



Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

Child and Adolescent Health Center

School Wellness Program (SWP) Orientation

INTRODUCTION

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Child and Adolescent Health Unit launched the School Wellness Program in 2010 funding eight sites across the state. The School Wellness Program (SWP) model is a hybrid bridging the gap between a full service School-based or School Linked Health Center (SB/SLHC) and the traditional school nurse model. SWPs are open 40 hours a week during the school year. Staffing is provided by a Registered Nurse (RN), preferably with a Bachelors' degree in Nursing, who is certified or eligible to be certified as a Michigan professional school nurse. Nurses provide: 1) case management, 2) referral services to primary care and specialty care services, and 3) individual and group health education to children and youth in the participating schools using evidence-based curricula. In an effort to create a healthy school environment, RNs provide relevant training/professional development to school staff on topics that relate to the SWP and the school's specific needs.

SWPs include a Michigan-licensed physician as a medical director who supervises the general nursing services and provides written standing orders and protocols approved within the scope and practice of a licensed registered nurse.

What truly sets SWPs apart from the traditional school nurse model is that this program is required to have a Masters level mental health clinician on site to provide 40 hours a week of direct mental health services. This includes individual and group therapy and family counseling as indicated.

Registered Nurse Clinical Provider

Welcome to the Child and Adolescent Health Center (CAHC) Program! The School Wellness Program (SWP) is a part of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) grant funded program which boasts over 100 sites. The SWP has a crucial role in the seamless provision of comprehensive health services to children and youth.

The National Association of School Nursing defines school nursing as:

“A specialized practice of professional nursing that advances the well-being, academic success, and lifelong achievement of students. To that end, school nurses facilitate positive student responses to normal development; promote health and safety; intervene with actual and potential health problems; provide case management services; and actively collaborate with others to build student and family capacity for adaptation, self-management, self-advocacy, and learning.”

The SWP staff assists schools, parents and other health professionals in the assessment, identification, planning, implementation and evaluation of the health needs of the school community in order to appropriately direct services toward a healthy school environment.

There are four components of the School Wellness Program:

1. Limited Clinical Nursing services
2. Mental Health Provider services
3. Individual and group health education using evidence-based curricula and interventions.
4. School staff training and professional development relevant to a needs assessment.

Individual health services, within the scope of nursing practice, are delivered in the school setting by SWP nursing staff. Such services may include: screening/nursing assessments, case finding, immunization assessment and administration, first aid for minor injuries, chronic care interventions, hearing and vision screening, blood pressure monitoring, blood glucose monitoring, case management and/or referral to other needed primary care and specialty medical services.

Direct **mental health services** are required as part of the School Wellness Program. These services may supplement, but not supplant, existing services. Mental health services provided through the SWP may include screening/assessments, short term individual and/or family therapy, crisis intervention, therapeutic groups, prevention education in a classroom or group setting, case management and/or referral to other needed mental health services.

SWP staff also provide **individual and/or group health education to students using evidence-based curricula and interventions** based on the needs of their student population as demonstrated through a comprehensive needs assessment process.

SWP staff **provide training and professional development to school staff** in order to improve the overall school environment; build capacity to assist in the management of student physical and mental/emotional health needs; and to respond appropriately to an emergency e.g. proper use of nebulizer, administration of epinephrine auto-injector for life-threatening allergic response, crisis response, etc. Training and professional development should be based on an assessment of the needs of that particular school and its personnel.

School Wellness Program nurses are responsible for: (NASN, 2015)

- Management of chronic disease
- Healthcare planning, preparation for and response to medical emergencies
- Education and health promotion
- Medication management and training
- Follow-up care and care coordination
- Screenings and referrals
- Immunization compliance
- Assistance in securing insurance and healthcare providers

School nurses and mental health clinicians provide the critical link between the education system, students, families, the school community, and the medical community.

Laws that Define and Guide School Nurse Practice.

School Nursing and Health Service Statutes:

- [Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 \(ADA\)](#)
- [Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973](#)
- [PL 104-91 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 \(HIPAA\)](#)
- [34 CFR 99 Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act \(FERPA\)](#)
- [34 CFR Part 300 Individuals with Disabilities Act of 1997 \(IDEA\)](#)

Laws That Affect School Health Services Programs in Michigan

Subject	Law
Asthma	380.1179 Model Policy on the Management of Asthma in Schools
Blood Borne Pathogens	MIOSHA – R325.47201, Part 472
Child Protection	722.623 - Child Protection Law-Act 238 of 1975 333.5131(5)(f) , 6869 Op. Attorney Gen. 92 (1995)
Communicable Disease	333.5111
Concussion	http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,4612,7-132-54783_63943-295306--,00.html
Confidentiality	600.2165
Curriculum	§380.1502 , 380.1169 , 380.1507 , 380.1170
Delegation and Scope of Practice	333.17201 , PUBLIC HEALTH CODE (EXCERPT) Act 368 of 1978 333.16104 , 338.10104 , 333.16109
Diabetes	Model Policy on Diabetes
Epinephrine Auto-Injector Law	http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2013-2014/publicact/htm/2013-PA-0187.htm .
Anaphylaxis Emergency at School Guideline	http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Epi_Addendum_6-18-14_461400_7.pdf?20140919155706
First Aid & CPR	Medical Services and First Aid R325.47201, Part 472 Michigan Law PA 18 of 2003
Hearing and Vision	333.9301
School Health Services	Public Health Code (Excerpt) Act 368 of 1978, Part 9101
HIV	722.621 to 722.636 , 333.5131 , 333.5131(5)(c)
Homeless	McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act
Immunizations	333.9205 , 333.9208 , 333.9215 , 380.1177 333.9209
Medication Administration	380.1178 , 380.1179 Attorney General Opinion, No. 5679, April 11, 1980 , MDE Model Medication Policy
Meningitis	Michigan Law PA 240 of 2005
School Nurses	Administrative Rule R340.1163 , MCLA 380.1252 ,

Subject	Law
	R 340.1161 - R340.1170
School Safety	PA 187 of 2006 , PA 337 of 2006
Rights of Minors (ages 14 -18)	330.1707(1) , 333.9132 , 333.6121 , 333.5127
Reproductive Health	§ 388.1766 , § 722.903 , §380.1507

This orientation manual is designed to provide an overview of the registered nurse component of the School Wellness Program. There is a separate orientation manual for all Mental Health Providers. All related program materials mentioned in the document can be found at the CAHC website. www.michigan.gov/cahc

Additional Resources:

www.michigan.gov/schoolhealthservices

www.michiganschoolnurses.org

www.nasn.org

www.schoolnurse.com

Developed: 2015