

## Cost-Savings of School-Based Health Centers *Medicaid Savings and Reduced ER & Hospitalization Utilization*

### Sources

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Research and evaluations have demonstrated that school-based health centers represent cost-effective investments of public resources:

- A study by Johns Hopkins University found that school-based health centers **reduced inappropriate emergency room use**, increased use of primary care, and resulted in **fewer hospitalizations** among regular users. (6)
- A study of school-based health center costs by Emory University School of Public Health attributed **a reduction in Medicaid expenditures** related to inpatient, drug and emergency department use to use of school-based health centers. (1)
- The total annual **cost of hospitalizations decreased by 85 percent** (nearly \$1,000 per child) for children in Cincinnati schools with school-based health centers. (3)
- **Emergency room visits for asthma were more than halved** for students in New York City schools with school-based health centers compared to those in schools with no school-based health centers. (7)
- Adolescents with Medicaid in Denver were four times **less likely to access urgent and emergent care** if they used school-based health centers. (4)
- In South Carolina, prevention-oriented health care provided in school-based health centers can **decrease utilization** of emergency departments. (5)
- New York's school-based health centers saved approximately **\$3 million in hospitalization inpatient costs** for children with asthma in 2004. (2)
- Adolescents with commercial managed care insurance and school-based health center access in Denver had an **after-hours care visit rate of 38-55% less** than those without school-based health center access. (4)