

Analytic Framework: School-Based Health Centers to Promote Health Equity

SBHCs are hypothesized to improve educational and health outcomes through increased access to and satisfaction with health-related services, which are expected to increase receipt of recommended services that lead to early detection and treatment or prevention of disease. Increases are expected in the proportion of students with a usual place of care. When SBHCs offer health education and counseling, reductions in risk behavior are also expected. Together, these changes lead to improved school achievement, reduced health care misuse (e.g., use of emergency departments for non-urgent care), and reduced morbidity. Overall, SBHCs are expected to improve the health prospects of low-income and racial and ethnic minority students. All of which would increase health equity.