



Toronto Foundation for Student Success



MODEL SCHOOLS PAEDIATRIC HEALTH INITIATIVE

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WHAT WE DO

The Model Schools Paediatric Health Initiative (MSPHI) makes health care more accessible for children by establishing medical clinics in the place students trust the most: their local school. Families in Priority Neighbourhoods often find it difficult to overcome the obstacles they face in accessing health care for their children, including cultural and linguistic barriers, or lack of a government health card. The MSPHI brings clinics into schools to make sure all students have a chance to be healthy.

KEY FACTS

- » There are four MSPHI clinics in operation. The first clinic opened in November 2010 with the help of private and public partners.
- » Since 2010, clinics have seen over 16,800 registrations.
- » 13% of all children who attended the clinics did not have a family doctor. Through the clinics, these children and their families have now been connected to a family physician.
- » 20% of all children who attended the clinics were from Junior and Senior Kindergarten.
- » As many as 85% of students in the communities where MSPHI clinics operate come from families where both parents were born outside of Canada and more than half speak a language other than English as their mother tongue.

THE IMPACT

A six-year-old boy new to Canada was having recurring pain and had little appetite for food. He had these health problems for years but in his country of birth his family couldn't get him a medical check-up or proper health care. He attended his school clinic where he was diagnosed with cerebral palsy and is now receiving the care he deserves.

A young girl with blurred vision went to the school-based clinic to have a check-up. It was discovered that she had high blood pressure and was stressed out studying for examinations. All of this made it difficult to get her school work done and her grades were low. She didn't have a family doctor so the clinic arranged for follow-up checks and treatment and also gave her the tools to change her lifestyle. She is now coping with her anxiety and stress levels in a much better way and her grades have greatly improved!

For more information please call 416-394-6880 or email info@tfss.ca