GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAM

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School Nurse Specialist

Goals of the GA Department of Education School Nurse Program

• Ensure all students in Georgia have access to a school nurse
• Advance school nurse practice
• Maximize use of communication with school health staff
• Provide educational offerings to school health professionals
• Provide leadership development
• Maintain an up to date database of nurses and clinic workers

School Nurses in Georgia...

Keep Georgia’s Students Safe, Healthy, In Class and Ready to Learn
School Nursing in Georgia

• Early 1990’s fewer than 45 school nurses statewide
• Now more than 1,600 registered nurses and licensed practical nurses working in the school setting
• Looking to expand school nursing services through Georgia’s Medicaid School Based Claiming Program
• Hope to begin training in January 2018

Department Of Education
Direct Nursing Services
Administrative Agreement

➢ Georgia’s Medicaid School Based Claiming Program as proposed would consist of a Direct Service Claiming (DSC) Medicaid reimbursement program component. This school-based program assists participating school districts, referred to as Local Education Agencies (LEAs), including charter schools, by reimbursing them for Medicaid-covered direct services provided to students.

➢ The purpose of the Program is to allow LEAs to receive reimbursement for Medicaid-covered direct medical services provided by school nurses to PeachCare or Medicaid eligible students.

➢ Georgia school nurses are funded with state dollars through the Quality Basic Education Act, which specifies a distribution funding mechanism to the Local Education Authorities (LEAs, or schools). This method of distribution is performed using the Quality Basic Education (QBE) formula.

➢ These state dollars can be matched with Medicaid funding by determining the penetration rate of Medicaid and Peachcare members for each school, and drawing down the federal match for services (75% for the provision of direct medical services) to pass through to the schools for the direct provision of nursing services to Medicaid and Peachcare members.
For Medicaid to cover school-based services, the services must be primarily medical and not educational in nature. The services must be provided by a qualified provider to children in families that meet Medicaid income eligibility requirements. They must be considered medically necessary for the child. The services can include:

- Providing health/mental health services contained in an Individualized Education Program (IEP)
- Medical/health assessment and evaluation as part of the development of an IEP
- Conducting medical/health assessments/evaluations and diagnostic testing and preparing related reports
- Providing personal aide services
- Administering first aid, or prescribed injection or medication to a student
- Providing direct clinical/treatment services
- Performing developmental assessments
- Providing counseling services to treat health, mental health, or substance abuse conditions
- Developing a treatment plan (medical plan of care) for a student if provided as a medical service
- Performing routine or mandated child health screens including but not limited to vision, hearing, dental, scoliosis, and Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) screens
- Providing immunizations
- Activities that are services, or components of services, listed in the state’s Medicaid plan

Georgia School Data

- 181 School Districts
- 1.7 million students
- Additionally, there are approximately 745 Private Schools

2016-2017 DOE CPI Data indicated 1,629 LPNs or RNs and 307 Unlicensed Healthcare Workers working in Georgia’s school clinics
Authority for Nursing Practice

- **Georgia State Legislature**
  - Establishes and defines the role of the Georgia Board of Nursing through the Georgia Nurse Practice Act
  - Enacts legislation that directs nurses

- **Georgia Board of Nursing**
  - Defines and establishes regulations and requirements for Registered Nurses (RN) and Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN)

- **Professional Standards and Evidence Based Best Practices**
  - Provides specifics for nursing practice activities

- **Local Policy and Procedures**
  - Directs local implementation of school nurse duties

You can not educate a child who is not healthy, and you can not keep a child healthy who is not educated...

Dr. Jocelyn Elders, Former US Surgeon General

School Nurses Work Within Common Models

- Framework for 21st Century School Nursing Practice
- Georgia's Systems for Continuous Improvement
- Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child Model
Suicide Prevention Summits


THE LAW ENTAILS

- GaDOE shall adopt a rule that requires all certificated public school personnel to receive annual training in suicide awareness and prevention
- GaDOE/DBHDD will develop a list of approved training materials
- Each local school system shall adopt a policy on student suicide prevention that addresses procedures relating to suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention

WHAT HAVE WE DONE RELATED TO THE LAW?

- Created a model policy for districts to use as a resource
- Provided training and curriculum to every school system in the state that could be redelivered to certificated personnel
- Conducted webinars with student support personnel on resources, school climate, and mental health
- Provided elementary school counselors with resources and training related to social skills and well-being
- Conducted summits with school personnel in counties that have experienced a youth suicide

Taskforce Participants
**Student Health Survey 2017 (Grades 6-12)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Felt sad or withdrawn</td>
<td>46% (388,661)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harmed yourself on purpose</td>
<td>7% (47,062)</td>
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<td>Seriously considered attempting suicide</td>
<td>9% (58,583)</td>
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<td>Attempted suicide</td>
<td>4% (25,758)</td>
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<td>Know an adult at school that I can talk with if I need help</td>
<td>46% Strongly agree</td>
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**Youth Mental Health First Aid Trainings**

- Spalding County
- Cobb County
- Floyd County
- Gwinnett County
- Hall County
- Richmond County
- Ware County
- Tift County
- Dougherty County
- Houston County
- Muscogee County
- West Georgia RESA
- CSRA RESA
- Southwest GLRS

**Georgia YMHFA Trainings**

- GaDOE Project AWARE LEA Trainings
- GaDOE Project AWARE SEA Trainings
- First Aiders Trained in YMHFA at another site

**County List**

- Appling
- Atkinson
- Bacon
- Baker
- Banks
- Barrow
- Bartow
- Berrien
- Bibb
- Brantley
- Brooks
- Bryan
- Bulloch
- Burke
- Butts
- Walker
- Fannin
- Gilmer
- Gordon
- Floyd
- Pickens
- Cherokee
- Rabun
- Towns
- Union
- Haber
- White
- Lumpkin
- Hart
- Hall
- Forsyth
- Elbert
- Jackson
- Wilkes
- Clarke
- Greene
- Taliaferro
- Morgan
- Putnam
- Gwinnett
- Cobb
- Walton
- Newton
- DeKalb
- Polk
- Carroll
- Henry
- Heard
- Coweta
- Jasper
- Jones
- Monroe
- Pike
- Troup
- Harris
- Talbot
- Upson
- Crawford
- Taylor
- Hancock
- Washington
- Jenkins
- Screven
- Emanuel
- Johnson
- Wilkinson
- Laurens
- Treutlen
- Macon
- Dooly
- Pulaski
- Dodge
- Candler
- Chatham
- Sumter
- Stewart
- Randolph
- Terrell
- Lee
- Crisp
- Wilcox
- Telfair
- Coffee
- Irwin
- Turner
- Dougherty
- Clay
- Calhoun
- Worth
- Tift
- Tattnall
- Wayne
- Pierce
- Ware
- Cook
- Colquitt
- Mitchell
- Miller
- Early
- Decatur
- Grady
- Thomas
- Echols
- Clinch
- Charlton
- Camden
- Glynn
- Long
- Liberty
- Montgomery
- Spalding
- \[\ldots\]\n
11/7/2017
Fall 2017 Locations

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<td>1000 Manatee Road</td>
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QUESTIONS?  COMMENTS?

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"Educating Georgia’s Future"