

Supportive Transition Care for Foster and Former Foster Youth

Wednesday

Dec. 6, 2023

2:00 - 3:00 PM EST



Moderator



Dannielle Dobbins, M.Ed.

Director of Programs
School-Based Health Alliance



Bethany Hamilton, JD

Co-Director National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership





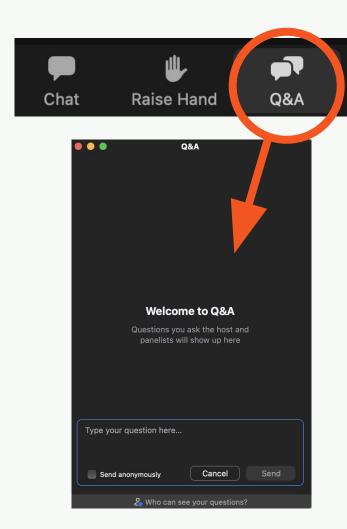
HRSA

Health Resources & Services Administration

This webinar is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award to SBHA totaling \$625,000 with 0% financed with non-governmental sources, to NCMLP totaling \$550,000 with 0% financed with non-governmental sources., and to the Education Center totaling \$625,000 with 0% financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit HRSA.gov.







Housekeeping

- Attendees are muted throughout the webinar.
- Type questions into Questions & Answers pane.
- To activate captions, select "Live Transcript" and "Show Subtitle."
- This webinar will be recorded and shared at https://www.healthcenterinfo.org/
- Send a chat to Hosts and Panelists for help



Today's Panelists



Jane Dugan-Burdette

Educational Implementation Specialist
NTI - Center for Adoption Support and
Education



Ashley Garcia-Rivera

Policy Advocacy Fellow
Center for Adoption Support and
Education



Dr. Kimberly Idoko

Director Healthcare Programs Alliance for Children's Rights





Learning Objectives



Understand how school-based health centers (SBHC) with medical-legal partnerships serve as **critical access points for healthcare and social services.**



Gain knowledge of and/or capacity to address the **specific health needs and disparities faced by current and former foster youth, highlighting LGBTQIA+ youth.**



Learn about promising practices for **integrating supportive transition care services** that improve health and social outcomes for foster and former foster youth.







School-Based Health Alliance Transforming Health Care for Students

Our Focus

The School-Based Health Alliance Works to Support & Grow SBHCs

Policy



Establishes and advocates for national policy priorities

Standards



Promotes
high-quality clinical
practices and
standards, including
for telehealth



Data

Supports data collection and reporting, evaluation, and research

Training



Provides training, technical assistance, and consultation

We support the improvement of students' health via school-based health care by supporting and creating community and school partnerships www.sbh4all.org





We Believe...

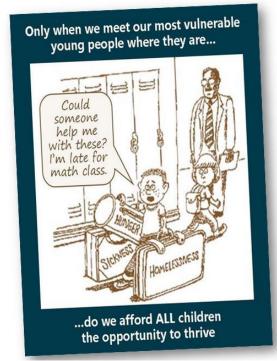
In the transformational power of the health and education intersection

HEALTHY STUDENTS

School-Based Health Center Defined



- Shared commitment between a school, community and health care organization(s)
- Support students' health, well-being and academic success by providing an array of services such as:
 - Primary Care
 - Mental Health
 - Oral Health Care
 - Vision Care
- Works with existing school services and care providers but <u>do not</u> replace





Artist: Scott Spencer

ACCESS

SBHC assures students' access to healthcare and support services to help them thrive.



STUDENT FOCUS

SBHC team and services are organized around student well-being and academic success.



HIGH-QUALITY CARE

SBHC delivers high-quality, comprehensive care to achieve optimal outcomes for students.



COLLABORATIVE SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

SBHC is typically governed and administered separately from the school, works collaboratively with the educational environment to support the school's mission of student success.

SCHOOL WELLNESS

SBHC engages with the school to participate, support, and improve a culture of health across the school community.



SYSTEMS COORDINATION

SBHC coordinates across relevant systems of care that share in the well-being of its patients.





SUSTAINABILITY

SBHC employs sound business management practices to ensure that health services are sustained long-term.



Core Competencies

Key Characteristics of School-Based Health Centers



FINDINGS FROM THE 2022 NATIONAL CENSUS OF SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS

Background

What is the School-Based Health Alliance?

Since 1995, the School-Based Health Alliance (SBHA), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, has supported and advocated for high-quality health care in schools for the nation's most vulnerable children. Working at the intersection of healthore and education, SBHA is a recognized leader in the school-based health care field and a source of information on best practices for philanthropic, fedderal, state, and local partners and policymakers.

For over 25 years, SBHA has worked with SBHA State Affiliates and national organization partners, advocates, health care providers, and school-based health centers (SBHCs) across the nation to:

- Set the national policy and legislative agenda for the field.
- Advocate for increased support and funding for SBHCs.
- Promote high-quality clinical practices and standards.
 Support data collection, reporting, evaluation, and
- Provide training, technical assistance, and consultation.
- consultation.



What are School-Based Health Centers?

SBHCs complement existing school health services by facilitating access to primary care and often behavioral health, vision, dental, and other services through school-community partnerships for children and youth nationwid who experience barriers to accessing care because of systemic inequities, their family income, or where they live. SBHCs operate through partnerships between health care organizations, school communities, communi based organizations families and youth. This collaboration, care coordination, and youth engagement improves student, school staff, and community health literacy and outcomes and contributes to positive educational results, including reduced absenteeism, decreased disciplinary actions, and improved graduation

- 1. Provide quality, comprehensive health care services that help students succeed in school and life;
- 2. Located in or near a school facility and open during school hours;
 - Organized through school, community, and health provider relationships;
- 4. Staffed by qualified health care professionals; and
- 5. Focused on the prevention, early identification, and treatment of medical and behavioral concerns that can interfere with a student's learning.











Healthy Impacts

Health Supports Successful Students & Families

Better Access to Health Services

Healthier **Students** and **Families**

Gains in

Student

Academic

Success



Healthy Students Learn Better

Build

Trust





Attendance Rate Increases





Lower Medicaid Costs



More Time at Work Increases Families' **Financial Security**

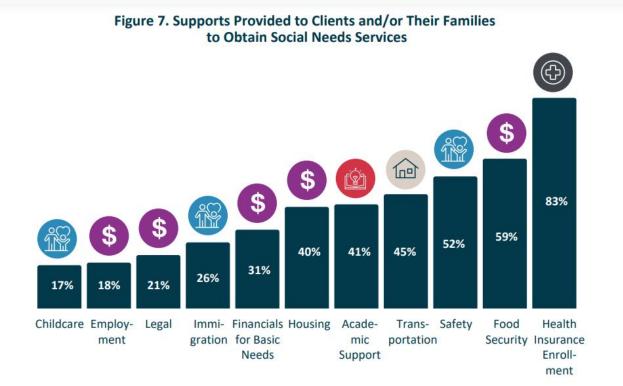


Reduced Emergency Room Usage





FINDINGS FROM
THE 2022
NATIONAL
CENSUS OF
SCHOOL-BASED
HEALTH CENTERS





Almost all SBHCs support clients and their families in obtaining services related to their social needs (90%, n=1,375).

SBHCs with MLP as Critical Access Points for Healthcare and Social Services

What is the Medical-Legal Partnership (MLP) Approach?

Medical-Legal Partnership (MLP) is a flexible, evidence-based intervention where legal and health care professionals collaborate to help patients resolve **social**, **economic**, **and environmental factors** that contribute to **health disparities** and have a remedy in civil law. Typical MLPs:

- 1. Have a "lawyer in residence" (i.e., on site at the health care facility)
- 2. Have a formal agreement between the partnering organizations
- 3. Define a target population (e.g., SBHC patients and foster youth)
- 4. Screen patients for health-harming legal needs
- Have dedicated legal staffing
- Train health care providers on common social determinants of health and how legal expertise and services can help
- 7. Share information
- 8. Designate financial resources





MLP Activities and Impact

Legal Assistance

to address patients' social needs & help the health center workforce operate at "top of license"

Training

to build knowledge, capacity & skills that strengthen the health center workforce's response to SDOH

Clinic-Level Changes

that leverage legal expertise to shape clinical practices to address many patients' needs at once

Policy Change Strategies

that advance healthy regulatory, administrative, & legislative policy solutions for whole

Healthier patients

A stronger workforce

Improved health equity



Background: Recognizing MLP as an Interventions for Health Center Patients

Health Center Model

- Health Center Program began with Section 330 of the Public Health Services Act of 1965, and is administered by HRSA
- There are approximately 1,400 health centers across the US operating at over 15,000 sites
- There are approximately 3,200 school-based health center sites across the US
- Health centers provide community-based, patient-directed, comprehensive, and high-quality primary care and preventive services

Health Center Services

- Health centers also provide enabling services that facilitate access to care:
 - Since 2014, enabling services have include "civil legal aid services" as an example of eligibility assistance and additional enabling/supportive services.

Health Center Patients

- In 2022, health centers served over 31.5 million patients including:
 - 1 in 3 uninsured people
 - 1 in 3 people living in poverty
 - o 1 in 7 rural residents
 - Health centers provided care for:
 - 1.4 million people experiencing homelessness
 - o 8.8 million children
 - 400,000 veterore

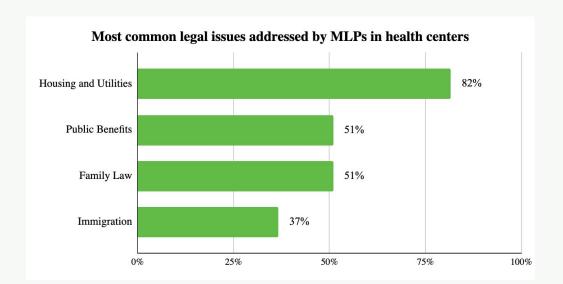
National Center for Medical Legal Partnership

- 400,000 veterans
- o 3.5 million patients over 65





Health Center-Based Medical-Legal Partnerships



Health centers represent the fast-growing sector for MLP adoption.

Of the almost 500 MLPs off all types around the country, approximately 150-200 are operated by health centers.



This table represents the percent of respondents that indicated the legal issue as one of their top three legal issues addressed by the MLP. We identified four issues that MLPs commonly addressed across all respondents.

Source: Report: Environmental Scan of Medical-Legal Partnerships in Health Centers



Examples of How Legal Services Help Health Care Address the Social Determinants of Health for SBHC Youth (Adapted from I-HELPTM)

Common SDOH	How Legal Services Can Help	Impact of Legal Services on Health / Health Care
Safe Homes and Social Supports	Secure adoption, custody and guardianship for children	 Stable family relationships significantly reduce stress and allow for better decision-making, including decisions related to health care.
Health and Health Care - Insurance & Access to Health Care	Ensure emergency access to insurance benefits	 Increased access to health services, medical care, and medications improve treatment for acute and chronic illnesses.
Economic Stability - Food Security & Housing Security	 Connect teen parents to temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) and supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP) Secure housing and prevent unwarranted and illegal evictions 	 Additional financial support means fewer trade-offs between affording food and health care, including medications. Decreased homelessness and transiency can improve attendance, concentration, and behavior.





This chart is reprinted from "<u>Framing Legal Care as Health Care</u>," a messaging guide created by the National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership. Please do not recreate it without permission.

How Legal Services Help Health Care Address the Social Determinants of Health for SBHC Youth (Adapted from I-HELPTM)

Comr	non SDOH	How Legal Services Can Help	Impact of Legal Services on Health / Health Care
Neighborho Built Enviror Quality of Ho	nment -	Improve substandard conditions and habitability	A home free of environmental hazards reduces the risk of adverse health outcomes, like asthma.
Equal Acces Work and Education	ss to	 Assist families applying for legal status and educate families on their rights Help undocumented students access college Connect parents to specialized education resources 	 Opportunities for public benefits and reduction of emotional stressors related to undocumented status allow for improved mental health. Education is one of the greatest predictors of a person's adult health, and receiving higher education translates to improved lifestyle and greater health outcomes. Special education and Individualized Education Programs (IEPs), typically outsourced to non-SBHC legal aid organizations, are uniquely designed to improve the education outcomes of each student.

/ the

S C H O O L - B A S E D
H E A L T H A L L I A N C E



MLP is a powerful tool for SBHCs

Having a medical-legal partnership is a powerful tool for school-based health centers to address poor health outcomes caused by systemic problems like inadequate, unhealthy housing and lack of access to health care services. We have a unique opportunity to assist students and families and break down systemic barriers to health and education.

Martha Glynn, FNP

SITE MEDICAL DIRECTOR SBH ERIE FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS



NATIONAL LGBTQIA+ HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER

A PROGRAM OF THE FENWAY INSTITUTE

We provide educational programs, resources, and consultation to health care organizations with the goal of optimizing quality, cost-effective health care for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, and all sexual and gender minority (LGBTQIA+) people.

What we offer:

- Technical Assistance
- Webinars
- Learning Collaboratives
- Project ECHOs
- Online educational resources (with CME credit)
- Conferences





Specific Population: LGBTQIA+ Youth in Foster Care or the Child Welfare System

Reasons for Entry:

- Unsafe, unstable, or nurturing issues
- Rejection, neglect, or abuse upon LGBTQIA+ disclosure

Overrepresentation:

- 30% in foster care identify as LGBTQ+
- 5% identified as transgender

Disproportionate Impact on Youth of Color:

- Higher likelihood of entering and staying longer
- Increased risk of discrimination and violence





Source: https://youth.gov/youth-topics/lgbtq-youth/child-welfare

Specific Population: LGBTQIA+ Youth in Foster Care or the Child Welfare System

Multiple Disrupted Placements:

Compounded trauma, higher risk of homelessness

Homelessness:

- 65% of homeless LGBTQ youth lived in group/foster homes
- 39% forced to leave homes due to identity

Challenges in Finding Permanent Homes:

- Difficulty in reunification or adoption
- Lower rates contribute to ongoing instability

Importance of Understanding and Support:

- Professionals need awareness
- Impact of policies, practices, and organizational climates





The Specific Health Needs and Disparities Faced by Current and Former Foster Youth

Center for Adoption Support and Education



Jane Dugan-Burdette
Educational Implementation
Specialist
NTI - Center for Adoption Support

and Education



Ashley Garcia-Rivera
Policy Advocacy Fellow
Center for Adoption Support
and Education







Embracing Diversity LGBTQ+ Youth In Foster Care

Presenter:

Jane Dugan Burdette, MFT, Educational Implementation Specialist at C.A.S.E.





the nonprofit CENTER FOR ADOPTION SUPPORT AND EDUCATION

since 1998

C.A.S.E. is a non-profit that provides direct clinical services to families and children experiencing adoption, foster care, and guardianship placements.

C.A.S.E. - WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE





Continuously Striving for Improved Outcomes

For 25 years, **C.A.S.E.** has been combining best practices and ground-breaking innovation to provide highly specialized **trauma-informed**, **adoption competent**, first-of-its-kind individual and family therapy, psychiatric services, case management, and support groups to families in the DMV area.

C.A.S.E. has become a local, national, and international resource for families and a national leader in trainings for the professionals who support them.

Emboldened by the core belief that all children deserve a safe, loving, permanent home; and dedicated to providing inclusive, family-focused services; C.A.S.E. draws on expertise, research, and lived experience to innovate and pay it forward by educating and empowering others. Together we commit to work with **Compassion**, **Integrity**, **Excellence**, and **Innovation** both internally and externally.



The C.A.S.E. National Training Institute provides training for Caseworkers, mental health providers, and school-based mental health providers including school nurses, psychologists, social workers, teachers, admin, and school counselors.

"Things could have been very different in my story."

Ashley Garcia-Rivera



Introduction to the term, SOGIE

SOGIE – sexual orientation, gender identity and expression which includes Lesbian, gay Bisexual, transgendered and questioning youths (LGTBQ+)









Statistics and Unique Needs of Children in Foster Care and Kinship Placements

FOSTER CARE STATS

- 425,000 children in Foster
 Care
- At least 30% identify as Diverse Sogie
- 10% of that population would identify as Transgendered

DIVERSE SOGIE

- Stats show that children with Diverse SOGIE are overrepresented within Foster Care System for reasons including:
- Higher runaway rates
- Higher homelessness rates
- More Issues

UNIQUE NEEDS

- Medical
- Clinical
- Educational Settings



SOGIE Unique Needs and Challenges

DISCRIMINATION



Additional bias and discrimination, not only because of their sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, but also because of their foster care or adoption status, race, disability, culture, or class.



SOGIE Caregivers Have Unique Challenges

LACK OF KNOWLEDGE



Caregivers are often unsure about how to take care of youth with diverse SOGIE and may fear that they are not prepared.











What are the factors that affect mental health for youth with diverse SOGIE?





- Hostility from the community and/or peers
- Verbal, physical, sexual or emotional abuse
- Victimization by others
- Medical neglect
- Systemic sexism
- Homophobia, and transphobia
- Homelessness
- Being subjected to religious proselytizing
- Breach of confidentiality
- "Being outed" without consent





- Differential treatment in dating relationships, or in sharing a room with another youth of the same sex
- Multiple placements due to non-acceptance
- Lack of cultural competence in, and inappropriate response by, systems of care
- Shortage of LGBTQ-affirming foster, adoptive, and guardianship families



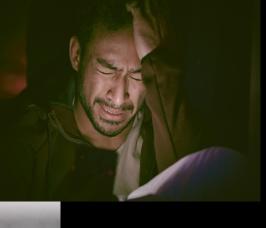
If not addressed...

Research indicates that youths will have higher rates of:

- Suicidality
- Depression
- Self-Harming Behavior
- Sexual risk behaviors
- Compromised interpersonal relationships











DIVERSE SOGIE and Youth of Color/Culture in Foster Care:

- May believe they are the only one
- Can be a very lonely place



Offering Whole-Person Support

Ask questions and don't pretend to understand



- Focus on the youth as a whole person and not just their sexual orientation, gender identity, or expression.
- Connect them to organizations that are supportive of the LGBTQ community and the youth's culture. Check out the Resources tab for links to resources.
- If youth have not revealed their sexual orientation to significant others, it is NOT your place to do so. Do NOT "out" youth to others without their consent. Be willing to have a conversation, 'I talk about this with all students



Questions & Prompts for Opening Conversations: Youth With Diverse SOGIE

- 1. Tell me about who is important in your life? What do you do together?
- 2. Is there anyone you feel particularly connected to? Is this a romantic relationship?
- 3. Are you currently dating, sexually active, or in a relationship(s)?
- 4. How would you identify your sexual orientation?
- 5. How would you describe your gender identity?
- 6. What pronoun would you use to describe yourself?
- 7. Have you ever felt confused by, or do you have concerns related to, your gender identity, sexual orientation, or gender expression?
- 8. Have you ever been treated differently by others because of your sexual orientation, gender identity, or expression?
- 9. Is the reason for getting help related to questioning your sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression?







How to be an Ally:

- In your office, display signs or symbols that indicate that you are a safe zone for discussion, if the youth chooses. Some examples are safe zone stickers, rainbow flags, or images that depict all family types and relationships.
- Have resources available within your office or school
- Encourage admin, staff, front desk etc.to be an ally and offer resources for education



References

Cody, P., Shawn, L., Farr, R., Ayers-Lopez, S.; Perspectives of Youth Adopted from Foster Care by Lesbian and Gay Parents; submitted by McRoy, R.G., AyersLopez, S., the AdoptUSKids Evaluation Team, University of Texas at Austin (January 2012)

https://adoptuskids.org/_assets/files/NRCRRFAP/resources/perspectives-ofyouth-adopted-from-foster-care-by-lesbian-and-gay-parents.p

D. Brodzinsky & A. Pertman (Eds), Adoption by lesbians and gay men: A new dimension in family diversity (pp 204-232). New York: Oxford U. Press

Goldberg, A.E. & Gianino, M. (2012). Lesbian and gay adoptive parent families: Assessment, clinical issues, and intervention.

Jacobs, J., Freundlich, M;, Achieving Permanency for LGBTQ Youth; Child Welfare Journal: Arlington85.2 (Mar/Apr 2006) 299-316.

Mallon, G.: LGBTQ Youth Issues: Practical Guide for Youth Workers Serving Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Youth; 2nd Revised edition; (2010) Child Welfare League of America

References (continued)

Perry, J.R. (2017) Promising Practices for Serving Transgender & Non-Binary Foster & Adoptive Parents.

Washington, D.C.: The Human Rights Campaign Foundation. Retrieved from:

https://www.hrc.org/blog/hrc-releases-guide-on-engagingprospective-trans-non-binary-foster-and-adop

PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) http://www.pflag.org

Russell, S.T. & Fish, J. (2016). Mental health issues in lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) youth. Annual Review of Clinical Psychology, 12, 465-487.

Supporting LGBTQ youth in Foster Care; American Academy of Pediatrics https://www.healthychildren.org/English/family-life/family-dynamics/adoptionand-foster-care/Pages/Supporting-LGBTQ-Youth-in-Foster-Care.aspx



Jane Dugan Burdette, MFT

Educational Implementation Specialist at C.A.S.E.

Email: Burdette@adoptionsupport.org

www.adoptionsupport.org



the nonprofit SUPPORT AND EDUCATION

since 1998



School-Based Mental Health Professionals Training

Better Outcomes for Children & Youth!

www.adoptionsupport.org/nti4schools

Integrating Supportive Transition Care Services through MLP

ALLIANCE for CHILDREN'S RIGHTS





Our Achievements



- Since 1992, we have served more than **150,000 children**.
- Since the inception of our adoption program over twenty years ago, nearly 17,000 adoptions
 from foster care have been finalized.
- To date, more than 9,700 school-age children have received educational services to overcome trauma, instability, disability, and developmental delays.
- The Alliance **has written and sponsored bills** that have changed foster care for the better in California, including AB12, extending foster care to age 21.

Our Impact





We finalized over

560 adoptions



We trained more than 7,600 court, agency, school, and community partners



We advocated to ensure that over

150 children

ages 0-5 accessed critical early intervention services



Our attorneys advocated for educational services for more than

700 students in foster care



Alliance Medical-Legal Partnership

Launch: March 2023

Medical Partner: Hub Clinic at Martin Luther King, Jr.

Outpatient Center

Population: Children & youth in Foster Care

Patients served: > 160

Advocacy: Education, Healthcare, SSI, Benefits, EPY, & TAY

Alliance Legal Support for TAY

Resolving Identity Theft

Re-entering Foster Care

Clearing Juvenile Tickets

Accessing SSI Benefits

Requesting Name Changes from the Court

Obtaining a Birth Certificate

Emancipation







The Alliance helps young people in foster care who need housing with:

- Determining eligibility for various housing programs
- Applying for housing programs
- Advocating on behalf of clients who are being discharged by a housing provider so that the client may maintain their housing
- Problem-solving with clients to identity temporary housing options when they
 are needed on an emergency basis
- Connecting clients who were formerly in care to the Coordinated Entry System
 so that they can apply for housing programs and services available through the
 Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority

Alliance Transition Support for TAY

The Alliance assists TAY with their education goals by connecting them to:

- Foster youth support services on college campuses
- Financial aid and scholarship programs
- High school diploma completion programs

Finding a Mentor

We connect TAY with supportive adult mentors.

Becoming a Young Leader and Advocate

We select TAY who want to become advocates in their communities to be peer advocates in our Young Leaders Group, aimed at helping to reform the foster care system.



Questions?

Please put questions in the Q&A Panel.





CALL FOR ABSTRACTS



School-Based Health Alliance are looking for experts in the school-based health care community to present workshops at the 2024 National School-Based Health Care Conference, to be held June 30-July 2, 2024, in Washington, D.C.

The theme for the conference is "Engaging Communities, Fostering Partnerships." Applications are open through Dec. 8, 2023.



Scan to apply

Happening Soon!



Scan to register!

DECEMBER 2023

The Social Determinants of Health Academy

SDOH ACADEMY LEARNING SERIES:

FOSTERING A
HEALTHCARE
WORKFORCE FOR TODAY'S
SOCIAL HEALTH
CHALLENGES

THURSDAY, DEC. 7, 2023

https://shorturl.at/rvCMQ

JANUARY 2024

MLP in Action Webingr

Using MLP to Understand and Address the Health-Harming Effects of Climate Change

January 11, 2024 | 1-2.00 PM ET

MLP IN ACTION

Health Center Emergency
Preparedness for Survivors
of IPV + Exploitation:
Multidisciplinary
Collaborations to Address
Legal Needs

https://shorturl.at/ehJKZ

https://shorturl.at/mrGM1





Thank you!



Please take a moment to complete our survey. Link is in the chat.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9VKW9PW

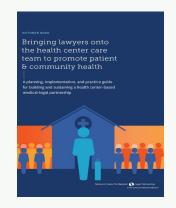




Resources



FINDINGS FROM THE 2022 NATIONAL CENSUS OF SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS



Health Center MLP Toolkit



School-Based Health and Medical-Legal Partnerships



https://sdohacademy.com/



https://www.healthcenterinfo.org/findresources/new-resources/



