PSBHA News



SUCCESSFUL ADVOCACY MONTH COMPLETED

February 2023 marked PSBHA's 4th advocacy week. Since 2019, PSBHA and its members use the opportunity of School-Based Health Awareness Month to meet with Pennsylvania's elected officials and update them on SBHC happenings. This year, we met with 17 senators, representatives and/or staff to update them on the implementation of the \$2.85 million Health Equity Grant PSBHA received last May. We also used the opportunity to ask our elected officials to support a FY23-24 \$6.04 million budget line item to support current SBHCs, continued work with the Data Hub and seed funding to start 10 new SBHCs across the Commonwealth.

The meetings went great! Our Harrisburg allies enjoyed not only hearing how the Health Equity Grant was a game changer, but that the Data Hub was up and running to provide the accountability we insisted upon with the funding. The first data snapshot, which includes data from September 2022-Febraury 2023, is completed and you can see the results below.

If you would like to become more involved in our advocacy efforts between now and when Governor Shapiro signs the budget at the end of June, please reach out to Julie, <u>julie@psbha.org</u>.



INVITE YOUR ELECTED OFFICIAL TO TOUR YOUR SBHC

During our legislative meetings, we invite the State Representative or Senator to visit their SBHC. In the last couple of months, we have been hosting these visits and it makes a difference. At the end of the last administration, Secretary of Health Dr. Johnson visited PSBHA SBHCs in Erie, Chambersburg and Philadelphia. Majority leader Joanna McClinton visited Education Plus Health and Family Practice & Counseling Network's collaborative SBHC at Vaux High School in March. These visits are important so our legislators can see first hand exactly what a SBHC is and learn more from the staff who work directly with the students. If you need help in scheduling your legislator to your SBHC, please reach out to Julie for assistance.



PSBHA Executive Director Addresses PASNAP Convention

One misconception is that school nurses and school-based health centers are at odds. There is nothing further from the truth. And, in fact, although the majority of public schools have at least one full-time or part-time nurse, that's hardly adequate to care for kids who often have complex and interrelated health problems that can get in the way of learning. School nurses understand this idea better than anyone and welcome SBHCs into their schools and in addition to school administration, there is not stronger partnership for a successful, SBHC than the relationship with the school nurse.

The Pennsylvania Association of Staff Nurses and Allied Professionals (PASNAP), started in 2000, is a union of dedicated nurses and health professionals. They believe their work environment is their patients' care environment and that their patients get the best care when they have a strong voice to advocate for them. PSBHA Director Julie Cousler Emig addressed their May conference to reinforce our collaboration.







DATA SNAPSHOT 2023

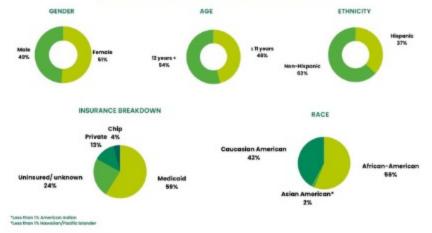
6,905 VISITS WITH HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

- · 16% well-child/adolescent or sports physical
- 6% reproductive health
- 16% behavioral health
- 49% other type visits

2,227 STUDENTS SCREENED FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONCERNS

- 32% identified with behavioral health risk or distress
- 616 referred to SBHC behavioral health provider
- · 86 referred externally

6,905 HEALTH CARE PROVIDER VISITS



As part of the Health Equity Grant, PSBHA wanted to provide a technical solution to collect and report data to support a range of evaluation activities from accountability and compliance to quality improvement and learning for state and local stakeholders. They entered a partnership with Apex to create The Data Hub, which consolidates, streamlines, standardizes and sustain reporting across Pennsylvania's SBHCs.





Become a Member Today

PSBHA's mission is to support SBHCs across the state to grow their reach and impact more students. If you know of a SBHC and do not see it listed on our website, please let us know. Stay connected and show your support by becoming a member and making a donation today.