



2023–2024

SBHC

Community

Advisory

Board Report

Table of Contents

03	—	Executive Summary
04	—	Background
05	—	CAB Members
06	—	CAB Values
07	—	Key Recommendations
09	—	Accomplishments
10	—	DOH Actions
11	—	Acknowledgements

Executive Summary

The School-Based Health Center (SBHC) Community Advisory Board (CAB) was created in April 2023 to give input on the Washington State Department of Health's (DOH) SBHC Grant Program. The CAB has 11 members from different parts of the state and diverse professional backgrounds and age groups. They were selected by DOH staff and partners based on their experiences and passion for youth health and well-being.

The CAB meets monthly to discuss and advise on the SBHC Grant Program activities. The meetings are facilitated by Cardea Services. From April 2023 and April 2024, the CAB accomplished:

- Established group norms and values
- Learned about school-based health models
- Suggested ways to improve engagement efforts
- Gave feedback on draft SBHC grant program requirements

This report summarizes the CAB's achievements and recommendations from its first year. It also outlines DOH's response to the feedback, underscoring the importance of this group's work.

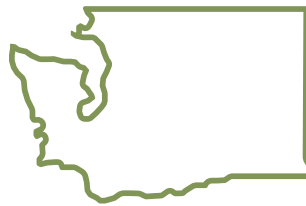
Background

SBHCs: Washington defines SBHCs as “a collaboration between the community, the school, and a sponsoring [healthcare] agency that operates the school-based health center, which is a student-focused health center located in or adjacent to a school that provides integrated medical, behavioral health, and other health care services such as dental care.”

Washington’s first SBHC program began in Seattle in 1989. Today, there are over 70 SBHCs by more than 25 health care sponsors across the state.

SBHC Grant Program: In 2021, the Washington State Legislature passed a law directing DOH to create an SBHC Grant Program. The program awards grants to plan for, start, operate, or improve an SBHC. DOH currently funds 17 SBHC sites and planning projects.

CAB gives input on the SBHC Grant Program goals and activities. While all SBHCs may learn from this report, CAB’s recommendations are specific to the DOH SBHC Grant Program and DOH’s work with funded SBHCs.



2023-2024 CAB Members

NAME	COUNTY
Alison	Stevens County
Ashley	Snohomish County
Don	Cowlitz County
Dulce	Douglas County
Kai	King County
Lisa	Asotin County
Maria	Yakima County
Santoshi	King County
Sarah	Grays Harbor County
Tiyanna	Snohomish County
Trinese	King County

CAB Values



The CAB selected 8 core values to guide their work. Unless otherwise noted, the definitions below are adapted from the Merriam-Webster Dictionary.

01. Altruism

unselfish devotion to the welfare of others

02. Compassion

desire to relieve the distress of others

03. Equity

absence of unfair differences among groups of people¹

04. Helping

assisting or supporting others

05. Humor

ability to be funny or amused

06. Justice

fix systems for long-term, sustainable, and equitable access²

07. Respect

high or special regard for someone or something

08. Service

act or contribution to the welfare of others

1. [Health Equity](#), World Health Organization, accessed April 2024.

2. [Equity vs. Equality: What's the Difference?](#), George Washington University, November 5, 2020.

Key Recommendations

Several key recommendations emerged as themes through CAB's meetings. These are listed below.



Support SBHC accessibility

The CAB recommends the SBHC Grant Program prioritize making SBHC services easier to access. This includes increasing:

- Physical accessibility
 - Convenient location on campus
 - SBHC hours that work for students
 - Meeting or exceeding requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act
 - Transportation support, options for telehealth, or both
- Financial accessibility
 - Young people can receive health services without worrying about the financial cost
- Cultural accessibility
 - Culturally appropriate health services and resources
 - Health information for young people and their families who speak a language other than English in their preferred language
 - SBHC as a safe and inclusive space

Key Recommendations (Continued)



Promote well-being and access to holistic health care

SBHCs should support young people's overall well-being, including food security and social services. They should provide whole health care along with medical and behavioral health.

“Health isn’t just physical and mental health.” – CAB member



“Nothing for us without us.”

SBHC Grant Program and funded SBHCs should involve young people in program development and decision-making. One example is to require funded SBHC grantees to do a needs assessment and get feedback from young people. SBHCs can evaluate if they are meeting the young people's needs.



Make evidence-informed decisions

SBHCs are an evidence-based model. The SBHC Grant Program and CAB should look for and consider SBHC-related data or research as part of the decision-making process. Data includes feedback from SBHCs and DOH SBHC grantees.

Key Recommendations (Continued)



Explore opportunities for growth and expansion

To continue to expand the SBHC model statewide, the DOH SBHC grant program will need to explore opportunities and considerations for unique community needs. Possible opportunities include telehealth services, mobile clinics, multi-district health services, or adapted requirements and/or funding for rural areas.

Accomplishments

Together, the CAB accomplished the following over a year of meetings:

- Establish norms and values to guide its work
- Understand the current SBHC landscape
- Explore school-based health models
- Suggest improvements for the program engagement and outreach
- Shape the vision, goals, and objectives of the DOH SBHC program charter
- Revise DOH's draft SBHC grant program requirements
- Create criteria and a process for selecting new CAB members

DOH Actions

Ways the SBHC Grant Program is implementing the CAB's recommendations:



01. Updated program documents

We updated the 2023-24 SBHC engagement plan and consulted with the agency's Youth Advisory Council. DOH will also update the SBHC program charter and grant requirements.



02. Required minimum SBHC services

We are making it easier for people to get SBHC services by setting a minimum standard for the services and hours at DOH-funded SBHCs. The agency will also continue to support grantees in providing youth-centered and culturally appropriate services.



03. Committed to continued growth

Rural SBHCs or those serving small schools may need more financial and other support to meet minimum service levels. DOH will work with CAB and partners to find options for their unique community needs.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to each SBHC Community Advisory Board member for sharing their time, experience, and ideas! We are grateful to have members who are dedicated to improving the health of young people in our state.

We also want to thank our partners at Cardea Services for facilitating and supporting the CAB, and the Washington School-Based Health Alliance for sharing their expertise on SBHCs.



DOH 141-144 May 2024

To request this document in another format, call 1-800-525-0127. Deaf or hard of hearing customers, please call 711 (Washington Relay) or email doh.information@doh.wa.gov.