

# Continuum of Health Services FOR STUDENTS

## School-Linked Services

- School connects students and families to community organizations to increase access to health and human services
- Services may or may not be available on school grounds
- School administrators play an important role in building partnerships between the school and community organizations to ensure that students have access to services

## School Nurses

- School nurses are in a unique position to provide the critical link between the education system, students, families, community, and medical care.
- The school nurse should function as part of the healthcare team by:
  - assisting in the development of rationale for a SBHC
  - facilitating access to the full array of services to the SBHC for students
  - referring and coordinating care for students who are enrolled for care in the SBHC



## Off-Site Healthcare

- SBHCs support the principles of the medical home model, as defined by the American Academy of Pediatrics which refers to delivery of medical care that should be accessible, continuous, comprehensive, family centered, coordinated, compassionate, and culturally effective
- SBHCs can assist in linking the student and his or her family to a medical home
- For students who do not have access to a medical home, pediatricians and SBHCs may collaborate and coordinate care to promote linkages so that services are provided when school is not in session and to avoid duplication or fragmentation of care

## School-Based Health Centers (SBHC)

- SBHCs provide a variety of services to improve the overall health of students and their family members, including primary care, immunizations, health screenings, and health education
- Some SBHCs offer services for behavioral health, substance abuse, oral health, vision and hearing screenings, and reproductive health
- Services may be implemented through a mobile unit that regularly visits the school, a collaborative that links the school to community agencies that provide health and human services, or through family referrals to services