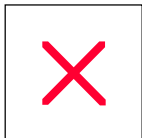


CALIFORNIA SCHOOL NURSES ORGANIZATION

BY THE YEAR 2010

Goal:

Every child will be ready to learn, having their basic needs met so that they may achieve optimal physical, emotional, social, and educational development and be prepared for full participation in society.



California School Nurses Organization
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INTRODUCTION

As we begin the first decade of the 21st century, health care for our citizens and education for our children continues to be of concern for our cities, our states and our nation. The public schools are the one place where these concerns come together. If our nation is to continue as one of the world's leaders, our children -- our future -- have to be prepared to meet and continue that challenge. Where better to create the future than in our schools?

By the Year 2010 builds upon the experience and progress school nurses encountered in the 1990s. Throughout that 10-year period, many communities worked together in unprecedented ways to eliminate barriers and provide access to healthcare for children and families. Other successes include adding the school nurse as a teacher of record for health education classes and the reinstatement of the school nurse consultant position at the California Department of Education. Despite those and other significant gains, health disparities for children and adults persist in California.

The health concerns of our nation are exhibited through the health of our children. If a child is not healthy, then that child's ability to learn is compromised. Who better than the school nurse can blend the areas of both health and education to ensure that our nation's future is achieved?

The challenges that our children face in the school setting correlate to the lives they live outside the school community. Many children come to school hungry and homeless, angry and abused. Children come to school with disabilities and abilities; they come needing special education, medical care, immunizations and a stable environment in which they can reach their full potential without regard to income level, ethnicity, or citizenship.

The California school nurse, as a pivotal member of the coordinated school health system, answers the health care needs of school children as they relate to education. School nurses are the primary change agent for the health and well being of California's children into the year 2010.

Read this document as it relates to the role of the school nurse in the lives of California's children knowing that **SCHOOL NURSES MAKE A DIFFERENCE** in the health and academic success of our children.

“The solution of adult problems tomorrow depends in large measure upon the way our children grow up today. There is no greater insight into the future than recognizing when we save our children we save ourselves.”

Margaret Mead

BY THE YEAR 2010. . .

CALIFORNIA'S CHILDREN AND YOUTH WILL HAVE. . .

SCHOOL-LINKED AND SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

School nurses will provide links between public and private resources and programs such as Healthy Start. Collaboration between schools, health and human services agencies, and health care management organizations will bring providers on campuses to serve the needs of children and families.

SEAMLESS DATA LINKS BETWEEN DISTRICTS AND AGENCIES

School nurses will use universal consent forms, will access services, immunization status, clinic information and medical records which can be transmitted by the latest in electronic communication systems.

ACCESS TO SCHOOL NURSES FOR PRIMARY CARE AND BROKERAGE OF SERVICES

School nurses will be case managers, clinic managers, consultants to school districts, team members, practitioners and health educators bringing collaborative efforts to the school community.

WELLNESS DRIVEN PROGRAMS

School nurses will create an emphasis on preventive services, health maintenance, and personal responsibility rather than on crisis care.

MANDATORY HEALTH EDUCATION

School nurses will teach health education which will be part of every school curriculum, early start through high school.

ACCOUNTABLE MANDATED HEALTH SCREENINGS

School nurses will provide accountability for school districts in meeting the mandated scoliosis, vision, dental, hearing and immunization screenings.

HOME HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

School nurses will provide support and transition, an essential link between home and hospital, for the ever increasing numbers of medically fragile students.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT FREE FROM VIOLENCE

School nurses will function as part of the school team creating and maintaining Safe Schools.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS

School nurses will supervise specialized health care procedures provided by appropriately differentiated staff with the level of care determined by the school nurse, as prescribed by community health care providers and with parental involvement in the individualized health care plan.

EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

School nurses will assess, care for and educate disabled and at-risk infants and toddlers using a family driven, comprehensive, multi-agency, transdisciplinary team approach.

BY THE YEAR 2010. . .

SCHOOL NURSES WILL BE. . .

RECOGNIZED AS KEY PARTICIPANTS IN THE EDUCATIONAL SETTING

School nurses will benefit from a strengthened dual role in the State Department of Health Services and Department of Education; from the leadership of a School Health Services Consultant in DOE/DHS and as a task force member involved in curriculum and services participating in policy making decisions.

MANDATED IN THE EDUCATIONAL SETTING

School nurses will have a mandated, appropriate and safe nurse to student ratio in the schools to ensure the most effective services and quality health education program for students.

CATALYSTS IN COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

School nurses will continue to function as essential support services team members, effectively working with other providers inside and outside the educational setting helping to bring creative solutions to the health needs of our future leaders.

ADVANCED PRACTITIONERS OF NURSING PRACTICE

School nurses will have Master's degrees and/or be advanced practice prepared for entry level positions. School nurses will function as supervisors, trainers and evaluators of varied skill level support staff including licensed and unlicensed assistive personnel.

PROVIDERS AND BROKERS OF SERVICES

School nurses will serve in a variety of roles, i.e., clinic managers, case managers, practitioners, researchers, health educators and administrators.

PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS

School nurses will be coordinators of school health and the primary health care providers on every school campus.

ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN PUBLIC SERVICE

School nurses will be proportionately represented as elected and appointed officials locally, regionally and statewide.

MEMBERS OF STATE AND NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

All school nurses will be members of the *California School Nurses Organization (CSNO)*, forceful in policy development and reform, setting priorities and providing a cohesive voice at the state capitol for children's health care issues and the *National Association of School Nurses (NASN)*, a national advocate for health and educational issues, a conduit for disseminating professional information, education, resources and linkages.

BY THE YEAR 2010...

PARENTS, PUBLIC, EDUCATORS AND TAXPAYERS WILL HAVE...

COST EFFECTIVE FUNDING STREAMS

Schools will receive local, state and federal dollars as well as private funding and support from business and neighborhood partnerships to provide "full service schools " with services rendered by appropriate staff and resources for the uninsured.

SCHOOL-SITE AND SCHOOL-LINKED SUPPORT SERVICES WITH...

- Flexible service hours including evenings and weekends
- Varying community locations
- Internet access for health and wellness information
- Year-round availability
- Mobile health units with emphasis on disease prevention
- Comprehensive health education
- Resources to provide health care access for all
- Collaboration with community:
 - Parents
 - Service/Civic Organizations
 - Private Industry
 - Social/Faith/Educational Agencies
 - Ethnic/Cultural Specialists

COST EFFECTIVE TRIAGE AND APPROPRIATE REFERRALS

School nurses will appropriately triage, conserving public and private resources.

They will provide cost effective:

- Early and appropriate detection and intervention.
- Prompt and appropriate referrals to private providers, managed care systems, community agencies/systems/services when needed.
- Prevention of system overload, eliminating unneeded use of emergency room care.
- Ongoing implementation, monitoring and case management.

AN ATMOSPHERE OF HEALTH, SAFETY AND SUCCESS IN THE SCHOOL SETTING

Public awareness, support and participation in health and educational issues will be strong as evidenced in media, legislation, policy and practice.

THE SCHOOL NURSES' ROLE IN HEALTH CARE DELIVERY

Throughout the 1990's attention was focused on a more efficient, equitable and appropriate use of available health care services. Finite resources and economics forced a shift to disease prevention, health maintenance and better-coordinated primary care. To meet the needs of all children in the coming years, a wide range of health care delivery approaches and services must be created. These approaches must ensure easier access, a full range of services, expanded eligibility, efficient referral systems and timely follow up, all in an affordable way.

The Nursing Agenda for Health Care Reform called for community-based primary care centers for the delivery of health care. What more appropriate site than the neighborhood school? Interest in school-linked services should receive greater consideration by those determining policy. What more appropriate health care provider or coordinator of services than the credentialed school nurse?

What is coordinated health care in the school setting? "Health care" in the schools means different things to different people. To the child without insurance, the school nurse may be the primary health care provider; to the child without a home, the school nurse's office can be a place to shower and change clothes; to the pregnant teenager, a class on prenatal care and understanding the changes in her body, as well as parenting skills; to the child with a tracheotomy, an easier breath; and to the child who is abused, a source of referral and respite. These activities, and more, constitute the concept of coordinated health care in the schools.

The credentialed school nurse is a Bachelor's prepared registered nurse with a health services credential from the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing. The school nurse is the only professional in the school setting whose discipline, because of preparation and practice, encompasses the teaching/education and medical/health models.

The school nurse looks at the child in a holistic manner. Many of California's students suffer from complex social and emotional problems or are physically or developmentally impaired. The challenges of educating these students can be quite rigorous. Credentialed school nurses have assumed a variety of pivotal roles: primary health care provider, case manager, broker of health care (referral agents), child advocate, health educator, counselor, and supervisor of health care in the educational system.

"Comprehensive school health programs offer the opportunity for us to provide the services and knowledge necessary to enable children to be productive learners and to develop the skills to make health decisions for the rest of their lives."

National School Boards Association

As the focus of health care has changed from a disease/illness model to a health maintenance/prevention model, the school nurse provides and advocates for the following:

HEALTH SERVICES

Case Management
Diagnostic Screening Services: Hearing, Vision, Dental, Scoliosis
Reproductive health, Pregnancy and Prenatal Counseling
Immunizations: Assessment and Administration
Physical Exams/Health Assessments
Skilled Nursing Care for Children with Disabilities
Acute and Emergency Care
Medication Administration/Monitoring
Staff Training and Consultation

HEALTH AND WELLNESS EDUCATION

Tobacco, Alcohol, and other Drug Abuse Education and Prevention
Individual and Family Counseling
Group Facilitation for Students and Staff
Classroom Teaching/Consultation
Staff Development
Employee Wellness

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Disaster Preparedness
Safety Awareness
Prevention/Control of Disease
Schools Free of Hazardous Material
Healthy Indoor Air
Safe School Environment

Each school district in California needs the services of credentialed school nurses. Professional case loads for school nurses must be manageable. The national recommendation is for one credentialed school nurse on every school campus or no greater than 750 regular education students per one nurse. In schools for the special needs student, the acuity of the students must be considered when assigning the school nurse, to ensure the safety of the students at all times.

In the past decade, California's school nurses have assumed a leadership role. School nurses have stepped forward to show how they, through collaborative efforts with other community groups/agencies, are addressing student's health needs to ensure a healthy future for California.

21st CENTURY SCHOOL HEALTH DELIVERY SYSTEMS

Education and health care delivery for children and their families, in the 21st century, will have different configurations. These systems will be particularly important for the children of disadvantaged, minority and uninsured families. The new delivery systems will provide much needed services with multiple entry points, seamless access and culturally sensitive providers of care. The school-community partnership will serve as the focus for the delivery not only of education but health and human services. Two possible configurations could emerge as models for the delivery of education, health and human services:

MODEL 1: SCHOOL-BASED SITES

<u>SCHOOLS</u>	<u>SERVICES</u>	<u>STAFF</u>
Infants and Toddlers	Mandated Screenings	Teachers
Preschool	Prevention/Case Management	Credentialed School Nurse
Employee Day Care	Acute/Maintenance Care	Nurse Practitioner
Before/After School Programs	Specialized Health Care	Health/Data Processing Clerk(s)
		Licensed Vocational Nurse
		Social Worker
		Psychologist
		Physician

The school-based health services model will predominately be found on elementary campuses and increasingly on middle school campuses not just in high schools as is the current practice. The services offered will encompass the "routine" acute care services as well as the mandated screenings, maintenance of chronic conditions and any specialized health care procedures required by fully included physically challenged and regular education students. The system will be established so that there is interaction with the other support services offered at the school site.

While the primary focus of this model of care will be children and youth, families will be offered referral services and counseling on a limited basis.

MODEL 2: SCHOOL-LINKED SITES

<u>SCHOOL STAFF</u>	<u>SERVICES</u>
Nurse Practitioner	Primary Medical Care in:
Credentialed School Nurse	Pediatrics/Family Adult Medicine
Teacher	Case Management
Health/Data Processing Clerk(s)	GED Classes
Social Worker	Mental Health Services
Psychologist	Social Services
Health Educator	Job Training/Placement
Physician	

This model of care will be much more comprehensive in its approach and will provide many more services for family members, regardless of age. This model can be located on the school campus or within the existing health care/social services sites in the community.

To succeed, both models need adequate planning and resources before implementation. A strong community-interagency collaborative effort, such as the neighborhood partnership concept must be planned. Interactive links via computer between school nurses and primary health care providers will be established to support seamless health care. Reimbursement by private insurance, HMOs/managed care plans and Medi-Cal will play an important role in health care provider expansion and ensure adequate funding. Local Educational Agency Medi-Cal billing/Targeted Case Management and CHDP service reimbursement will guarantee a funding stream of state/federal dollars. Managed care plans will be sub-contracting with school nurses and school nurse practitioners to provide health services thereby ensuring a steady and increasing funding source.