to
look like?**

**Identify
the goal**

**What is the
overarching
goal of the
SBHC?**

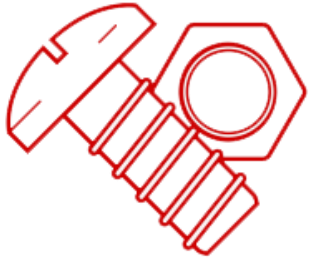
**Outline key
objectives**

**What are
the steps
you will
take to
achieve that
goal?**

**Outline key
outcomes**

- **Short-term**
- **Mid-term**
- **Long-term**





Key steps to setting up an SBHC



Allocate partner responsibilities

- Identify the **right partner**
 - Request for proposals; community feedback and input
- Establish a memorandum of understanding
 - Consider SBHC consent development

Leverage the expertise of legal counsel



Allocate partner responsibilities

School partner lead responsibilities

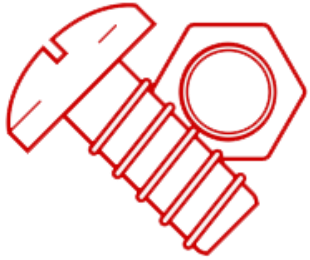
- Secure designated space in the school building
- Provide housekeeping and security services
- Ensure SBHC compliance with FERPA
- Coordinate school health personnel and resources to ensure SBHC integration

Shared responsibilities

- Secure funding for SBHC construction and start-up
- Oversee construction and manage maintenance of space
- Promote SBHC services and consent forms to students and families
- Coordinate student transportation (i.e., SBHC hub and spoke model)
- Develop SBHC quality and utilization indicators
- Develop information sharing mechanisms and pathways
- Design school referral processes to the SBHC staff (i.e., school nurse or school health team referrals)

Healthcare partner lead responsibilities

- Provide input and clinical standards for design and construction of physical space
- Procure clinical equipment and supplies
- Ensure compliance with HIPAA
- Develop student/family consent form for SBHC services
- Employ SBHC staff and manage ongoing operations
- Assess workflow, utilization, and impact and make service and delivery changes



Key steps to setting up an SBHC

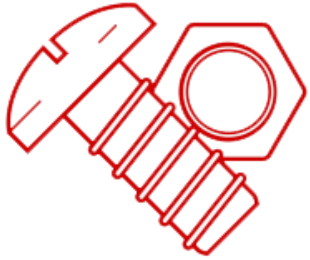




Develop a business plan

- Strategic document that outlines how an SBHC will be structured and funded
- Goal is to provide a road map to SBHC sustainability
- Includes information on:
 - Landscape analysis
 - Services offered
 - Population served
 - SBHC staffing, equipment, and resource needs
 - Funding/financing
 - Marketing/outreach





Key steps to setting up an SBHC

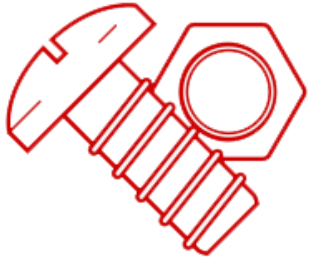


Determine operational needs and strategies

Staffing roles

- Organizational structure
- Policies, procedures, clinical standards
- Clinic schedule and workflow
- Ordering and organizing supplies
- Medications, vaccinations, and pharmacy relationship
- Lab testing and courier service
- SDOH needs and wraparound supports





Key steps to setting up an SBHC



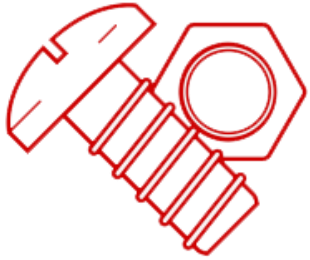


Leverage community partnerships

Your SBHC does not have to be everything to everyone

- Leverage existing school district and community assets and resources
- Form a network of partners who can address key student health and well-being needs outside of the SBHC services offered
- Train your SBHC team to connect families to school resources and community partners





Key steps to setting up an SBHC



Bimonthly SBHC Learning Community



Register for the Ohio Alliance bimonthly learning community virtual meetings.

Registration is limited to community school-based health care providers and education partners



Quarterly partner meetings

2024 Quarterly Meetings:

- Thursday, March 7, 12-1pm
- Thursday, June 6, 12-1pm
- Thursday, September 5, 12-1pm
- Thursday, December 5, 12-1pm



Register for the Ohio Alliance Quarterly partner meetings.

Registration is limited to community school-based health care providers and education partners



Follow us on social media



@OSBHAAlliance



@OSBHAAlliance



company/ohioalliance

www.osbha.com



Connect with the Ohio Alliance

**Sign up for news
and updates**

http://eepurl.com/h_D7HX

