Increasing Access to Student Health Services for MS Students

A Johnson and Johnson School Health Leadership Project





J&J School Health Leadership Program

- Team MS—one of 17 teams selected
- MS Team member include:
 - Donnis Harris-Quitman School District
 - Margaret Hart—McComb School District
 - Joyce Little-Greenville School District
 - Chandra Warren—Chickasaw County School District
 - Estelle Watts-MS Department of Education



- Health services is seen as a luxury not a necessity
- Link between health and education is not understood.
- Unrecognized connection to chronic absenteeism
- Other staff (administrators, teachers, secretaries) will attend to student health needs when there is no nurse



Project Selection

- MS School District planned to slash quality school health services, eliminating RN's and replacing with LPN's
- Massachusetts study—concluded, for each dollar invested in school health services there was a resulting \$2.20 savings



MS Project-Method

- Modified the Massachusetts study
- Enlist schools/district to participate
 - Schools with full-time school nurses
 - School nurse participation
 - Teacher participation
 - Parent participation
 - Districts without a school nurse
 - Teacher participation
 - Parent participation



Enlistment activities

- Define full-time school nurse
 - School nurses were asked to self identify as working in one school, all day every day.
- Develop and test parent survey
 - Student nurse (RN-BSN) conducted testing in her school district
- Modify existing surveys
 - Included questions that applied to schools with and without school nurses



- Teachers were provided a work sheet to aid with identifying the time used for student health needs
- Teachers and nurses were provided an electronic survey link
- Parents who were at the school addressing student health needs during the data collection period were asked to complete a survey.



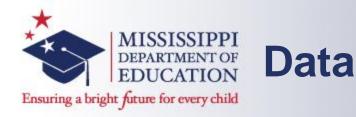
Data Collection

- Schools and districts were asked to select a one week period during a six week window to collect data.
- A contact person was identified in each school or district.
- The thirteen districts without a school nurse were visited by Team MS members to explain the importance of the project.



Nurse Data

- 113 school nurses self identified as meeting the established definition of full-time
- 36 nurses completed the data collection survey
 - 32% participation rate



- Teacher Data
 - 942 surveys completed
 - Distributed among all school levels
 - 37 surveys from Pre-K programs
 - 187 from districts with "no school nurse"
 - Represents 54% of districts (7)
 - 20% of total surveys
 - 755 from schools with a school nurse
 - Represents 21 districts
 - 80% of total surveys



Parent Data

- 264 surveys completed
- 18 did not wish to participate
 - 7% of total surveys
- 75 from districts without a school nurse
 - 28% of total surveys
- 171 from schools with a school nurse
 - 65% of total surveys



- A comment section was added to the surveys to give teachers and parents an opportunity to freely express thoughts and concerns.
 - Parents-expressed need for nurses, and gratitude for nurses
 - Teachers-expressed need for nurses, and various services that nurses provide their students



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