



# NEW YORK SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH ALLIANCE



## Dear Alliance Members and Friends,

**G**reetings to all of you in 2018! It is with great excitement that I share this summary of 2017, as so much happened in the Alliance and field of school-based health.

After successfully garnering support from the NYS government, we are grateful for another two and a half years of a Medicaid Managed Care carve-out. This will allow us more time to work with the insurance companies on issues the of credentialing, care coordination and effective data sharing. Sadly, 2017's change to the non-Medicaid funding methodology resulted in some devastating effects in NYC and Buffalo with regard to grant awards.

We started 2017 off with back-to-back webinars, one which focused on IPRO that had great participation. Feedback has been positive, and we are planning what we will offer in the upcoming year.

We have increased our social media presence by having Twitter Storms, sharing numerous media articles about threatened and realized SBHC closures and the new award methodology impact, and we held a well-received and covered press conference last fall to highlight our issues. We successfully participated in #GivingTuesday and launched a brand-new website. If you liked our prior one, you will love our new one.

The Alliance hosted a successful 2nd annual conference this past October. John Schlitt, President of the national School-Based Health Alliance, was our Keynote speaker and provided us with amazing statistics at the State and Federal level on the truly important and impactful work we do. We were able to offer nursing CEUs and hope to add additional categories in 2018. Watch for upcoming communication on the 3rd annual conference details later this year as we expand our conference offerings and potentially move this event around the state. We'd love to have you attend and learn more about your SBHCs at our attendee-favorite networking session which kicks off the event.

2017's Advocacy Day was well-attended and offered new activities for the many students who participated in it. From coloring banners to student speak-outs, the day began with shared activities, meeting prep and legislative speakers and ended with 75+ meetings with legislators. We encourage coordination from your sites to send support via letters, emails or students to help support our initiatives every year. We've been able to help keep SBHC funding at its current level from our advocacy efforts. We need all our partnering agencies to assist with getting our voices heard. We realize that there are many funding related issues going on out there (NYS and Federal funding cliff) and SBHC funding is so closely tied various groups. Please consider joining us at Advocacy Day or sending along letters of support.

Please continue to read through the rest of our 2017 annual report to learn more about our Foundation's new grant, statistical changes in the field, notable additions to our historical timeline and our great pride in announcing that our PC-SBHC pilot has resulted in the develop of the nation's first ever School-Based Medical Home (SBMH) standards through NCQA.

Thank you for your continuing support. We continue to look for your support in other ways: if you have time and are interested in joining a committee, please reach out. We'd love to see some new faces.

Lastly, I'd like to leave you with a quote from Walt Disney, "our greatest natural resource is the minds of our children." Let's help to keep those minds and bodies as strong and healthy as we can to help them grow into adulthood and start their own families.

With warm regards,

**Amy Pease, RN, MA**  
**Chair-Elect, New York School-Based Health Alliance**



# A History of School-Based Health in New York

**F**orty years ago, an audacious attempt was begun to expand on the traditional role of the school nurse. A new model, the school-based health center, would bring clinical pediatric services into the school, especially when students in the school lacked ready access to health care in the community. Children would get their check-ups and shots, assessment and treatment of minor illnesses, and follow-up care for chronic conditions, all in the same place where they spent their days. Their care would likely be provided by a nurse with a new professional role which was being created at about the same time: the pediatric nurse practitioner, practicing under the supervision of a pediatrician.

In the early years, development of these centers was scattered and sporadic, but as an idea whose time had come, they gradually gained recognition and support from forward looking policy makers and funders, most notably the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation which in 1988 provided grants for centers in 24 communities throughout the United States. However, their ascent was not without controversy and problems. Their attention to reproductive health care for adolescents as well as the perception that SBHCs were in competition with local primary care practitioners were issues that aroused local opposition in some quarters. Most serious was the need for adequate and stable funding.

This need was partially met by 1999 when most states were allowing the centers to bill Medicaid for services, but the amounts generated were insufficient to fully cover the costs of operations, and the quest for reliable and sufficient support has been ongoing. It remains to this day. In spite of these problems and controversy, progress was steady: the model broadened and the numbers grew. The array of services at many centers now included mental health and oral health along with prevention and health promotion. By 1995, with almost



1000 centers in operation, a critical mass had been reached that generated the creation of a national organization that became known as the National Assembly on School-Based Health Care. Now called the School-Based Health Alliance, its purpose is to “advocate for national policies, programs, and funding to expand and strengthen SBHCs, while also supporting the movement with training and technical assistance”. It currently represents over 2,400 centers.

**Today in New York State, some 255 SBHCs are represented by the New York School-Based Health Alliance whose statewide mission reflects that of the National organization.**

The centers continue to be predominantly urban (78%), though New York has seen an uptick in rural centers in the last year (18%) and the addition of suburban locales (4%), a reflection of national health trends.



Among them they serve children at every grade level. Approximately 40% are sponsored by hospitals or medical centers, and 60% are currently sponsored by DTCs and community health centers, a 10% jump since 2016. State government and sponsor support combine as their main source of funding, along with project-specific, federal and smaller amounts of local and private support.





# Mission & Timeline

**The Alliance's mission is to create access to comprehensive, high-quality primary care, including medical, mental, oral, and community health services, for all children and youth statewide through school-based health centers by: advocating for supporting policies; promoting high-quality service delivery; increasing understanding of the school-based model; and promoting growth and expansion of school-based health centers.**

## 2016

The New York School-Based Health Foundation, a 501(c)(3) research and education 'sister' organization, is successfully established.

The Alliance is awarded a \$39,000 legislative grant through Richard N. Gottfried, Chair, NYS Assembly Committee on Health.

## 2014

Name changed to NY School-Based Health Alliance to co-brand with the national School-Based Health Coalition.

## 2009

New York State Coalition for School-Based Health Centers incorporated as a 501(c)(3).

## 2007

The Coalition name was changed to the New York State Coalition for School-Based Health Centers.

## 2003

The Coalition secured a budget amendment to allow use of TANF funds for "non-medical counseling and health education".

## 1998-99

Coalition receives first Legislative grant from Richard Gottfried.

First Advocacy Day with close to 100 SBHC providers, parents, school staff and students.

## 1992

The New York State Coalition for School-Based Primary Care was established at the New York Academy of Medicine.

## 2017

The Alliance successfully extends Medicaid Managed Care carve out for SBHCs for an additional 2.5 years until January 2021.

The New York School-Based Health Foundation is awarded a \$20,000 grant, its first, from the New York Community Trust.

The Alliance, along with partners Montefiore School Health Program and the Primary Care Development Corporation, successfully develops the nation's first School-Based Medical Home (SBMH) standards with recognition from NCQA.

The Alliance is awarded a \$59,000 legislative grant from Assemblyman Richard N. Gottfried, Chair of the NYS Assembly Committee on Health.

## 2015

The Alliance defeats proposed measures to cut state funding and consolidate programs in the 2015-2016 NYS budget and is awarded a \$39,000 legislative grant.

The Alliance successfully adds a 501(c)(6) organization to its structure and begins work to develop a research foundation.

## 2010

Kellogg Foundation School-Based Health Care Policy Program started in 2004, reached completion. nystatesbhc.org launched.

## 2008

The Governor included Medicaid reimbursement for SW services in his proposed budget. The legislature enacted this into law.

## 2004

The Medicaid Carve-Out was made permanent.

Advocacy Day: Attended by 700, 2/3 students.

First organized student Speakout. First videotaping of the day.

## 2000

First Advocacy Day Awards presented to Richard Gottfried, Arthur Eve, James Seward and Velmanette Montgomery.

## 1994

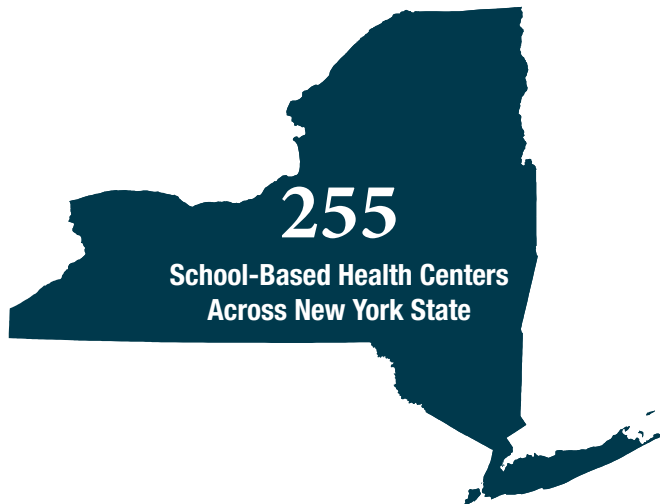
Principles and Guidelines for School-Based Health Centers in New York State released.

## 1978

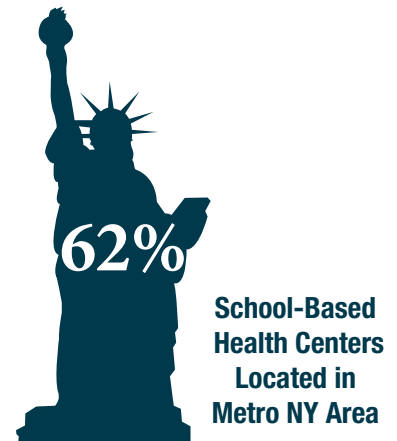
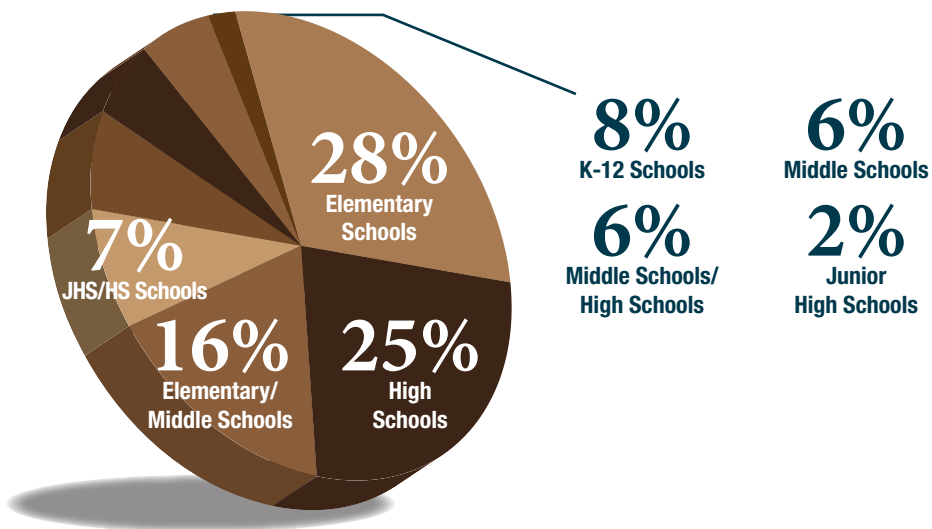
First SBHC opens in NY State.



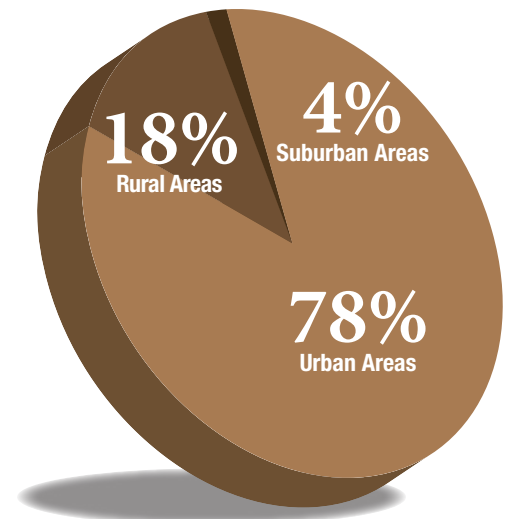
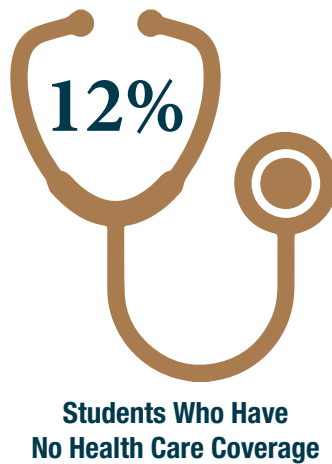
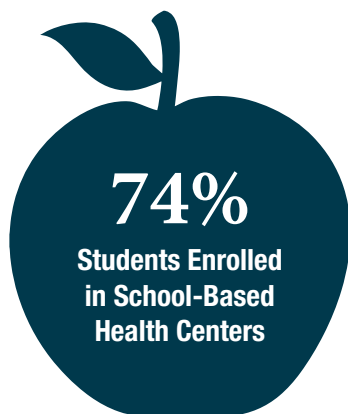
# SBHCs by the Numbers



## School-Based Health Center Grade Configuration



## School-Based Health Center Area Distribution





# Programs & Events Committee Develops Successful 2nd Conference

The Alliance's Programs & Events committee followed the success of our first in-person conference in 2016 with an expanded event in 2017, held in Saratoga Springs. Attendance grew in both size and diversity as we welcomed new and returning attendees and sponsors for year two of this now annual program. The conference was kicked off with a widely-attended evening networking reception, followed the next morning by a stirring opening keynote presentation by John Schlitt, president of the national School-Based Health Alliance. The event offered additional sessions covering HPV; ACEs and domestic violence; innovations in mental health; partnering with schools and community stakeholders; a presentation on IPRO by the NYS Department of Health; and the new, national school-based medical home standards (SBMH). These sessions carried nursing CEUs through the American Public Health Association, a first for the Alliance. The luncheon was comprised of a new board member



vote, a recognition award presented to Alliance Past Chair, Margee Rogers, DNP, RN, and lots of conversation over an autumn-inspired meal. Attendee ratings were overwhelmingly positive. Committee members have already begun to plan 2018, seeking to expand session offerings further and move the event around the state.



## 2017 Board of Directors

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**CHAIR**

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## NYSBHA Partnerships

NYSBHA recognizes the value in partnering with and supporting peer organizations and coalitions who strive to elevate children and families in New York and beyond. Here are just some of those organizations with whom we have had the pleasure to collaborate:







NEW YORK  
SCHOOL-BASED  
HEALTH FOUNDATION

# 2017: A Productive Year for the New York School-Based Health Foundation

**H**aving started up in the spring of 2016, the New York State School-Based Health Foundation enjoyed its first full year of operation in 2017. The Foundation was created as a 501(c)3 to promote the growth of and access to New York's school-based health centers by funding education and research endeavors. The Foundation works integrally with the New York State School Based Health Alliance to achieve these goals. The Foundation has focused its initial attention on three areas: start-up of operations; groundwork for creation of a Center of Excellence; and building the data capacity of the sector.

In September, 2017, the Foundation received its first grant funding--\$20,000 from the New York Community Trust—for three initiatives: (1) branding and marketing (creating visibility and support for the Foundation); (2) assessment of needs among New York's school-based health centers, and (3) establishment of a peer audit program designed to share expertise among SBHCs, with the initial focus on meeting regulatory requirements such as those of the State, IPRO and NCQA. The Foundation is establishing relationships and visibility among funders and is seeking support to build an on-line training program for SBHCs seeking NQCA patient-centered medical home recognition.

The Foundation welcomes ideas and suggestions with regard to both program needs and funding sources. For input, please contact Sarah Murphy, Manager ([nysbhfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:nysbhfoundation@gmail.com)) or Ronda Kotelchuck, Board Chair ([rondakotelchuck@gmail.com](mailto:rondakotelchuck@gmail.com)).

## Mission

The Foundation's mission is to fund **education**, and **research** endeavors to increase understanding of the school-based model; **promote growth and expansion** of school-based health centers; and **improve access** to comprehensive, high-quality primary care, including medical, mental, oral, and community health services, for all children and youth statewide through school-based health centers by promoting high-quality service delivery in partnership with the New York School Based Health Alliance.

## Technical Assistance Committee Update

**2017** was the fourth year of the Alliance's Technical Assistance Committee working to increase communication and collaboration in the field of school-based health in New York State. We spent the year revisiting and refining our initial objectives, laying the groundwork for bigger projects to come, and maintaining our successful initiatives.

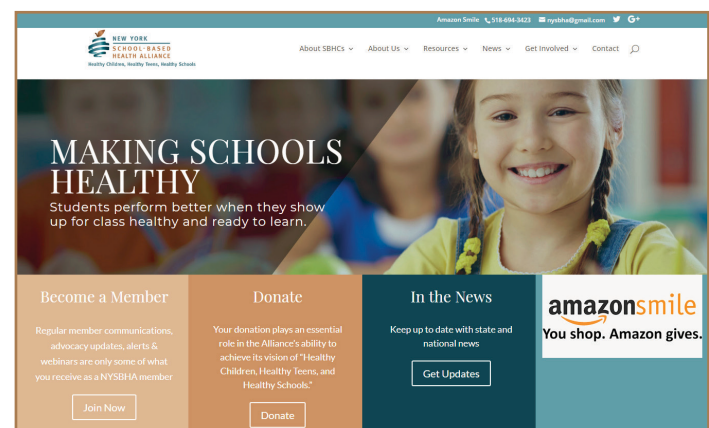
Our updated and re-designed NYSBHA website launched in October 2017, coinciding with the 2nd Annual Conference. This new site supports all of NYSBHA's initiatives, and is intended to be a gathering place for resources and information about SBHCs in New York State for sponsoring organizations, providers, partners, schools, parents, students and anyone interested in learning more. Visit [www.nysbha.org](http://www.nysbha.org).

Sharing of knowledge is a big part of the TA Committee's work and in 2017 we upgraded our software for hosting webinars as the success and reach of our webinar series continued to grow. Our most successful webinar brought together nearly 100 participants and showcased three sponsoring agencies who had successfully navigated their IPRO reviews. The webinar participants learned from our member presenters and each other, and had the chance to ask questions, share strategies and brainstorm.

Webinars hosted by the NYSBHA explore topics relevant to our membership and are typically collaborations with partner organizations. Have ideas for webinar topics? Let us know!

Alliance E-News is always changing and developing – if you haven't already, sign up for our once per month e-newsletter, containing relevant announcements, opportunities, upcoming webinars or events, SBHC related projects and highlights of member accomplishments.

The Technical Assistance Committee isn't just for NYSBHA board members – we are always looking for more members of any professional background to join our Committee! To learn more, reach out to us at [nysbha@gmail.com](mailto:nysbha@gmail.com).





# Membership & Resource Development Committee Report

**2017** proved to be another successful year for membership in the Alliance. We saw our first expansion into additional member categories with several new Education Partners joining the membership. We will look to add to the size and diversity of our membership through a targeted member campaign in spring of 2018. Additional members enrich the organization and provide 'strength in numbers' needed for our ongoing advocacy efforts.

For the last two years, NYSBHA saw the majority of our new individual members join as part of their registration for our annual conference in October and we plan to continue this effort in 2018 as well. 2017 also saw the highest levels of organizational membership revenue generated to date, which helps to cover operational, staff, advocacy and other costs vital to sustaining the organization and its mission-related work.



## PC-SBHC Pilot Becomes Nation's First School-Based Medical Home Standards

**I**n 2013, the Patient Centered School Based Health Care (PC-SBHC) quality standards project, a collaboration of NYSBHA, the Montefiore School Health Program and the Primary Care Development Corporation (PCDC), began a collaboration to pilot a draft set of standards, adapted from NCQA's Patient Centered Medical Home model, defining 3 levels of SBHC service encouraging a full service, comprehensive model of integrated primary health care. The principal aim of this pilot project was to implement these standards at five SBHCs, analyze the feasibility of transformation and, post pilot, advocate for the adoption of the finalized PC-SBHC standards by school health funding and regulatory agencies.

With guidance from Ronda Kotelchuck, former CEO of PCDC, and with funding from the Altman Foundation, the three collaborators began working on the pilot program. Through the partnership, Margee Rogers, DNP, RN, FNP-BC, Director of Primary Health Care at Montefiore and at that time, NYSBHA Board Chair, led the initiative by gathering national and regional stakeholders for input, while Jodi Bailey, MPP, Analyst at Montefiore, and Maia Morse, MPH, Senior Program Manager at PCDC collaborated on the development of the standards and piloted them at school-based health centers in New York and Connecticut.

The pilot continued with additional grant funds provided to NYSBHA by NYS Assembly member and Assembly Health Committee Chair, Richard Gottfried, through its completion in 2016. The results of the pilot testing of the standards demonstrated that the standards support practice transformation in SBHCs and are an achievable standard of care. The standards reflect both the quality standards put forth by NCQA for patient centered care and the strengths of the school health model.

In November 2016, the New York School-Based Health Alliance submitted a request to the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) to consider the new school-based guidelines for incorporation into the NCQA recognition program. The standards resulted from a crosswalk of the school-based medical home standards and the new PCMH 2017 standards. **In July of 2017, NCQA voted to approve School-Based Medical Home (SBMH) Standards, a first and a significant achievement for the field of school-based health.** NYSBHA provided a first glance at the new standards in October of 2017 at its annual conference.

The development of these new standards has been lauded by school-based health professionals, peer health care organizations and legislative representatives. "School-based health centers are one of the best programs in health care, and New York has been a leader," said Assembly Health Committee Chair Richard N. Gottfried. "The adoption of these standards is a testament to the great work by Montefiore, PCDC, and the Alliance (NYSBHA) in developing best-practices in school-based health care."

SBMH standards incorporate the core tenets of NCQA's Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) program, which has been in wide use since 2008. School-based health providers wishing to be recognized by NCQA will need to demonstrate that their practices meet 40 core guidelines as well as 25 of 60 additional elective guidelines. The guidelines, which emphasize better coordination and communication of services, will place the patient at the center of excellent care. Students who utilize services from NCQA-recognized providers can expect integrated behavioral health services and structured communication processes between providers and the care team. More information about these new SBMH standards can be found at [bit.ly/2oeAmKa](http://bit.ly/2oeAmKa).

