

BEST PRACTICES FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH REFERRALS

Step 1

Reinforce the concept of a 'Medical Home'

- Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) are full-service health centers in your community. FQHCs accept a wide range of insurances, including Medicaid and Medicare. If a person is eligible for insurance and does not have it, the FQHC will help them get it. If they are not eligible for insurance, the FQHC can still see them and charge a fee based on their income. FQHC's can refer people to a network of specialists and hospitals as needed.
- Anyone can feel confident referring families to a FQHC – you don't have to diagnose anything.

Step 2

Have resources on hand

1. We recommend that you have some resources on hand so that you don't have to scramble when a family needs help. It will keep you organized and allow you to focus on helping families when they need it.
2. You can make a one-page guide – we've provided a template for you to start today!

Use these sources to get started making your own Resource Guides!

1. [HRSA Health Center Locator](#)
2. [The NYC OSH Vision Resource List](#)
3. [The NYC DOHMH Dental Clinics Guide](#)
4. [The Single Stop NYC Location Guide](#)
5. [New York Food Pantries](#)

Step 3

Collaborate with your school staff!

- Make resource guides available in various areas of the building.
- Encourage school staff to refer students and families to community health services—remind them that you do not need any special medical knowledge or skill to make a referral!

You and the staff at your school know your families best! Use each other to get families the information they need. Share knowledge to build relationships with families.