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FY24 Pitch for the People: Expansion and Sustainability of New Mexico School-Based Health Centers

Public Health Division

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Mission

To ensure health equity, we work with our partners to promote health and well-being, and improve health outcomes for all people in New Mexico.

Goals



We expand equitable access to services for all New Mexicans



We ensure safety in New Mexico healthcare environments



We improve health status for all New Mexicans



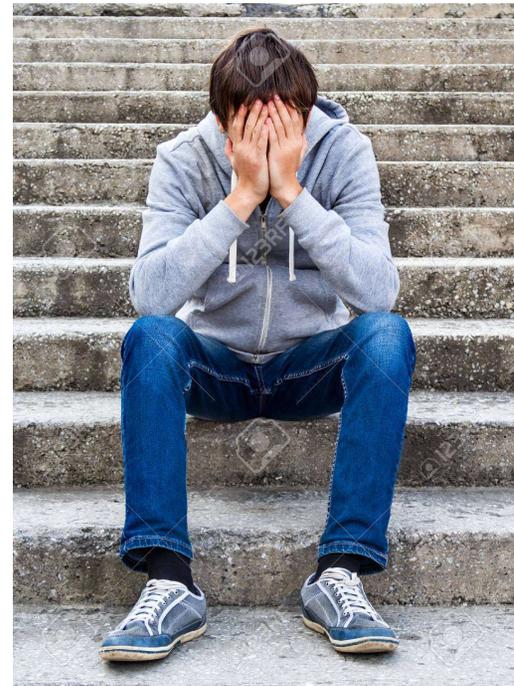
We support each other by promoting an environment of mutual respect, trust, open communication, and needed resources for staff to serve New Mexicans and to grow and reach their professional goals

“The future wellbeing of our country depends on how we support and invest in the next generation.” – Vivek Murthy, M.D., M.B.A., U.S. Surgeon General



Meet Jose*

- Jose was referred to the SBHC by a teacher because he had a sore throat and a cough
- Comprehensive risk screening done by the SBHC identified Jose had also been kicked out of his house, had anxiety, and suicidal ideation



* Based on a real NMDOH client, whose name and photo are changed.

Expansion and Sustainability Request

The NM DOH SBHC program is seeking an additional \$7.3M for a total \$10M in state general funds to:

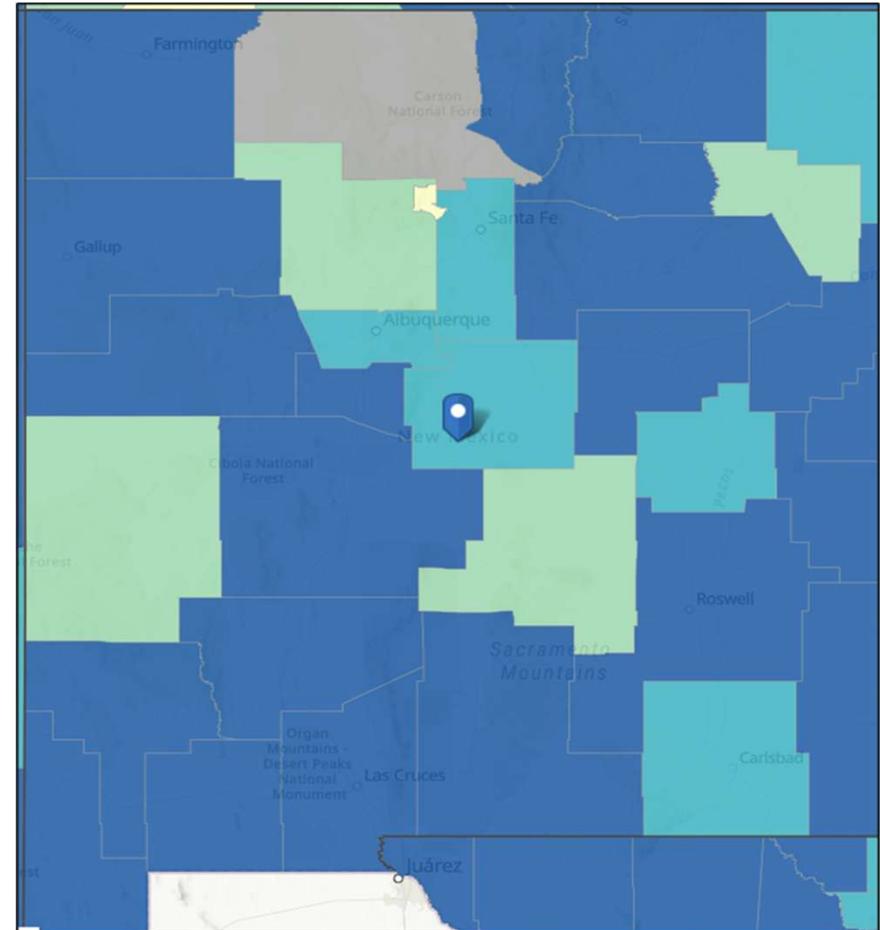
1. Expand hours and services in existing SBHCs
2. Fund two expansion projects to increase SBHC access for approximately 22,000 students
 - 13 new locations working on SBHC planning with NMASBHC
 - Initiative with Governor's office to deliver integrated services (primary care and behavioral health) via telehealth and mobile units to approximately 59 additional rural schools
3. Adequate staff for SBHC Program

Social Vulnerability

The degree to which a community exhibits certain social conditions, including high poverty, low percentage of vehicle access, or crowded households, may affect that community's ability to prevent human suffering and financial loss in the event of disaster.

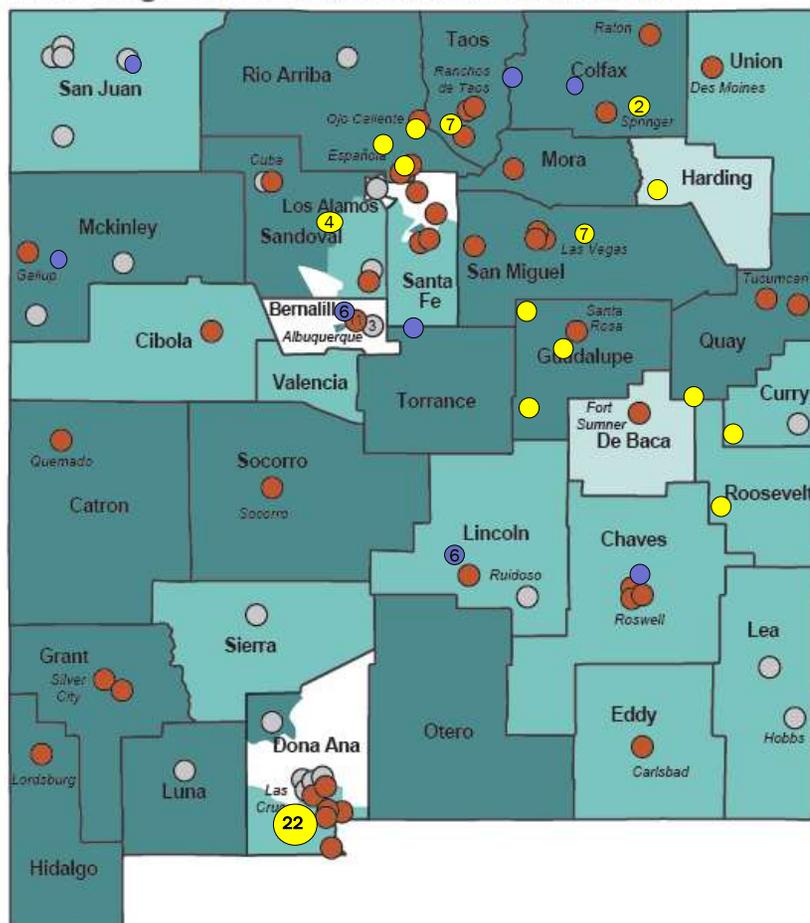
[\(SVI2018Documentation 01192022 1.pdf \(cdc.gov\)\)](#)

- High vulnerability
- Moderate to high vulnerability
- Moderate vulnerability
- Low Vulnerability



New Mexico Counties with School-Based Health Centers or Expansion Proposals

Providing Care in Underserved Communities ¹



Primary Care Provider Shortage



¹ 32 out of 33 counties are also designated Mental Health Professional Shortage Areas.

- Does not meet the criteria for HPSA designation
- OSAH-funded SBHCs
- non-OSAH-funded SBHCs
- SBHC planning grant
- Telehealth mobile expansion

Partnership

OSAH

- Funding
- Contract with sponsoring health organizations
- Technical assistance
- Evaluation

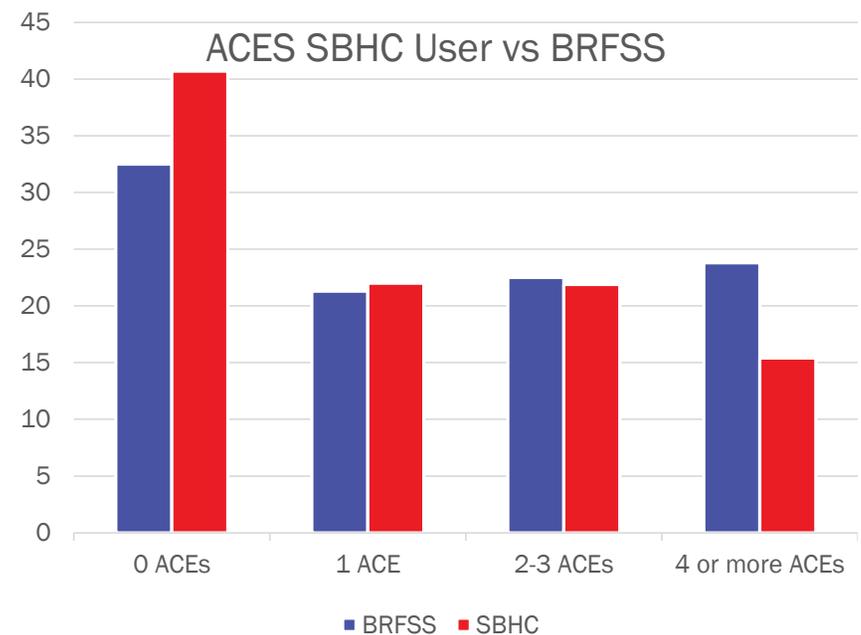
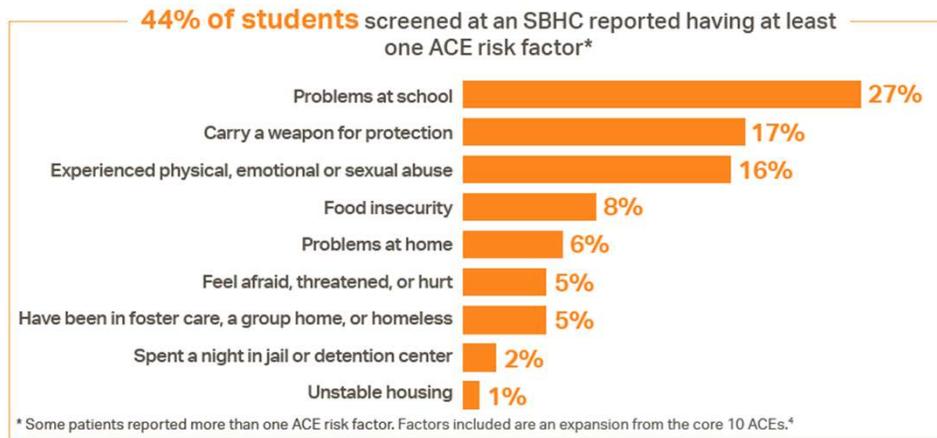
Sponsoring
Health
Organizations

- Partner with local schools and districts
- Provide primary care and behavioral health services
- Bill Medicaid for services and commercial insurances (if applicable)
- Submit data set to OSAH

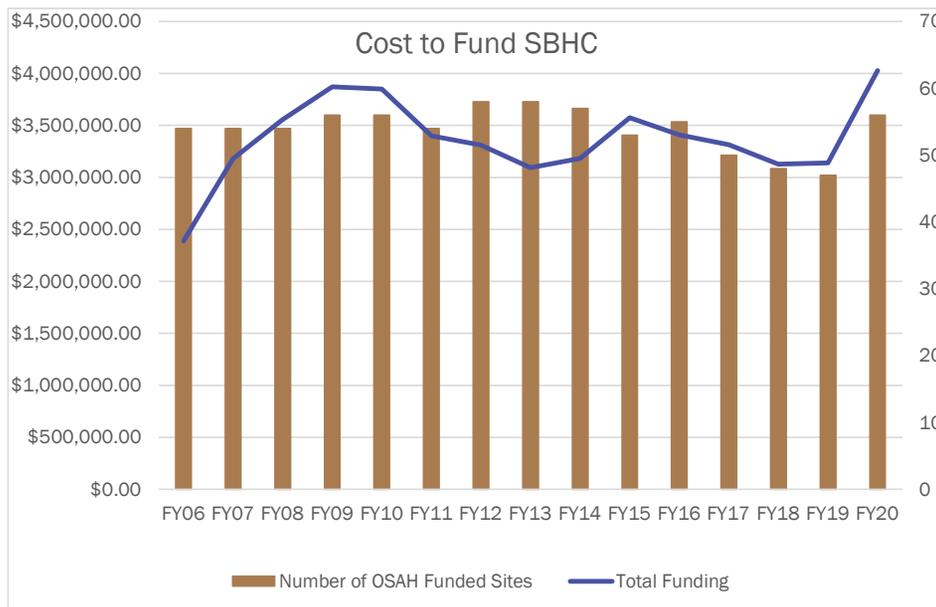
Schools and
Districts

- Provide clinic space within schools or on campus
- Make referrals to SBHC

Why Support SBHC Expansion?



Impact of Underfunding



- Number of OSAH funded SBHC is roughly unchanged in 15 years
- Budget cuts result in closing or reduction of SBHC services
- From 2006 to present, employees with FTE dedicated to SBHC efforts reduced from 8 to 1.2

Improvements for New Mexicans and NMDOH

- Increase **access to both primary care *and behavioral health*** care, including suicide prevention and SUD screening
- Improve **continuity of care** through sponsorships with local health care organizations
- Increased **seat time** at school for students and at work for parents
- **Performance measures:**
 - *Comprehensive risk screening*
 - *Depression screening*
 - *Well-child check*
 - *BMI assessment and counseling*
 - *Chlamydia screening (age appropriate)*
 - *Substance use screening and counseling*
 - *Unintended pregnancy prevention*

Stakeholder Engagement – What Users and Providers Think

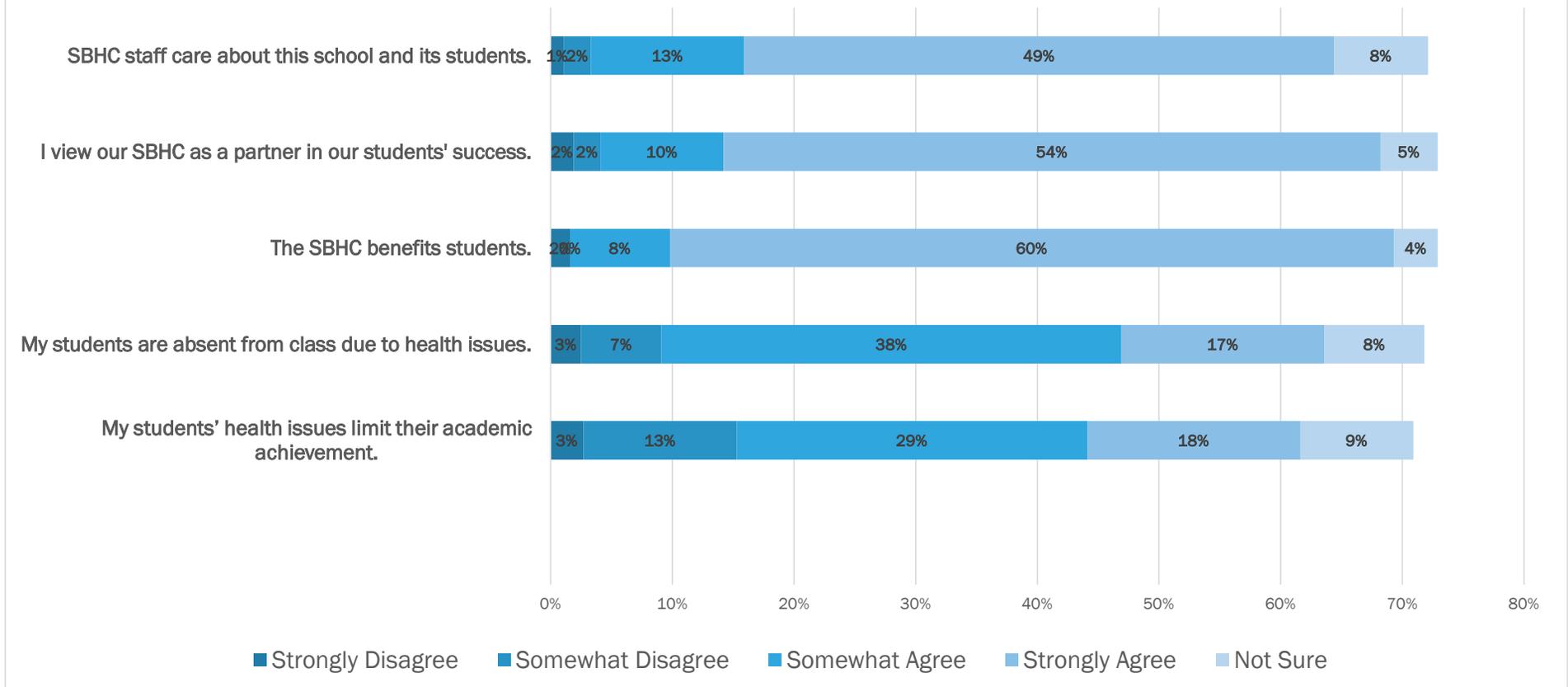
Student Users

- **11% don't go anywhere else** for care
- **91% are likely to follow the advice** of their SBHC provider
- **84% have made changes in health risk behaviors** because of guidance from the SBHC provider
- **87% say SBHC providers explain things in a way they understand**

Sponsoring Organizations

- **SBHC planning grants yielded 18 applications** from schools and medical organizations to open new SBHC– **15 funded**
- **6 additional schools inquired** that did not submit a full application
- **4 current SBHC FQHC sponsors** are currently planning large **telehealth or mobile SBHC expansions to 59 rural schools**

Stakeholder Engagement - What Schools Think



SBHC are a Good Investment

- Common factors associated with chronic school absenteeism which can be impacted by SBHC include (Allen, et al, 2018):
 - Chronic illness
 - Bullying
 - Mental health conditions
 - Substance use
 - Pregnancy/parenthood
- ROI of NM SBHC
 - **\$1 invested**  **\$6 return**
- **USPTF** (US Prevention Task Force) found SBHC:
 - Economic benefit outweighs costs and saves Medicaid dollars
 - Improved health related outcomes and academic achievement
 - Improved health equity
- [Task Force Recommends School-Based Health Centers to Promote Health Equity | The Guide to Community Preventive Services \(The Community Guide\)](#)

Leveraging Federal Dollars and Interagency Collaboration

- Contract with Human Services Department increases funding for SBHC by adding **\$0.30 in Medicaid administrative claim** for every **\$1 of General Fund** invested in SBHC
- Current partnerships that support the access to SBHC for NM children and adolescents
 - FQHC
 - Hospital systems
 - NM Alliance for SBHC
 - Apex Evaluation
 - MCOs
 - HSD
 - Behavioral Health Collaborative
 - PED
 - NMPCA

SBHC COVID Success

During school year 2021-22 El Centro Family Health continued a telehealth hub and spoke model in addition to regular school-based clinic hours to ensure that every student in every school in San Miguel County had access to primary care and behavioral health services. This resulted in **264%** (so far) productivity compared to pre-pandemic years.

Jose Tomorrow

- Medical provider made a warm-hand-off to the behavioral health(BH) provider
- The BH provider and Jose made a safety plan and set up regular visits
- Partnering with the school they helped find Jose a place to stay and get him some extra clothes and toiletries
- By graduation, Jose no longer had suicidal ideation, was managing his anxiety and was starting a job!



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Questions?

Thank you!



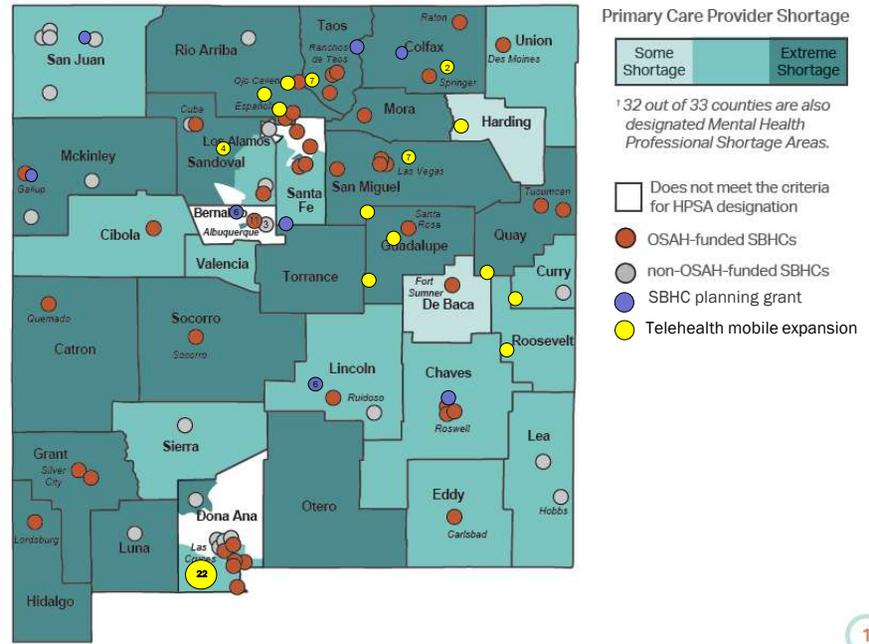
Expansion and Sustainability of New Mexico School-Based Health Centers

Overview

- Sustain two current expansion projects
 - 13 new locations working on SBHC planning with NMASBHC
 - Initiative with Governor’s office for expansion of telehealth and mobile integrated services to 49 additional schools
- Propose statute to ensure long-term sustainability and consistency of SBHC services
- Adequately staff the SBHC Program

General Fund and Federal Fund (FYs 23-24, Difference)			
	FY 2023	FY 2024	Difference
General Fund	\$2.7 M	\$ 10 M	\$7.3M
Federal Fund	\$810,000	\$3.3 M	\$2.49M
Total	\$3.51 M	\$13.3 M	\$9.79M

Providing Care in Underserved Communities ¹



Return on Investment

- \$6 ROI for every \$1 spent
- Increased health equity
- Improved health and educational outcomes

Benefits for New Mexicans

Funds will improve the lives of New Mexicans by increasing healthcare access and improving health equity, and health and educational outcomes.