



## School Based Health Centers



### Our Results

At least **248** emergency room visits were prevented in School Year 2010-2011. Saving nearly **\$250,000** in ambulance and emergency room costs to NY taxpayers



**3,800** mental health counseling sessions were provided at our SBHCs in SY 2010-2011



**805** families enrolled into public health insurance in our schools from 2007-2011; a total of **1,480** individuals enrolled.



**77** children are currently receiving orthodontic treatment at our Salome Ureña Campus Orthodontic Clinic (SY 2010-2011)



In average, **40%** of our students receive dental care at our SBHCs



**26,138** free vision screenings have been provided from 2007 to 2011



**3,600** free eyeglasses given from 2007 to 2011

School Based Health Centers (SBHC) are considered by experts as one of the most effective and efficient ways to provide preventive health care to children. Few programs are as successful in delivering health care to children at no cost to the patient, and where they are: in school.

For many underserved children, The Children's Aid Society's school-based health centers are their first and only access to health care.

With a parent's consent for services, medical, dental and mental health issues are addressed in the school setting. This proactive approach prevents health issues from becoming acute concerns in the home, emergency room or community. As a result, youngsters miss fewer school days and parents miss fewer days at work.

A qualified team of pediatricians, nurse practitioners, social workers, psychiatrists, dentists, dental hygienists, orthodontists, medical assistants and other support staff, care for about 4,000 students each year, monitoring their physical and mental health at the most important developmental stages of life.

All five Children's Aid Society SBHCs operate as part of Children's Aid Community Schools—a nationally recognized education strategy that improves student outcomes by combining high quality education with services, supports and opportunities that reduce barriers to learning (after school and summer programs, parent engagement and education, and comprehensive health and wellness services). Community Schools have received national support from both Education Secretary Arne Duncan and Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius.

CAS operates **5** SBHCs located in New York City's Washington Heights and East Harlem neighborhoods

### SBHCs by the numbers

**28,000** visits in School Year 2010-2011

**68%** of enrolled students have Medicaid

**4,000** Children served in School Year 2010-2011

**83%** of school population is enrolled in SBHCs

# More on Children's Aid Society School-Based Health Programs



Yerika Cuevas (left), senior at MS293, helps parents at a Farmer's Market she helped organize along with her classmates in October 2011 as part of the Ready to Achieve Cardiovascular Health Program (REACH). Photo Credit: Ben Russell

## Ready to Achieve Cardiovascular Health (REACH)

During school year 2010-2011, thanks to a grant from the American Heart and American Stroke Associations, students from MS293 City College Academy of the Arts at Salomé Ureña Campus received health education and cooking classes to increase awareness on cardiovascular health. At the end of the semester the students proposed activities to increase awareness on cardiovascular health in the community. The winning team hosted a successful farmer's market at the school selling out on all the fruit and vegetable staples on season, such as collard greens, kale, apples, potatoes, etc. The farmer's market included cooking demonstrations and samples tasting.

## ChildSight Vision Screenings

In coordination with Helen Keller International (HKI), over 26,138 vision screenings have been provided to students in 20 CAS community schools from 2007-2011. With nearly 3,600 free eyeglasses already distributed, this program has been praised by parents, teachers, students and principals alike.

## Reproductive Health Project

In partnership with the DOH and DOE, our High School students in Salome Ureña are receiving wide-ranging reproductive health services including on-site dispensing of contraceptives and referrals for long acting reversible contraceptives. By making available popular contraceptives methods such as the Ring, the Shot, the Pill, the Patch and emergency contraception, this

program has expanded the reach of our already comprehensive reproductive health services that include pre and post-test counseling, for STI and HIV, pregnancy tests, prescriptions for patient and partner, etc. provided by a caring team of providers including Social Workers, Nurse Practitioner and Physician.

## Early Recognition Program

CAS was selected by The New York State Office of Mental Health to participate in a new program to screen children and teens for signs of social, emotional and/or behavioral challenges. With parental consent, the Early Recognition Program is open to all students at our Community Schools. If the screening detects possible concerns, our Early Recognition Specialist will contact the family, review the findings, and either arrange appropriate service at the SBHC or make an appropriate referral.

## No-Touch Dental Screenings

Thanks to a grant from a private funder, we are doing public health no-touch dental screenings in the classrooms for students in 1<sup>st</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders to identify obvious dental problems. Students will have the option to visit their own dentists or schedule an appointment with our school based dentist who will also assess for the need for braces and referrals to our Casa de Sonrisas Orthodontic Clinic.

## Orthodontic Clinic

The Children's Aid Society School-Based Orthodontic Program is possibly the first Orthodontic Clinic in a public school in the United States. It opened its doors on November 1st, 2007. As of 2012 there currently are 77 students with active treatment. The care is provided in partnership with St. Barnabas Hospital whose orthodontists are also be available for dental surgery and specialty children's dental care if needed.

## SBHC Federal Funding in 2011

### SBHC Capital funding-EHR

In 2011, CAS was awarded \$482,000 by Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) to replace medical and dental equipment and implement an Electronic Health System which will be rolled out in the fall of 2012 at all of our SBHCs

### FQHC-Staten Island

In 2011, CAS received a planning grant from HRSA to study the feasibility of opening a Federally Qualified Health Center at Curtis High School in Staten Island serving 2,600 students and the surrounding area in the north shore of Staten Island.

*For more information on Children's Aid Society's School Based Health Center Programs please contact: Adria Cruz, Director of School Based Health Centers and Special Initiatives at [adriac@childrensaidsociety.org](mailto:adriac@childrensaidsociety.org)*