Health Barriers to Learning

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Next Generation of K-12 Indicator and Response Systems to Increase Students’ Post-Secondary Readiness and Persistence
May 2-3, 2017, Baltimore, MD
Children in the US face multiple barriers to care

**Insurance Gaps**
- More than 4 million kids still do not have insurance
- 5 million more are underinsured

**Severe Health Provider Shortages**
- 15 million kids live in healthcare deserts

**Persistent Poverty**
- Over 15 million kids live in poverty

**Transportation Barriers**
- Approximately 3.5 million low-income children’s access to health care are affected by lack of affordable transportation

**Language and Cultural issues**
Health Barriers to Learning:
Untreated health conditions that undermine a child’s ability to succeed in school

- Prevalent
- Fairly easy to identify through screening
- Treatable/manageable
- Evidence of impact on learning and educational outcomes
Health Barriers to Learning

- Uncontrolled asthma
- Uncorrected vision problems
- Uncorrected hearing problems
- Dental pain
- Persistent hunger
- Certain untreated mental health & behavioral problems
- Effects of lead exposure
Underlying Adversities
- Poverty
- Opportunity disparities
- Poor access to comp. health care
- Toxic stress
- Food insecurity
- Housing insecurity
- Parenting challenges

Health Barriers to Learning
- Vision deficits
- Hearing deficits
- Uncontrolled asthma
- Recurrent hunger
- Persistent dental pain
- Disruptive behavioral/mental health issues
- + Elevated lead

Classroom/Learning impact
- Excessive absenteeism
- Distractibility/ inability to focus
- Fatigue
- Cognitive impairment
- Disrupted school environment
- Learning critical sensory disabilities

Long-term consequences
- Poor academic performance
- Failure to meet educational landmarks
- Chronic health issues
- Reduced long-term well-being
- Reduced earning potential
- Increased need for remediation
- Increased incarceration

Children's Health Fund
Thank You! For more information on CHF, please see our website at: https://www.childrenshealthfund.org/

Feel free to email:
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CHF Reports/Whitepapers

• Health Barriers to Learning: The Prevalence and Educational Consequences in Disadvantaged Children https://www.childrenshealthfund.org/hbl-literture-review/

• Unfinished Business: More Than 20 Million Children In the US Still Lack Sufficient Access to Essential Health Care
  https://www.childrenshealthfund.org/unfinished-business/

• Other CHF Advocacy publications: https://www.childrenshealthfund.org/5405-2/

CHF Articles


Other Materials

• Is Your Child Healthy and Ready to Learn? Parent Education Brochure: https://www.childrenshealthfund.org/healthy-and-ready-to-learn/

• Health Barriers to Learning Screening Form: https://www.childrenshealthfund.org/hrl-screening-form/