Momentum for Expanding School Medicaid: What to Expect in 2023

February 2023

HEALTHY SCHOOLS
CAMPAIGN

Welcome and Introduction

HEALTHY SCHOOLS
CAMPAIGN

About Healthy Schools Campaign

- Work at the intersection of education, health and equity
- Chicago focused, nationally minded
- Focus on policy and systems level change, cross-sector collaboration
- Multi-issue, strong focus on leveraging Medicaid to expand access to health services

In partnership with

Thank you to our funders: American Academy of Pediatrics, Kaiser Permanente, School Health Corporation, William & Flora Hewlett Foundation

Why School-Based Health Services?

- Strengthen access and equity
- Early identification and intervention
- Decreased absenteeism
- Better health and academic outcomes

Models for Delivering Health Services in Schools

Community Partnerships

School-Based Health Centers

School-Employed Providers

Background on School Medicaid

- For more than 30 years, Medicaid has played a role in paying for physical and behavioral health services
- In general, Medicaid can pay for school health services delivered to all Medicaid-enrolled students, subject to certain rules

School Medicaid Matters Webinar Series

- **TODAY:** Momentum for Expanding School Medicaid in 2023

- Using Medicaid to Fund School Health Services
  - **Thursday, March 2** @ 2 p.m. ET

- Organizing for Student Health and School Medicaid
  - **Thursday, April 6** @ 2 p.m. ET

Agenda and Speakers

- **Addressing student health and Medicaid**
  - Orla Kennedy, Community Catalyst
  - Anne Dwyer, Georgetown University Center for Children and Families

- **Federal momentum on school Medicaid**
  - Vikki Wachino, Principal, Viaduct Consulting and Former Deputy Administrator of CMS

- **Panel discussion with speakers**
  - Will be joined by Margaux Johnson-Green, Georgetown University Center for Children and Families

- **Q&A**

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®

Advocacy

AAP-AACAP-CHA Declaration of a National Emergency in Child and Adolescent Mental Health

U.S. News & World Report

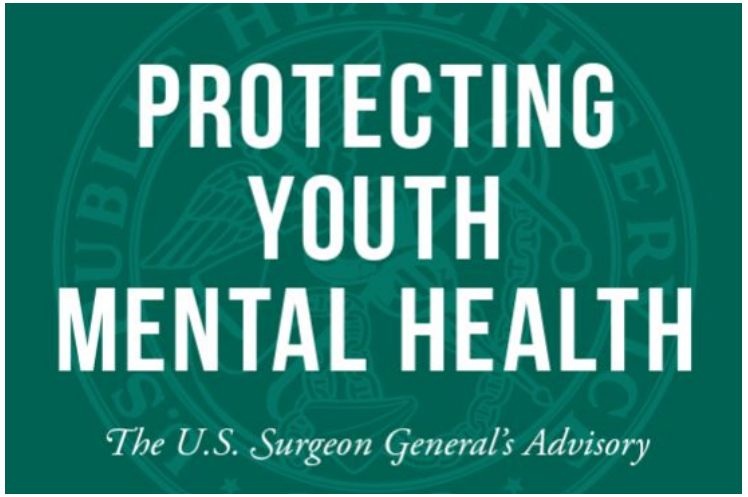
Pandemic Brought Surge in Teen Drug Overdose Deaths

By HealthDay | Dec. 20, 2022, at 12:27 p.m.

CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

New CDC data illuminate youth mental health threats during the COVID-19 pandemic



UCLA Health

Adolescent drug overdose deaths rose exponentially for the first time in history during the COVID pandemic

Snapshot:

- Continue to face a youth mental health and substance use crisis.
- Youth overdose deaths rising faster than the adult population
- Suicide is among the top three leading causes of death for youth and adolescents age 10-24
- Just 20 percent of children with behavioral health needs are able to get care from a mental health provider.
- COVID is increasing the need, affecting LGBTQ+ and BIPOC youth most.

Adolescence is a critical time for preventing and treating mental illness and substance use disorders, and youth are more likely to access services and complete treatment in schools.

Expanding Children's Access to Health Care in Schools: The New Opportunity of School Medicaid

Vikki Wachino

February 8, 2023

Viaduct Consulting LLC
Putting policy ideas into practice

Why Advance Medicaid Coverage of School Health Services ?

Opportunity to “meet kids where they are” by building services to advance educational success, health and mental health

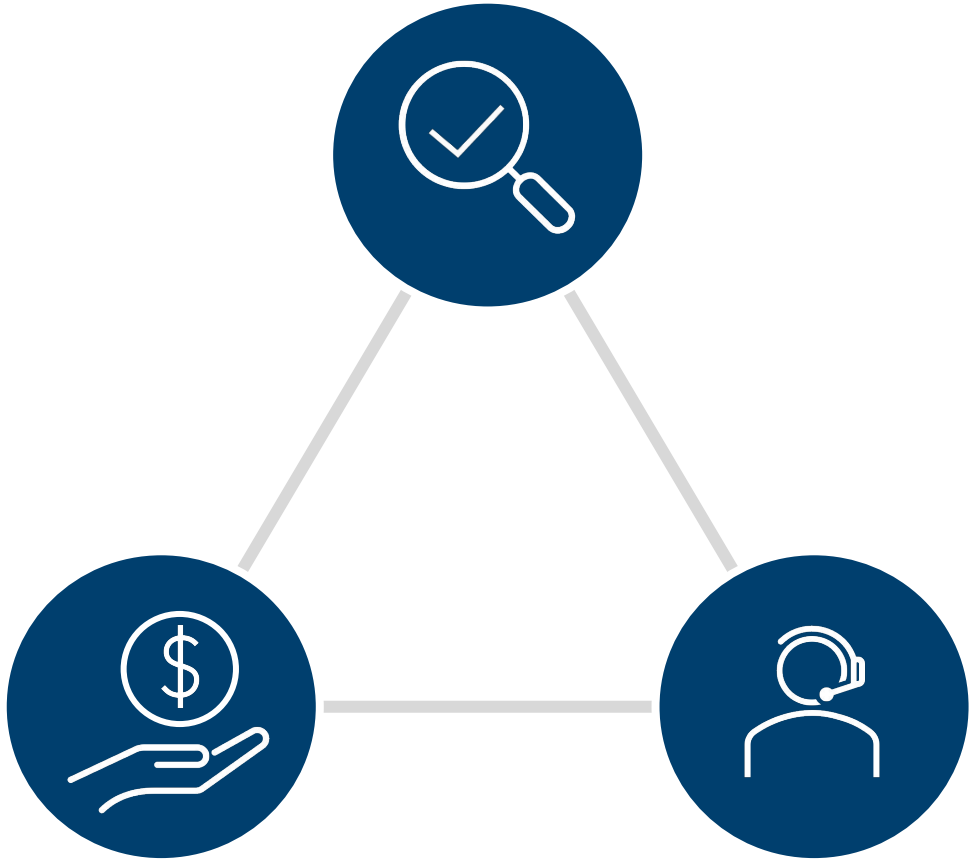
Ongoing, sustainable financing is key to meeting children’s needs in the near and long term

Why Now? A Bit of Background and Context

- The concept of Medicaid covering health care services in schools has historically flown below the radar screen, and the opportunities were limited
- In 2014, the federal government removed a longstanding barrier, the “free care rule,” to covering comprehensive services in schools through Medicaid
- States have made steady progress since then expanding school Medicaid
  - 18 states have expanded Medicaid’s reach beyond an individualized education program (IEP)
- The pandemic and the youth mental health crisis have created new urgency to accelerate progress

Forthcoming Federal Actions: The School Medicaid Trifecta

New guidance to update longstanding policies to remove barriers, simplify policies, and identify best practices



$50 million in planning grants to states

$8 million technical assistance center to support states

Making the Most of this Moment: Opportunities for Action

- Get up to speed
  - On guidance that's been issued so far
  - On Medicaid's fundamentals
- Get a running start by starting to build teams (Medicaid, state education, LEAs – and beyond)
- Start to build awareness among key decisionmakers
  - Focus on the opportunity for impact
- Sketch out an action plan
  - What is the tangible goal
  - What will it take to make this change?

SUMMER 2023:
When new Medicaid guidance is released and rules of the road are clear, you'll be ready to act!

Viaduct Consulting LLC

Putting policy ideas into practice

www.viaductconsultingllc.com • vwachino@viaductconsultingllc.com

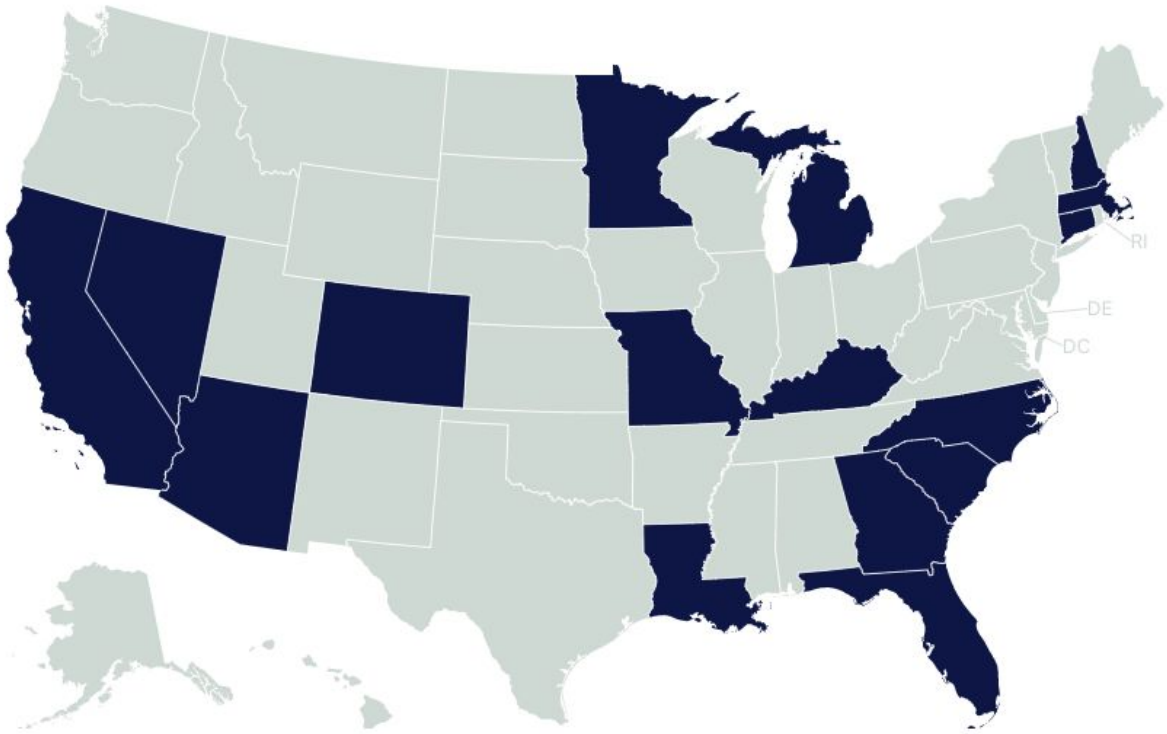
Resources

HEALTHY SCHOOLS
CAMPAIGN

Understanding School Medicaid in Your State

School Medicaid Expansion | School Health Providers | Promising Practices

States That Expanded Medicaid Coverage In Schools | States In the Process Of Expanding Medicaid Coverage In Schools | States Not Yet Taking Action



School Medicaid Expansion Status

In 2014, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services expanded the use of Medicaid to pay for school health services for all Medicaid-enrolled students. This map indicates the states that have taken the necessary steps, as of December 2021, to align their state Medicaid plan with federal policy, and the measures they took. It also identifies states in the process of doing so and those that haven't started.

Click on each state to view its status.

School Medicaid Resources

- Interactive School Medicaid Map - Healthy Students, Promising Futures, an HSC program
- How Medicaid Can Help Schools Sustain Support for Students' Mental Health - FutureED & Georgetown Center for Children and Families
- CMS Preps for Upcoming School Year with New Guidance on Leveraging Medicaid to Support School-Based Services - Georgetown Center for Children and Families
- Bipartisan Safer Communities Act Greenlights Updated School-Based Medicaid Guidance, TA Center and Grant Funding - Georgetown Center for Children and Families
- State Data Hub - Georgetown Center for Children and Families

School Medicaid Matters Webinar Series

- Using Medicaid to Fund School Health Services
  - **Thursday, March 2** @ 2 p.m. ET

- Organizing for Student Health and School Medicaid
  - **Thursday, April 6** @ 2 p.m. ET

Thank you

Jessie Mandle
National Program Director
Jessie@healthyschoolscampaign.org

HEALTHY SCHOOLS
CAMPAIGN