



Florida

Coordinated School Health



Partnership

2012

Florida Coordinated School Health Partnership 2012

Bureau of Curriculum and Instruction
Florida Department of Education

The Story of the Coordinated School Health Program



The concept of the eight-component Coordinated School Health model was born in the 1987 article by Diane Allensworth and Lloyd Kolbe published in the *Journal of School Health* in which they proposed that in order to be effective, a health education program should focus on eight component areas:

- Health Education
- Physical Education
- Health Services
- Nutrition Services
- Counseling, Psychological, and Social Services
- Healthy School Environment
- Health Promotion for Staff
- Parent and Community Involvement

The concept was researched and embraced by the educational and health communities leading to the book *Health Is Academic: A Guide to Coordinated School Health Programs* edited by Eva Marx and Susan Frelick Wooley: Teachers College Press 1998. It remains the guiding force in implementing the model.

The eight components identified by Allensworth and Kolbe, when looked at in a coordinated manner, were found to be

highly effective in addressing the health risk behaviors that contribute markedly to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth and adults in the United States. These behaviors, often established during childhood and early adolescence, include:

- Tobacco use
- Unhealthy dietary behaviors
- Inadequate physical activity
- Alcohol and other drug use
- Sexual behaviors that contribute to unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV infection
- Behaviors that contribute to unintentional injuries and violence

In 1992 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention began funding states to develop an infrastructure that supports implementation of the Coordinated School Health model. The State of Florida was awarded funding in the first year of the program and has been funded continuously since that time.

For more information go to:
<http://www.fldoe.org/bii/cshp/>

Florida School Health and Education Consortium

The Florida Departments of Education and Health, recognizing the value of collaborative efforts between public agencies and the private sector, organized the Florida School Health and Education Consortium, which functioned from 1992 - 2008.

The Consortium's mission was to develop public awareness of the value, role, and priority of school health education and service and to advocate programs resulting in academic achievement, lifelong health, and well-being. Over forty health, education, and business organizations comprised the Consortium membership. The Consortium's contacts assisted the Coordinated School Health Program at statewide and regional training meetings, summer institutes, and locally sponsored workshops. The Consortium also advised the program office on health-related issues and devised action plans to carry out its public awareness mission from 1992 to 2008.

Florida Prevention Partners Unite

In October 2008, a group of dedicated members from the Florida School Health and Education Consortium, Florida Action for Healthy Kids Partnership, and the Alliance for a Healthier Generation met to form Florida's Coordinated School Health (CSH) Partnership. Members represent professional associations, foundations, not-for-profit organizations, business, insurers, health and education. The partnership is committed to working together to improve the health of children, adolescents, and staff in Florida schools. The 2009 goals focus on advocacy, policy, partnership, access to health care for all children and educating stakeholders about school health and wellness issues. The mission of the CSH Partnership is: ***Health literate and health practicing students and staff in all Florida schools.***

Purpose: Facilitating the creation of policies and environments that provide students and staff the opportunity to reach their personal potential by means of positive decision-making-skills and access to health care.

Five year goals and strategies include:

1) **Decrease school absenteeism/increase attendance**

- ❖ Advocate for adequate numbers of school nurses, health and physical

education teachers, and counselors

- ❖ Reduce the nurse to student ratio to 1:2000

- ❖ Increase the number of students enrolled in health education and physical education courses in middle and high school

- ❖ Increase the number of children that are insured and have a medical and dental home

2) **Decrease health related financial risk to schools**

- ❖ Decrease medication errors and other health-related risks

- ❖ Implement staff wellness in all districts

3) **Increase knowledge and involvement of parents and community in school health and wellness initiatives**

- ❖ Advocate for including a health representative in every School Advisory Council (SAC) and including a health-related goal in School Improvement Plans

- ❖ Work with the Florida Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and other

organizations to keep parents informed of issues and explore opportunities for collaboration

- ❖ Engage community/business representatives as participating members of state level CSHP and district level School Health Advisory Committees (SHACs)

4) Facilitate the development of district level policies and programs that lead to sustainability

- ❖ Promote the Florida Healthy School District Assessment Tool (FHSAT) and recognize and reward districts meeting bronze, silver, and gold levels defined

by the Florida Healthy School District Award Criterion (FHSDAC)

- ❖ Facilitate the development of Healthy School Teams in all Florida schools
- ❖ Provide training on Florida policy and program best practices

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"Never doubt that a small group of committed people can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." -- Margaret Mead