

Appalachian Community Grant Program

Appalachian Children’s Health Initiative Project Descriptions

Adams County Ohio Valley School District (Adams)

Telehealth and Mobile Unit Program

Award amount: \$1,337,328

In partnership with the Adams County Regional Medical Center, Adams County Ohio Valley School District will establish a telemedicine program for students, teachers, administrators, and support staff to identify and treat health problems, as well as provide comprehensive care and health education for a district experiencing gaps in healthcare accessibility and resources. ACRMC will staff each of the three PreK-12 schools with a medical assistant to reduce the burden on school nurses and coordinate access with telehealth visits and hospital staff. Additionally, the project will fund a community mobile care program, staffed with a nurse practitioner, medical assistant, and registration specialist to provide healthcare and education to serve the local Amish population, mitigating transportation and other barriers for the community.

Ashtabula Area City School District (Ashtabula)

School-Based Health Center

Award amount: \$331,500

In partnership with the Ashtabula County Medical Center (ACMC), the Ashtabula Area City School District will establish a new school-based health clinic to provide primary care services to students. The clinic will be staffed by a nurse practitioner along with either a medical assistant or licensed practical nurse and will offer students convenient access to primary care on weekdays, aiming to prioritize students’ ability to remain in school. The Growth Partnership of Ashtabula County, and the Ashtabula County Community Action Agency, are partners on the project and aim to develop and strengthen workforce ties and wrap-around services. The clinic is part of the broader ACMC network, which will leverage various specialty providers for necessary referrals.

Athens City Schools, Warren Local Schools, Wellston City Schools, Chillicothe City Schools, Union Scioto Local, Adena Local (Athens, Jackson, Washington, Ross)

Mobile School-Based Eye Care Program

Mobile Vision Program-Athens award amount: \$334,300

Mobile Vision Program-Ross award amount: \$240,700

In partnership with Athens Eye Care, LLC/Hocking Hills Eye Care and Dr. Patricia A. Haller, Athens City, Warren Local, Wellston City, Chillicothe City, Union Scioto Local, Adena Local school districts will establish a mobile school-based eye care program to provide school-

based vision care to at-risk students. Providers will travel to school districts and deliver school-based care during the academic year, which will result in over 2,300 eye exams across six school districts. Providers will utilize mobile eye exam equipment to provide comprehensive eye exams and diagnose any vision or ocular health issues. This program will eliminate the barrier of transportation to a local eye care provider and the general lack of eye care providers in the regions being served. There are also plans of recruitment of new providers to the area to create a more robust eye care provider network, expanding access to care for the surrounding community.

East Central Ohio Educational Service Center (Belmont)

Community Resource Center

Award amount \$3,315,924

In partnership with Ohio Hills Health Centers and Ohio University, East Central Ohio Educational Service Center will establish a community-based health center. Space is allocated for four dental treatment bays, three exam rooms, two physician offices, and a laboratory. The facility will serve as a regional hub for healthcare services and workforce development programming for students, families, and adult residents of Belmont and surrounding counties. The community resource center will provide necessary health and wellness services to students and families who may otherwise be forced to travel long distances to receive the care they need.

HealthSource of Ohio (Brown)

Community Health Center and Workforce Training Center Expansion

Award amount \$3,622,000

HealthSource of Ohio (HSO) will expand its health center in the village of Mt. Orab, allowing for increased access to primary care and dental services and offering designated space for medical and dental job training. To address the growing need for healthcare professionals in Brown County, HSO will hire a family medicine clinician, dentist, dental hygienist, and support staff. In addition, HSO is developing its training curriculum for dental assistants to mirror the success of its medical assistant program and provide students with the opportunity to train for a career in dental care services.

Brown Local School District (Carroll)

Malvern Community Wellness Center

Award amount \$2,627,950

In partnership with Aultman Health Foundation, Brown Local School District will build a 3,000-square-foot community wellness center that will provide comprehensive services, including access to healthcare, mental health, addiction and recovery services, CARE Team Services as well as wellness opportunities for staff and community members. The wellness

center will be staffed by a nurse practitioner and a medical assistant, and will operate weekdays, year-round. Students will be prioritized, but the center will have the capability of serving staff while also allowing access to the broader community.

HealthSource of Ohio (Clermont)

Community Health Center and Workforce Training Center Expansion

Award amount \$3,400,000

In partnership with the city of Loveland, HealthSource of Ohio (HSO) will expand an existing school-based health center in Loveland that will provide space for an additional primary care clinician while also adding much-needed telehealth services for the nearby Goshen school-based health center. The project will also create 2-3 certified medical assistant roles giving patients access to the full scope of services offered by HSO including medical, dental, vision, behavioral health, and pharmacy services. HSO plans to partner with Ohio Means Jobs and other community agencies to ensure rural community members have the opportunities they need to be healthy and employed.

Bristol, Crestview, East Holmes, Mahoning Valley, Newton Falls, and Sebring School Districts (Columbiana, Holmes, Mahoning, Trumbull)

Mobile Provider with Telehealth

Award amount \$238,668

In partnership with Akron Children's Hospital, Bristol, Crestview, East Holmes, Mahoning Valley, Newton Falls, and Sebring School Districts will establish a mobile, in-person provider, and telehealth model of school-based healthcare. Each district designated a private clinical space for Akron Children's use when on-site, allowing for efficient distribution, coordination, and management of services including necessary preventative care services. Akron Children's will retain an advanced practice provider at the program launch to partner directly with the identified districts. The school provider will deliver telehealth and in-person clinical services for the district and student population. Locations will receive integrated telehealth equipment to streamline student access to care. In future phases, telehealth will be utilized to connect Akron Children's Hospital primary and specialty practice providers directly to their patient population in and through school.

East Palestine City School District (Columbiana)

East Palestine School-Based Health Center

Award amount \$251,528

In partnership with Akron Children's Hospital, East Palestine City School District has designated a private, school-based clinical space in the high school and elementary school. Locations will receive equipment to facilitate comprehensive, in-person care as well as telehealth. A dedicated school health primary care provider will be recruited and retained at

the program launch to partner directly with East Palestine City Schools. The provider will offer indirect and direct clinical services for the school district and student population and will work with the school nursing staff. Together they will leverage health and wellness policy, promotion, education, and access to direct healthcare services to help create healthy school environments for students, staff, and families across the district.

Gallia County Local School District (Gallia)

Gallia County School-Based Health Center

Award amount \$2,850,680

In partnership with Holzer Health System, Gallia County Local School District plans to construct a 2,300-square-foot health center at the South Gallia Middle and High School building. This facility will provide comprehensive primary care, behavioral health, dental, and vision services to students, district staff, and members of the surrounding community. The center will be staffed by the following Holzer team members: a nurse practitioner and a certified medical assistant who will be trained to handle registration duties. Vision services will be provided by a Holzer optometrist, and dental services will be offered by local a dentist.

Gallipolis City School District (Gallia)

Gallia Academy Wellness Center

Award amount \$2,627,220

In partnership with Holzer Health System, Gallipolis City School District will construct a wellness center adjacent to the Gallia Academy High School, where space will be dedicated to health and wellness services provided by staff from Holzer, Hopewell Health Centers, Health Recovery Systems, and district personnel. The wellness center will include space for primary care, behavioral health, optometry, school nursing, substance abuse counseling, and shared conferencing space to facilitate collaboration between providers and key stakeholders. Students will be prioritized, but services will also be accessible to district families, staff, and community members. Primary care offerings for students will be comprehensive, including but not limited to well visits, acute and sick visits, vaccinations, primary care mental health, and transportation support.

Fairfield Local School District (Highland)

School-Based Health Center

Award amount \$3,235,560

In partnership with Highland Health Partners (HHP), Fairfield Local School District will build and open a school-based health center in the Fairfield Local School District to meet the health and wellness needs of students and families. Services will be provided through a mix of on-site and telehealth resources providing access to both comprehensive primary care, and mental and behavioral health resources, to decrease behaviors such as

student tardiness and absenteeism. HHP aims to engage external psychiatry and therapy services while exploring the incorporation of a new behavioral health service line within the organization to address the insufficient availability of local behavioral health services. HPP will link patients with Highland District Hospital as necessary for follow-up that best meets their needs. Additionally, Fairfield Local will add classroom space to support workforce development and STEM education expansion and will be leveraged as an extension of the established career readiness program.

FosterHub (Hocking, Ross, and Vinton)

Multi-use Facility with Housing, Training, and Wraparound Services

Award amount \$7,322,363

In partnership with the Hocking Valley Community Hospital, South Central Ohio Job & Family Services, Court Appointed Special Advocates, and CK Construction Group, FosterHub will purchase and renovate a commercial property in the heart of historic downtown Logan that will house all operations and offer services, including transitional housing for adolescents transitioning from foster care. The space will also provide job training, life skills training, group therapy, and behavioral health activities. The newly renovated downtown location will be home to a teaching kitchen, laundry services, computer training center, gathering space for behavioral health support services, and more to allow for a holistic approach to ensure youth have the necessary support in place to reach their full potential.

Campbell City School District (Mahoning, Trumbull, and Columbiana)

Campbell Health and Community Development Center

Award amount \$10,504,763

In partnership with Stark State College, Education Service Center of Eastern Ohio, Mahoning County Green Team, and United Way of Youngstown and Mahoning Valley, Campbell City School District will construct a 55,000-square-foot facility on the grounds of its K-6 school, adjacent to the region's only STEM school, the Northeast Ohio IMPACT Academy, and Community Literacy Workforce and Cultural Center. This unique ecosystem of programs and partners will provide access to food through an on-site food pantry, greenhouse, and composting facility; healthcare services that provide pediatric primary care and pediatric mental health counseling on-site and via telehealth; childcare that provides literacy-rich and developmentally appropriate curriculum that is aligned with Ohio's Early Learning Standards; and workforce services and educational programming related to the medical field, including but not limited to medical coding, medical assistants, and other high-need and emerging areas of healthcare. Linkages to care at Akron Children's will be available to students and families in each district.

Maysville Local School District (Muskingum)

School-Based Health Center

Award amount \$283,500

In partnership with the Muskingum Valley Health Centers (MVHC), Maysville Local School District will fully integrate into Maysville Middle/High School building by converting unused classroom space into a comprehensive school-based health center, providing accessible healthcare services, including mental health support, health education, and primary care services. MVHC will operate a full-service, school-based clinic staffed by an advanced practice registered nurse and one licensed practical nurse. The clinic will operate daily during the academic year and the MVHC mobile unit will operate during the summer, serving students as well as district staff, parents, and families. Patients will also be connected to MVHC's broader network of care in the region.

Zanesville City School District (Muskingum)

School-Based Health Center at Zanesville High School

Award amount \$1,307,050

In partnership with Muskingum Valley Health Center (MVHC), Zanesville City School District will develop a school-based health center located in walkable proximity to its middle school and also offering services to the district's three elementary schools. The center will consist of three exam rooms, one of which can be allocated for hearing and vision care or other needs aside from traditional primary care. The scope of work offered by MVHC spans preventive as well as acute care, allowing patients to be seen for anything from routine annual care to chronic disease management for conditions such as asthma or diabetes. Point-of-care testing will also be available to enable immediate diagnostic testing and treatment for students, staff, and patients from the community. Patients will also be linked to MVHC's broader local network of care as specialty care needs arise.

Scioto Valley Local School District (Pike, Scioto, Jackson, Adams, and Ross)

Scioto Valley School-Based Health Center

Award amount \$1,695,701

In partnership with the Valley View Health Centers (VVHC) and the Community Action Committee of Pike County, Scioto Valley Local School District (SVLSD) will operate a school-based health clinic in an existing 5,500-square-foot stand-alone facility on the SVLSD campus in Piketon. The center will offer a continuum of care for the whole person. Health and wellness services and social services programming will be available to students as well as staff, family members, and caregivers. The staffing for the center will include licensed medical, social services, and community health staff from VVHC.

Adena Local School District (Ross)

Warrior Wellness Center

Awards amount \$5,754,118

In partnership with Adena Health System, Adena Local School District will establish the Warrior Wellness Center located on the school district's new athletic field complex. The facility will be inclusive of a variety of health, wellness, and social services and will not only benefit the students of Adena Local but will also serve school staff and the entire community. The wellness center will include a newly constructed primary health clinic in addition to a pharmacy, a community wellness and activity center, and offices for behavioral health and other community-serving organizations. A walking track in the facility will provide year-round exercise opportunities for community members. On-site primary care clinical services will be supported 5 days per week through Adena Health and staffed with a primary care provider and support staff.

Chillicothe City School District (Ross)

School-Based Health Center

Award amount \$662,130

In partnership, Adena Health and Chillicothe City Schools have identified a 1,300-square-foot space within the district enrollment center on the High School-Middle School campus to serve as a school-based health center. The new clinic will be adjacent to the high school gymnasium and will create easy access for students, staff, and community members. The Chillicothe Wellness team is prioritizing primary care as one of their top needs for students, along with mental health, dental, and nutrition services. Patients can be connected to a broad network of care and be referred to other specialty care providers as needed. On-site clinical services will be supported through Adena Health and staffed by a two-person medical care team that will rotate between the on-site clinics in Ross County to ensure adequate coverage for all partner school districts based on need.

Huntington Local School District (Ross)

School-Based Health Center

Award amount: \$556,290

In partnership with Adena Health System, Huntington Local School District will establish a Huntington school-based health center within their unified campus complex. The clinic will be located within the high school section of the building and staffed by a two-person medical care team that will rotate between the on-site clinics in Ross County to ensure adequate coverage for all partner school districts based on need. Based on a 2022 school district health and wellness assessment, primary care for students is a priority, along with mental health, dental, and nutrition services. Adena will work to ensure effective delivery of the coordinated services, including prevention care and services for patients, health and social-related

professional development services for staff, ongoing assessment of school needs with staff, administration, and school nurses, athletic training and support services, and primary care services.

Pickaway-Ross Career & Technology Center (Ross, Pickaway)

School-Based Health Center

Award amount \$524,250

In partnership with Adena Health System, Pickaway-Ross Career & Technology Center will establish a school-based health clinic. The clinic will provide convenient access to healthcare services, addressing immediate health needs and fostering a proactive approach to students' physical and mental well-being. On-site medical care, vaccinations, and health education programs will enhance students' academic success by reducing absenteeism due to health issues. Access to additional services, such as primary care mental health, will help improve mental health issues. The center will also serve as a valuable resource for families and the community, providing a centralized location for accessible and affordable healthcare, ultimately promoting a healthier and more engaged student body and community as a whole.

Union-Scioto Local School District (Ross)

School-Based Health Center

Award amount \$605,610

In partnership with Adena Health System, Union-Scioto Local School District will establish a school-based health center, eliminating transportation barriers for families and providing access to care for both routine and unexpected medical needs. Prioritized primary care is the top focus for students, along with mental health, dental, and nutrition services. Internal and external Adena partners will ensure effective delivery of the coordinated services, including prevention care and services for patients, health and social-related professional development services for staff, ongoing assessment of school needs with staff, administration and school nurses, athletic training and support services, and primary care services. On-site clinical services will be supported through Adena Health and staffed by a two-person medical care team that will rotate between the on-site clinics in Ross County to ensure adequate coverage for all partner school districts based on need.

Greenfield Exempted Village, Southeastern Local School District, Waverly City Schools, Wellston City Schools, Zane Trace Local Schools (Ross, Highland, Pike, Jackson)

Mobile Health Program

Award amount \$232,965

Adena Health System will expand the scope of services its mobile health program delivers to Greenfield Exempted Village, Southeastern Local School District, Waverly City Schools,

Wellston City Schools, and Zane Trace Local Schools to deliver critically needed services to families throughout the multi-county service region. The Adena mobile unit is equipped with the necessary equipment for both primary care and dental services, removing barriers to care and fostering a proactive approach to healthcare. A full-time nurse practitioner, one driver/registrar combined role, and one full-time community health worker will be added to the mobile program. Additionally, shore plugs will be installed at each district partner, including existing mobile health district partners, to extend the life of the mobile health unit to ensure sustainable operations well into the future. Linkages of care will be intentionally conducted for patients with needs beyond the initial mobile unit appointment.

Warren City School District (Trumbull)

Warren School-Based Health Center

Award amount \$ 318,360

In partnership with Akron Children’s Hospital, Warren City School District will establish a school-based health center to prioritize closing gaps in care for students with chronic health conditions, such as asthma and other chronic illnesses. The center will be located within Warren G. Harding High School, connecting to a fully operating pediatric practice that will serve as the central clinical location for the Akron Children’s care team. A dedicated advanced practice provider will provide clinical services for the school district and student population. Medical and community staff will work with school nursing staff to address referrals timely and appropriately with consent from parents and guardians. Telehealth services will be available to streamline student access to care within their home school, eliminating transportation barriers. In future phases, telehealth will be utilized to connect Akron Children’s Hospital primary and specialty practice providers directly to their patient population in and through school.

Tuscarawas Valley Local School District (Tuscarawas)

Tusky Valley School-Based Health Center

Award amount \$2,284,000

In partnership with Aultman Health Foundation, Tuscarawas Valley Local School District will repurpose the old high school building into a community resource center which will house a school-based health center, senior center, community event space and theater, and a fitness center. The center will offer students access to comprehensive primary care including well visits, acute and sick visits, vaccinations, and more, and services will be available to the larger community as well. The health center will be staffed by a nurse practitioner and a medical assistant and will operate weekdays, year-round. Additionally, plans include placing two mental health providers inside the health center to establish on-site mental health services at school and integrate primary and behavioral health care.

Claymont City School District (Tuscarawas)

Claymont School-Based Health Center

Award amount \$1,896,633

In partnership with Aultman Health Foundation, Claymont City School District will construct a 2,000-square-foot school-based health center on the grounds of Claymont High School, which will allow Aultman to provide enhanced acute care and comprehensive well-care to address absenteeism among students and staff. Primary care offerings will be comprehensive, including but not limited to well visits, acute and sick visits, vaccinations, and more. Patients can be seen for anything from routine annual care to chronic disease management for conditions such as asthma or diabetes as well as primary care mental health. Point-of-care testing will also be available to enable immediate diagnostic testing and treatment for students, staff, and the broader community. The health center will be staffed by a nurse practitioner and a medical assistant and is planning to operate weekdays, year-round. In addition, The Village Network, a community-based mental health provider, plans to open a secondary location inside the center to provide support to students and the community.

Warren Local Schools (Washington)

School-Based Health Center

Award amount \$1,381,118

In partnership with Hopewell Health Centers, Warren Local Schools will add an on-site school-based health clinic, repurposing the gym and locker rooms. The clinic will feature exam rooms for primary care, lab facilities, and offices for behavioral health staff, fostering an integrated care approach. The center will be staffed with a nurse practitioner, a licensed practical nurse, and existing behavioral health staff. Hopewell Health Center will offer on-site comprehensive primary care and behavioral health services to students, staff, families, and the broader community. Closed-loop referral processes will be developed to facilitate referrals for care from district staff, community organizations, and families. Referrals for more substantial needs or specialized care will be arranged, and subsequent follow-ups will conveniently occur within the school environment, ensuring continued access to patients within the district.

**Projects were summarized by the Ohio Department of Development.*