

CSHC ENewsletter – December 2007

Policy Updates

Health Care Reform and School Health Center Expansion

The fall has been a busy one with Governor Schwarzenegger, California legislators and health care advocates working to create and pass legislation to reform California's health care system. The Assembly is currently scheduled to vote *today* on a health care reform compromise bill developed with the Governor's office. Go to <http://www.californiahealthline.org> to read the latest news on health care reform.

While school health center expansion is not expected to be a part of the health care reform package, we hope that once health care reform is finalized, we will be able to work with Senator Ridley-Thomas to move forward with the Governor's office. SB 564 was held over as a two-year bill due the "cost pressures" it would create and the focus on health care reform. Throughout the fall, CSHC has been in communication with Senator Ridley Thomas' staff, our bill co-sponsors, and staff from the Governor's office to discuss potential strategies for moving forward with school health center expansion.

Mental Health Prevention Funding

The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Guidelines are complete and available for public viewing. Please go to http://www.dmh.cahwnet.gov/DMHDocs/docs/notices07/07_19_Enclosure1.pdf to read the Guidelines and [here](#) to learn more about the MHSA. The Guidelines will provide county mental health departments with instructions on how to plan for and spend PEI funding. County mental health departments need schools and school health centers to achieve their PEI goals, but they will not know how school health centers can help them achieve their objectives unless you are at the table when decisions are made. Visit <http://www.schoolhealthcenters.org/docs/MHSA/PEI%20Advocacy%20Tips.1.pdf> to learn more about how you can be involved in your county's MHSA PEI planning.

Federal Legislation Introduced to Support School Health Centers

Last month, the US House of Representatives introduced HR 4230, the House version of the School-Based Health Clinic Establishment Act (S 600). HR 4230 would authorize a grant program for the operation and development of school health centers. To learn more about this bill, please visit <http://www.thomas.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c110:H.R.4230> and search for HR 4230.

HR 4230 was heard only two weeks after its introduction which was a tribute to the commitment of Congressional leadership and to the hard work of both NASBHC and all the advocates from around the country who traveled to DC last June to meet with their Representatives. The bill was introduced by Representative Darlene Hooley of Oregon and currently has 24 co-sponsors, three of whom are from California: Representative Lois Capps (D-23), Representative Mike Honda (D-15) and Representative Lynn Woolsey (D-6). Urge your Congressional Representative to sign on to HR 4230, or if you reside in any the above three districts, thank your Representative for their support by visting:

http://www.nasbhc.org/c.jsJPKWPFJrH/b.2563759/k.8D27/Action_Center/siteapps/advocacy/ActionItem.aspx?c=jsJPKWPFJrH&b=2563759&aid=9585 All you have to do is enter your zip code and sign your name and an email will be sent to your Representative! To learn more about NASBHC's federal advocacy efforts, please go to:
<http://www.nasbhc.org/site/c.jsJPKWPFJrH/b.2561543/k.C944/advocacy.htm>

CSHC News

CSHC Youth Board: Statewide Youth Representatives Begin Training and Action
CSHC's Youth Board is off to a great start! After a two-day orientation at Grizzly Creek Ranch in Plumas, California, the Youth Board began the year by participating in CSHC's annual conference as workshop facilitators, conference assistants, and gift presenters. The Youth Board's future plans include: assisting with youth participation in the NASBHC convention, developing a presentation on youth engagement, and exploring possibilities for engaging youth in policy and advocacy activities. To learn more about the CSHC Youth Board, go to:

<http://www.schoolhealthcenters.org/docs/Youth%20Board.pdf>

CSHC's 2007 Annual Conference: Presentations available

The California School Health Centers Association hosted its annual conference on October 29th in Los Angeles. A total of 148 school health advocates from across the state came together to network, learn and share information. The day included a panel discussion on how Health Care Reform may affect school health centers and seven break-out sessions that provided attendees with resources for expanding and enhancing their school health centers. The conference committee did a fabulous job planning this successful event, and CSHC would like to thank these volunteers for their work. To view the presentations from the break-out sessions, please visit:

http://www.schoolhealthcenters.org/Annual_Conference_07.asp

News from the Field

Fresno Bee Article: "School Health Centers Fill Gap: Valley On-Campus Clinics Provide Wide Range of Services"

On November 11, 2007 the Fresno Bee ran an article about the Clovis Unified School District health centers at Pinedale, Fancher Creek and Tarpey elementary schools. The story highlights the role of school health centers in helping students access health care and perform better in school. To read the full article, go to:

<http://www.fresnobee.com/263/story/189553.html>

San Jose USD awarded grant for School Nurses & Health Center

On November 6, the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital and the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health announced a \$2.65 million project aimed at improving children's access to health care by providing support for full-time school nurses at four schools in the San Jose Unified School District, as well as a nurse practitioner at the School Health Clinics of Santa Clara County. CSHC would like to congratulate San Jose

USD and the School Health Clinics of Santa Clara County on this wonderful partnership opportunity. To find out more, visit:
<http://sanfrancisco.bizjournals.com/sanfrancisco/stories/2007/11/05/daily9.html?surround=fn>

Conferences & Workshops

2008 National School-Based Health Care Convention: Taking Action Against Health Inequities

Join us at the National Assembly on School-Based Health Care's 2008 Annual Convention, which will be held in Los Angeles from June 25-28. The convention will feature renowned speakers on health inequities and an educational performance about health inequities in our society. You will have the chance to network with your peers, earn continuing education credits, and reconnect with old friends. Visit www.nasbhc.org/convention for more information.

2008 CMHACY Conference: Promoting Well-Being Through Partnerships

This year's California Mental Health Advocates for Children and Youth (CMACHY) conference will be held May 7-9 at Asilomar and will focus on Prevention and Early Intervention, Health, Education, Juvenile Justice, Cultural Competency, Policy and Advocacy and Transitional Age Youth. The conference is currently accepting abstracts in those areas and has a submission deadline of January 1, 2008. We encourage school health centers to submit abstracts and attend the conference to help spread the word about school health center work in those areas. Please go to www.CMHACY.org for more information about this year's CMHACY conference.

Tools & Resources

Report: "It's Elementary: Expanding the Use of School-Based Health Clinics"

In July 2006 Governor Schwarzenegger announced his plans to increase the number of school health centers in California to 500 elementary schools. This new report, commissioned by the California Healthcare Foundation, reviews the past experience of California and other states in starting new school health centers; examines school health center roles, financing and services provided; and provides key lessons for expansion, including the importance of establishing a clearly defined model and the benefits of having a strong school health center association. To read the report, go to:
<http://www.chcf.org/documents/policy/SchoolBasedClinics.pdf>

Policy Analysis: The Future of California's SCHIP Program

The federal State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), created in 1997, has been a basic source of funding for children's health coverage programs in California. With the budget authorization that provides money for SCHIP set to run out, Congress and the President are at odds over legislation to reauthorize the program. The California Health Care Foundation offers an analysis of the policy issues behind the debate and its potential ramifications for California. To find out more, please visit:

<http://www.chcf.org/topics/view.cfm?itemid=133367>

Job Postings

Opening: Nurse Practitioner at San Fernando High School

The Teen Health Center at San Fernando High School is looking for a Nurse Practitioner with family planning and pediatric experience. We service students aged 14 to 21 years of age. Full benefits and flexible schedule are available with this opportunity. Please contact Sandy Gutierrez in Human Resources at 818-898-1388 ext. 41614 or Rocio Cisneros, Clinic Administrator 818-365-7517 ext. 50805.