

Top 10 Things to Know About Coordinated School Health

1. True school reform must encompass coordinated school health and requires a partnership among health, education and social service providers.
2. Coordinated School Health partnership includes:
 - Health Services
 - Social and Emotional Well-Being
 - Healthy and Safe Environment
 - Family, School, and Community Partnership
 - Staff Wellness
 - Health Education and Life Skills
 - Physical Education and Activity
 - Nutrition
3. Community supported school-based and school-linked health centers are a critical part of our health care system in the state of New Mexico, providing access to affordable, quality health care in schools regardless of students' ability to pay for that treatment.
4. Coordinated school health involves having family members, students, educators, advocates, providers, and SBHC staffs all working together, to continually improve the quality and type of care available to children in our schools.
5. Coordinated school health honors the principles of “cultural competency”, meaning accepting differences and operating from a genuine position of appreciating individual cultural identity and that of others, and demonstrates that commitment in service delivery, programs, and interactions with children, parents and communities.
6. Coordinated school health helps to ensure that students receive medical attention, identifying problems like asthma and diabetes now; minimizing the chance health issues will become more serious and expensive to manage later.
 - Young people ages 10 to 19 have the lowest use of health care services of ANY group.
7. Coordinated school health programs empower students with the knowledge, skill, and judgment to help them make healthy choices in life.
 - Risky behaviors are the leading threat to the health of all school-aged children and youth.
8. Coordinated school health addresses students emotional and mental health needs.
 - The latest NM Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey cites almost 30% of high school students reporting persistent feelings of sadness and hopelessness.
 - 12.5 percent of NM high school students reported at least one suicide attempt in the last 12 months - 1.5 times the national rate.
9. Coordinated school health addresses student's critical need for dental care.
 - The single most common chronic childhood disease in New Mexico is tooth decay. Nationally, an estimated 51 million school hours are missed each year due to dental-related illness.
10. Most important, coordinated school health contributes to keeping students healthy and in class so they can learn what they need to know to succeed in life.