

SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS (SBHCs) TIMELINE

AUGUST 2023



1970's/1980's - School-based Health Centers (SBHCs) began forming in small rural communities and inner cities to address health care access concerns. Only a very small % of schools had them.



June 2022 - Following the Uvalde school shooting, Congress passed the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act making 50+ references to school-based health. Only 1 reference to parents/parental consent and that reference was not related to SBHCs.



November 2022 - Health and Human Services (HHS) awards \$25 Million to states to begin expanding access to SBHCs for purposes of primary care (a child's medical home), mental health, oral health, and other specialized care such as an outlet for reproductive services.



January 2023 - 2 states (MD and NV) introduced bills to establish funding, insurance coverage, and compliance for SBHCs within the state. Both states fought the bills in collaboration with Stand for Health Freedom. The bill in Maryland failed to pass, but unfortunately the bill in Nevada passed in the 2023 legislative session.



June 2023 - The federal Department Of Education (DOE) proposed a new rule to bypass parental consent for schools to bill Medicaid for services provided in the school. The DOE is now wading through thousands of comments, and has the option of making the rule final, or taking it off the table.



June 2023 - The government launched the School-based Services (SBS) Technical Assistance Center (TAC) to assist with efforts to deliver Medicaid services to students. This wraparound support to SBHCs evidences the government's long-term commitment to SBHCs as the medical home for our children.