

APPLICATION NARRATIVE

A. Community resources and demographics relevant to the need for a SBHC

Oakview Elementary School (OES) has 805 students in grades PreK – 5 and is located in the southern corridor of DeKalb County in Decatur, Georgia. OES is a Title I school with student demographics consisting of the following: 91.3% Black, 5.5% Hispanic, 1.5% Multiracial, 0.6% White, and 1.7% English learners. Among the 805 students attending Oakview Elementary, all students (100%) qualify for the Free and Reduced Meal program and are listed as socioeconomically disadvantaged, an indicator of poverty.

OES has also been designated as a Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) Promise School which consists of the 5.01% to 10% lowest performing Title I schools in the state when ranked based on their three-year College and Career Ready Performance Index average. The schools are federally identified as needing comprehensive or targeted support and improvement. The Georgia Department of Education's team provides support to these schools to either sustain improvement or provide proactive support before they fall into the lowest 5% CSI category.

Oakview benefits from community resources and partnerships with external providers to support the needs of the academic, social emotional, health, and physical needs of families within the community. Oakview is the cornerstone of learning within this community and focuses on academic success along with care and support for students, teachers, families, and all stakeholders. OES was selected as the second school to have a School Based Health Center (SBHC) due to the communitywide need for access to healthcare services. OES also has the availability of space in an ideal location in the school to house the SBHC. Two – three empty classrooms will be converted to the site of OES' SBHC. The school district has been struggling to hire and retain school nurses and is typically understaffed throughout the school year. There are currently over 20 nurse vacancies within the district. As a result, nurses are pulled away from their assigned school to cover acute medical conditions in neighboring schools. The top three social determinants of health in DCSD are asthma, diabetes, and seizures. Therefore, a SBHC will help alleviate the burden of families going to the doctor and receiving various types of medical services within this identified community. Additionally, the in-school location will allow resources to be readily available for families in the Oakview community, especially those who may not have transportation.

B. Description of the 1-Year Planning Process

DCSD will hire a part-time project/grant manager to develop the project scope, conduct a needs assessment with the school/community, create an advisory board, write the Request for Proposals and complete the bidding process with the finance officers and establish regularly scheduled meetings with all interested parties to keep everyone informed and abreast of project development.

C. Proposed Partnerships/Partners

DeKalb County is proposing to work with two existing partners, Medcura Health and Kids Doc on Wheels. MedCura Health is currently the partner provider for the county's first School Based Health Center at Doraville United Elementary School. They have the knowledge and experience to support an additional site. Medcura provides affordable, accessible, and quality primary care services to ethnically diverse patients and their families through its seven practice site locations. As a grassroots medical option for the underserved and uninsured, MedCura saves

the county and state money by providing primary care to those who would typically seek help in an emergency room setting for non-emergency problems. It continues to be the healthcare safety net it was when it was originally founded in 1978 in DeKalb County in the Oakhurst community.

The practice was created by Oakhurst resident and Decatur Mayor Emeritus Elizabeth Wilson (1993-1998) out of her strong advocacy for the elderly and poor residents in her community and the disparity in healthcare services. The medical center grew quickly from virtually no funding and one or two staff volunteers to a budget of \$6 million and a multi-disciplined staff including doctors, nurses, social workers, a nutritionist, a contract dentist and an ophthalmologist. Its impact on the community was significant, providing preventive care to hundreds of medically underserved area residents.

The district's second partner medical provider is Kids' Doc On Wheels (KDOW). The mission of Kids'-Doc-On-Wheels, Inc., is to ensure increased access to high quality and comprehensive pediatric care in the children's communities as well as their primary daily location – SCHOOL. The virtual, iCare Telemedicine Center, serves as a School-based health clinic in schools, Head Start programs, parks and recreation facilities and in the family homes. The KDOW Medical Mobile Unit (MMU) serves as a complement to the iCare Telemedicine Center providing on-site services. KDOW also serves as a Primary Care Provider as well as a complement to the community pediatricians in order to improve children's access to medical, dental and behavioral health services.

KDOW proudly serves children ages 0 to 18 in public and private schools, early learning and daycare programs, and local YMCAs. We accept Medicaid, private pay insurance, and offers a sliding fee scale for those who qualify. No child will be turned away due to an inability to pay for care. KDOW is familiar with the diverse needs of the community and has become a trusted resource for the families served.

D. Planning Year Outputs

The project manager would have been hired and outlined the meeting participants and timeline for deliverables. The following are the expected deliverables:

- Conduct three needs assessments and/or focus groups with local parent/community members from the school zone.
- School staff and community are aware and prepared for the upcoming health center.
- Space has been identified and is ready for construction. All materials have been removed from classrooms.
- Convene quarterly advisory board meetings, both on and off site.
- The Advisory Board which consists of 7 members, will meet 11 times during Year 1; initial meeting June 2023 and additional meetings from August 2023 – May 2024.
- Partnerships with medical personnel are established and DCSD is prepared to begin purchasing equipment at the beginning of Year 2 or as soon as the funds are available.
- Plan one site visit to Doraville United Elementary School's School Based Health Center located in Doraville, Georgia, the district's first and only fully operational SBHC located in the northern region of DCSD.
- Meet with the superintendent and senior cabinet members to discuss the developments of the Year 1 planning process and the timeline for Year 2.
- At the end of Year 1, DCSD will be prepared for space renovations at the beginning of Year 2.

E. Planning Year Project Timeline of Key Activities/Milestones

May 2023	Notification of Award Create Board Agenda Item for July Monthly meeting: Office of Whole Child Supports (May 2023 – May 2024) Notify advisory board members
June 2023	Create and post vacancy for PT Grant Manager Convene Initial Advisory Board Meeting with the following members: Jeff Taylor-Medcura (medical partner) Kids Doc on Wheels (medical partner agency) Denise Revels, Director of Wrap Around and Student Support (DCSD) JoAnn Harris- Coordinator of Health (DCSD) Sabrina Pressley (School Administrator) Marcia Coward or designee (DCSD Parent Engagement)
July 2023	Conduct interviews & make recommendation Participate in SBHC 101 Kick-off Workshop Set up internal budget with Finance Dept.
August 2023	Onboard Grants Manager Establish meeting cadence with medical partners Monthly Advisory Board Meetings (September 2023 – May 2024) Complete needs assessment with facilities/architect & medical partner SBHC Business Planning & Marketing Workshop
September 2023	Visit Doraville United elementary School’s School Based Health Center Obtain plans from facilities Create RFP based on identified needs Meet with Medical Partners
October 2023	Review bids & select vendor Meet with medical partners and selected vendor
November 2023	Vendor meeting, create timeline for work Meet with medical partners
December 2023	Meet with medical partners Advisory Council Meeting
January 2024	Meet with medical partners to discuss diverse needs
February	Vendor meeting, create timeline for work Meet with medical partners to discuss staffing
March	Meet with medical partners to discuss supplies Advisory Council Meeting
April	Vendor meeting, review timeline for work Meet with medical partners
May	Vendor meeting, solidify timeline for work to begin in the summer Meet with medical partners Meet with school-based staff to inform of upcoming construction for SBHC