# Evaluation of the Impact of School-Based Health Centers - Report Brief

<u>The Evaluation of the Impact of School-Based Health Centers</u>, an independent report conducted by ORS Impact, found that SBHCs increase healthcare access and improve health outcomes by reducing or removing many of the barriers experienced by the students, families, and communities they serve.

The Greater Cincinnati region has been a national leader in SBHCs with 43 centers open across the community. The services they provide include:

- Primary care
- Behavioral health
- Dental care at 13+ sites
- Vision care at 7+ sites.

School-Based Health Centers provide care for both students, their families **and surrounding communities**. "It's very important that kids feel cared about. When they see that a school is not just here to teach them information and to test them, but to take care of their health. It's an extremely positive educational message, even if it's subconscious."

### The report found the following:

- An **81% increase in the number of SBHC** sites since 2015 (21 sites to 43 sites).
- More than **5x increase in patients served since 2015.**
- Near doubling of behavioral health visits and vision users since 2017.
- Near doubling of dental users since 2019.
- Average consent rates of 67% at school-serving sites, **30% of which have** consent rates over 80%.
- Student vaccination rates far exceeded national targets of 80%; they averaged 96% before the COVID-19 pandemic (2015-2018) and 86% in 2019-2022.

## School-Based Health Centers, January 2023

0

Franklin

County

0

Warren

County

0

0

Clermont

0

Bracken

County

County

Campbe

County

Pendleton

County

0

0

0

Brown

County

Clinton

County

Highland

Adams

County

County

Butler

County

0

Hamilton

Kenton

Countv

County

0 0

Grant

County

Boone

County

Gallatin County

0

#### **Active SBHCs**

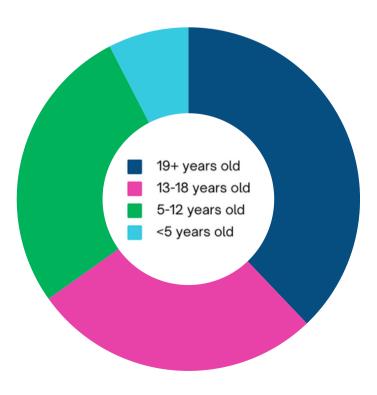
#### Planned SBHCs

Woodward Technical.

#### **Cincinnati Public Schools** SBHCs (see below)

Academy of World Languages, Aiken High School, Bond Hill Dearborn Riplev Academy, Dater High School, County County Ethel M Taylor Academy, Hughes Center, John P Parker Ohio School, Levine Family Health County Center, Mt Airy Elementary, Switzerland Mt Washington School, Oyler School, County Pleasant Hill Academy, Riverview East Academy, Roberts Academy, Rockdale Academy, Roll Hill Academy, Rothenberg Prep, Sayler Park School, South Avondale School, Taft Elementary, Taft High School, Western Hills High School, Winton Hills Academy, Withrow High School,

> **School-Based Health Centers Patients by** Age, 2022



Voices of students, parents, and community membérs shed insight into how their interactions with SBHCs shape their perceptions of healthcare access and their health Participants reported:

- Relief and appreciation at having a consistent and routine source of care and noted the importance of convenience, affordability, and caring and respectful relationships.
- An increased sense of belonging and engagement at school and more empowered about decisions regarding their health.
- ulletFeeling that they were listened to and that everyone was welcomed and treated the same contributed to a sense of increased trust and lack of stigma attached to seeking care.