



NEW MEXICO

ALLIANCE FOR  
SCHOOL-BASED  
HEALTH CARE

Redefining Health for Kids and Teens

# What's New and Next for School Based Health Centers

June 2025

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# NMASBHC: Who We Are

Mission: The New Mexico Alliance for School-Based Health Care represents school-based health centers (SBHCs) in New Mexico and collaborates with other partners to promote, facilitate and advocate for comprehensive, integrated, and culturally competent health care, including health education, in schools.

- Stand-alone 501(c)3 affiliated with national SBHA ([www.sbh4all.org](http://www.sbh4all.org))
- NMDOH Contractor for TA for School-Based Health Care field
- Creating and disseminating tools for the SBH field
- Providing leadership in policy and advocacy for the SBH field

## The SBHC Model

- Provide care in schools: a uniquely convenient and helpful access point
- Provide integrated primary and behavioral healthcare to children/youth
- Provide special expertise and resources to the school community
- Collaborate with school health partners, including nurses and social workers
- Improve health AND academic outcomes

# SBHCs: Growth & Planning

\*Additional funding from the 2023 legislative session provided for an expanded number of contracts between NMDOH and SBHC Operators.

\*Schools with NMDOH-funded SBHCs increased from 53 in the 2022-23 school year to 115 in the 2024-25 school year. There were another 23 SBHCs in the state that do not receive NMDOH funding.

\*While a few new brick/mortar SBHCs are opening (Moriarty, West Mesa, New Futures), the bulk of growth comes through expansion of telehealth & mobile.

\*Additional funding from the legislature has provided for the ability to support growing requests for new SBHCs with an organized planning grant and TA structure.

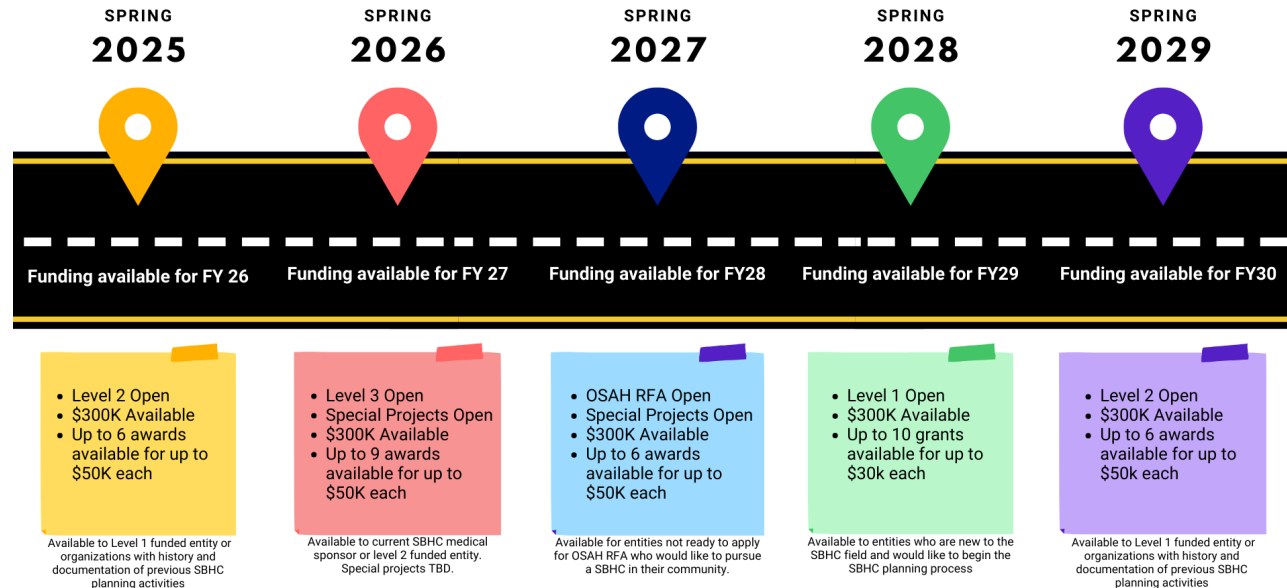
# SBHCs: Planning Grantees

We are pleased to announce the FY26 School-Based Health Center Planning and Special Projects Grantees!

- First Nations Community HealthSource
- Gallup Community Health
- Hidalgo Medical Services
- La Clínica Del Pueblo de Río Arriba
- Las Cruces Public Schools
- RFK Charter School Hub
- Sunrise Clinics

## SBHC PLANNING GRANT ROADMAP

SBHC Planning Grants available for communities through funding by NMDOH. Administration, guidance, technical assistance, and oversight provided by NMASBHC.



# New SBHC Models & Populations: Telehealth, Mobile, & Early Childhood

- Telehealth – Longtime and New SBHC Operators Expanding Care via Hub and Spoke Model
  - El Centro Family Health
  - Sunrise Medical Services
- Mobile– Longtime and New SBHC Operators Expanding Care in Rural and Urban Communities with Clinics on Wheels
  - De Baca Family Health Services and REC IX
  - Bernalillo County with Health Equity Alliance
- Early Childhood – NMASBHC and OSAH collaborating, with Foundation Support, to Expand Care to 0-4 Pop to Capitalize on State Investments in Early Childhood & GRADS
  - Early Childhood Programs on School Campuses
  - Via Mobile and Telehealth Services
  - Three-way telehealth for young children

# SBHC Initiatives and Needs Identified

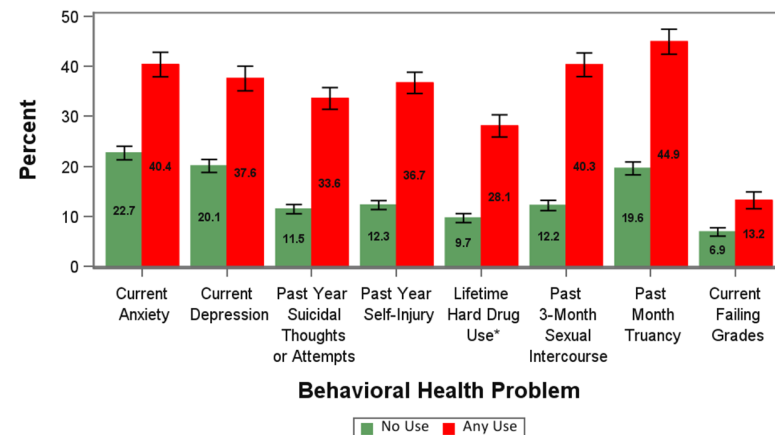
## SBIRT – Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral & Treatment

Substance abuse by adolescents is a need SBHCs have identified as critical. After years of work between HCA, NMASBHC and FQHCs, the pathway for Medicaid reimbursement for adolescent SBIRT is now in place.

- HCA published regulations providing for the ability of providers to bill Medicaid for SBIRT with adolescents.
- Through grants/contracts from HCA and SAMHSA, UNM Department of Pediatrics and NMASBHC have launched training by which provider entities become certified to bill for adolescent SBIRT.
- 29 SBHC providers, at 16 SBHCS have been trained and certified thus far; 35 school nurses also just received training.
- This will begin a new emphasis on addressing adolescent needs related to substance use.

It is likely that **1 out of every 4** high school-aged adolescents encountered in primary care has engaged in substance use in the past month – particularly alcohol, vape, and marijuana use.

**Prevalence of Behavioral Health Problems Among High-School Youth in New Mexico Using Alcohol, Cigarettes, Vapes, or Marijuana in the Past Month**



\*Hard drug use includes non-prescribed pain medication, cocaine, heroin, meth, and ecstasy.  
Data Source: 2023 New Mexico Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey

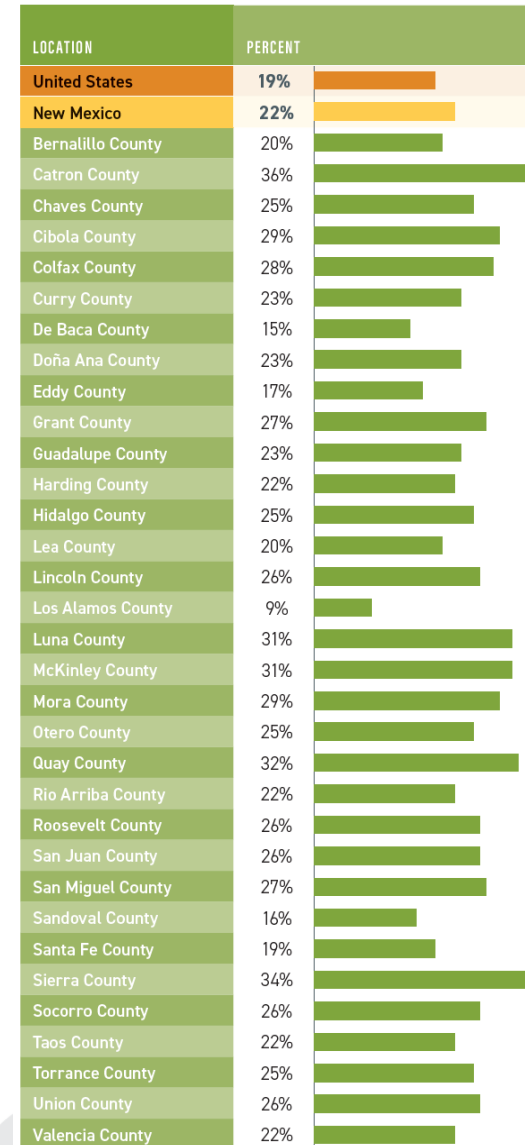
# SBHC Initiatives and Needs Identified

## Food Insecurity & Basic Hygiene Supplies

Supplemental food and basic hygiene supplies continues to be a need communicated by children and youth to school nurses and SBHCs. OSAH and NMASBHC are collaborating to pilot efforts to support those needs.

- NMASBHC will be using OSAH funds to provide some basic, shelf stable foods to SBHCs at the 2025 Head to Toe conference.
- OSAH has agreed to allow SBHCs to include a small budget for food in their next RFA.
- NMASBHC has applied for foundation funding to launch a pilot with two SBHCs to host food pantries/closets.
- NMASBHC is promoting SBHA work on food insecurity support.

Children Who are Food Insecure—BY COUNTY (2022)



Source: Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap, Interactive Data, 2024

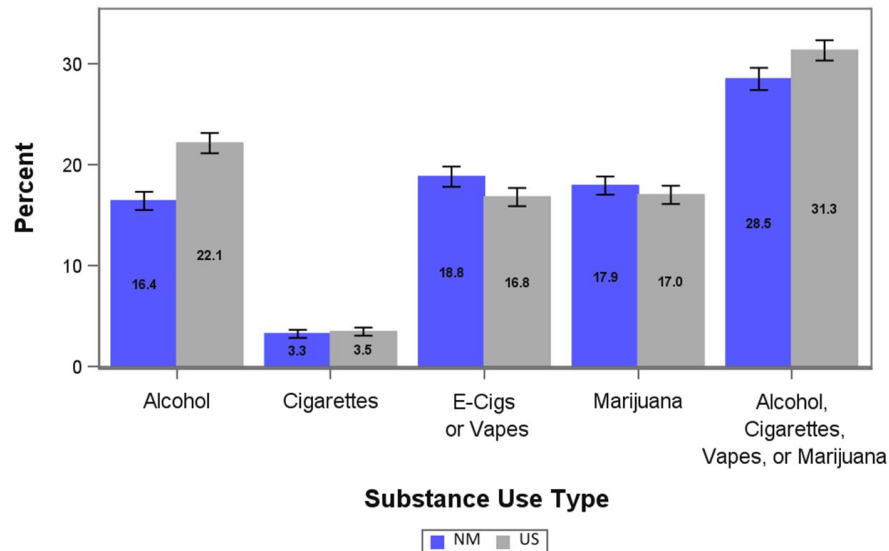
# SBHC Initiatives and Needs Identified

## Vaping – Prevention and Intervention

Vaping and other nicotine use by children and adolescents continues to rise and schools are indicating that they feel overwhelmed by the need to address this substance use. .

- NMASBHC has partnered with NMDOH – NUPAC to provide an ECHO for the school health field on nicotine use.
- NMASBHC has partnered with the Medicaid MCOs to begin strategizing about additional intervention opportunities.
- Vaping will be a key topic for education at the 2025 Head to Toe conference.

**Past 30-Day Substance Use Among High School Students in New Mexico and the United States**



Data Sources: 2023 New Mexico Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey and the 2023 Youth Risk Behavior Survey

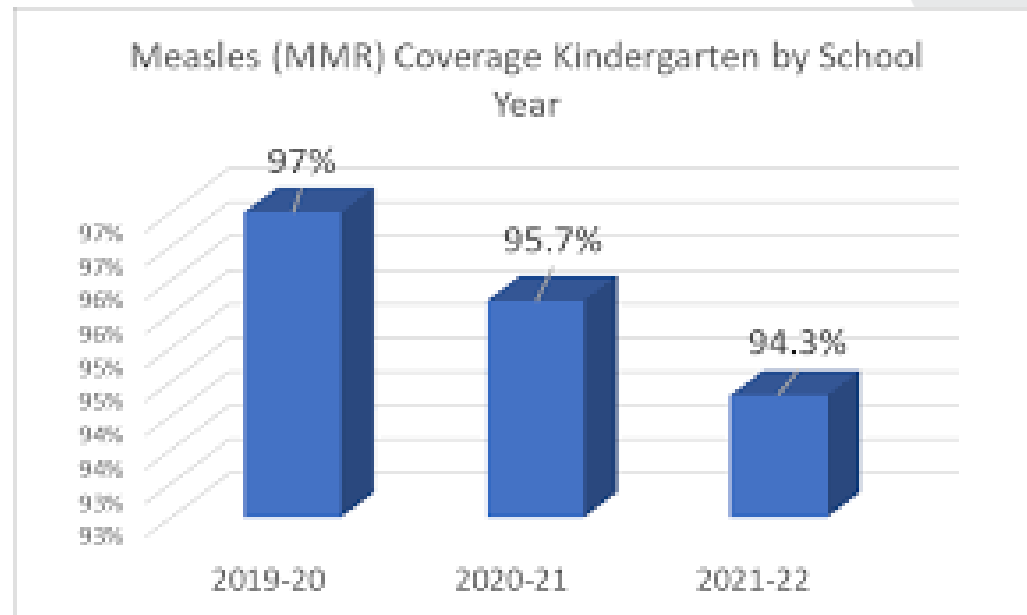


# SBHC Initiatives and Needs Identified

## Immunizations – Education and Provision

In addition to coping with the Measles outbreak in New Mexico, SBHCs and school nurses are requesting support to provide additional support around recommended immunizations.

- Immunization rates for school aged children have declined since 2020 both nationally and in New Mexico. According to the CDC childhood immunization rates dropped to 94% in the U.S. during 2020-2021. Below is a graph showing vaccination rates for MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) in New Mexico for the last three years - measles is so contagious that coverage should be 95% or higher.



# Questions & Answers

Joining NMDOH-OSAH and NMASBHC Presenters Today to Answer School Health Questions:

Ruth Center, Santa Fe SBHC Administrator  
Santa Fe and Capital High Schools  
PMS (Presbyterian Medical Services)

Sue O'Brien, Executive Director of Student Wellness  
Santa Fe Public Schools

Myrna Barbee-Lee, Lead Nurse  
Santa Fe Public Schools

# Closing

If you have additional questions or suggestions, please reach out:

Email:

Nancy Rodriguez, [nancy@nmasbhc.org](mailto:nancy@nmasbhc.org)

Find resources, sign up for our newsletter, and more:  
[www.nmasbhc.org](http://www.nmasbhc.org)

THANK YOU FOR HAVING NMASBHC HERE TODAY!