



apex evaluation that works

# Solidifying SBHC and School Collaboration to Provide Better Patient Care to Students

Kristin Oreskovich

Jamie Duvall

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# Conflicts of Interest

- No conflicts of interest.

# Learning Objectives

1. Describe common areas where collaboration can be improved between the schools and SBHCs.
2. List three reasons for student absenteeism and how SBHC may help address the issue.
3. Identify opportunities for schools and SBHCs to work together to help students succeed.

# Health and Education Go Together

- Increased visits to a school nurse for somatic complaints is correlated with lower academic achievement (Ratterman, et al, 2021)
- Lower levels of education attainment is a predictor of earlier death (Roy, et al, 2020)
  - CARDIA (coronary artery risk development in young adults) study has followed the same cohort of over 5000 people from 1985 to 2017
  - Each level of education attainment, i.e., high school or less, some college, college completion, was associated with 1.37 fewer years per life lost

# HEALTH AND ACADEMICS: What the Research Says

Compared to students who received mostly As, those who reported receiving mostly Ds and Fs were:



**More than 11 times** more likely to have *injected illegal drugs*



**More than 4 times** more likely to have had four or *more sexual partners*



**5 times** more likely to miss school *because of safety concerns*



**2 times** more likely to *feel sad or hopeless*

Read the report at [www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/66/wr/mm6635a1.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/66/wr/mm6635a1.htm).

Learn more at [www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/health\\_and\\_academics](http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/health_and_academics).



# Long and Short-Term Negative Effects of Chronic Absenteeism (Allen, et al, 2018)

- Graduation rates
- Academic performance
- Social functioning
- Adult income
- Overall health
- Life expectancy

# Individual Factors Associated with Chronic Absenteeism (Allen, et al, 2018)

- Bullying or perceived lack of safety at school
- Chronic illness, e.g., asthma, diabetes, obesity
- Did not attend center-based pre-school
- Disability or special ed.
- Exposure to tobacco smoke (for children with asthma)
- Exposure to violence
- History of frequent absences
- Lack of access to medical or dental care
- History of poor academic performance
- Mental health conditions, e.g., depression, anxiety, ADHD, behavioral problems
- Pregnancy or parenthood
- Substance use
- Sleep deficiency

# Family Factors Associated with Chronic Absenteeism (Allen, et al, 2018)

- Student has caregiving responsibilities at home
- Food insecurity
- Health problems in family members
- Housing instability or homelessness
- Lack of structure or supervision
- Parent did not go to college
- Parent had negative school experiences
- Parent incarcerated
- Parent unemployed
- Parent works night shift or has multiple jobs



# School and Community Factors Associated with Chronic Absenteeism (Allen, et al, 2018)

- Cultural barriers
- Economic disadvantage
- Member of socially vulnerable group, e.g., LGBTQI
- Non-white race
- School factors, e.g., quality of air, no outdoor space, no school nurse, poor school climate
- Unreliable school transportation
- Unsafe route to school

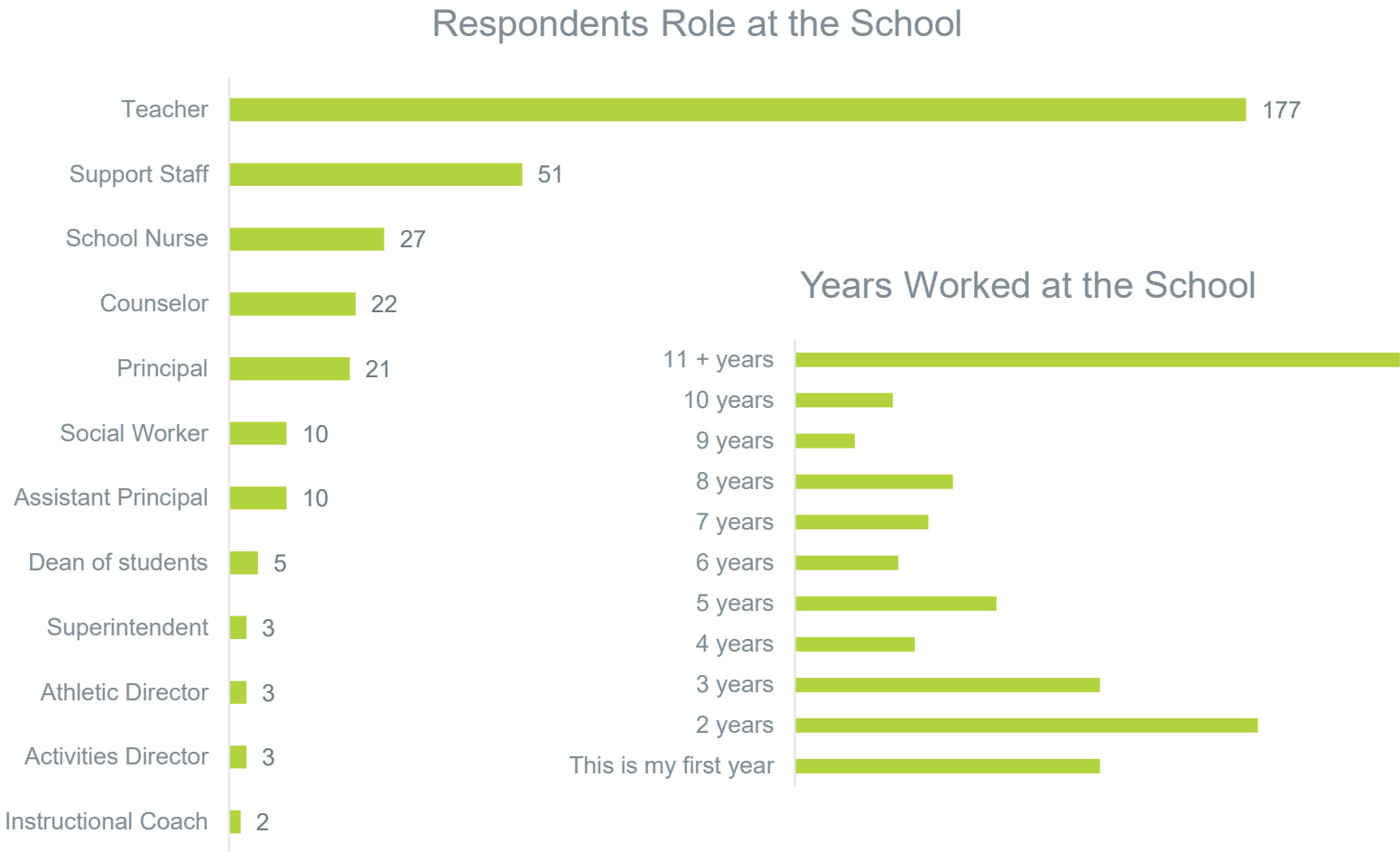
# SBHC can help students avoid absences and increase academic success

- Comprehensive risk screening – which addresses most reasons for challenges with academic success and absenteeism
  - Home and School
  - Health Behaviors
  - Safety and Injuries
  - Feelings and Well-being
  - Sexual Health
  - Substance Use
  - Development and Future Plans
- Provision of primary care and behavioral health care

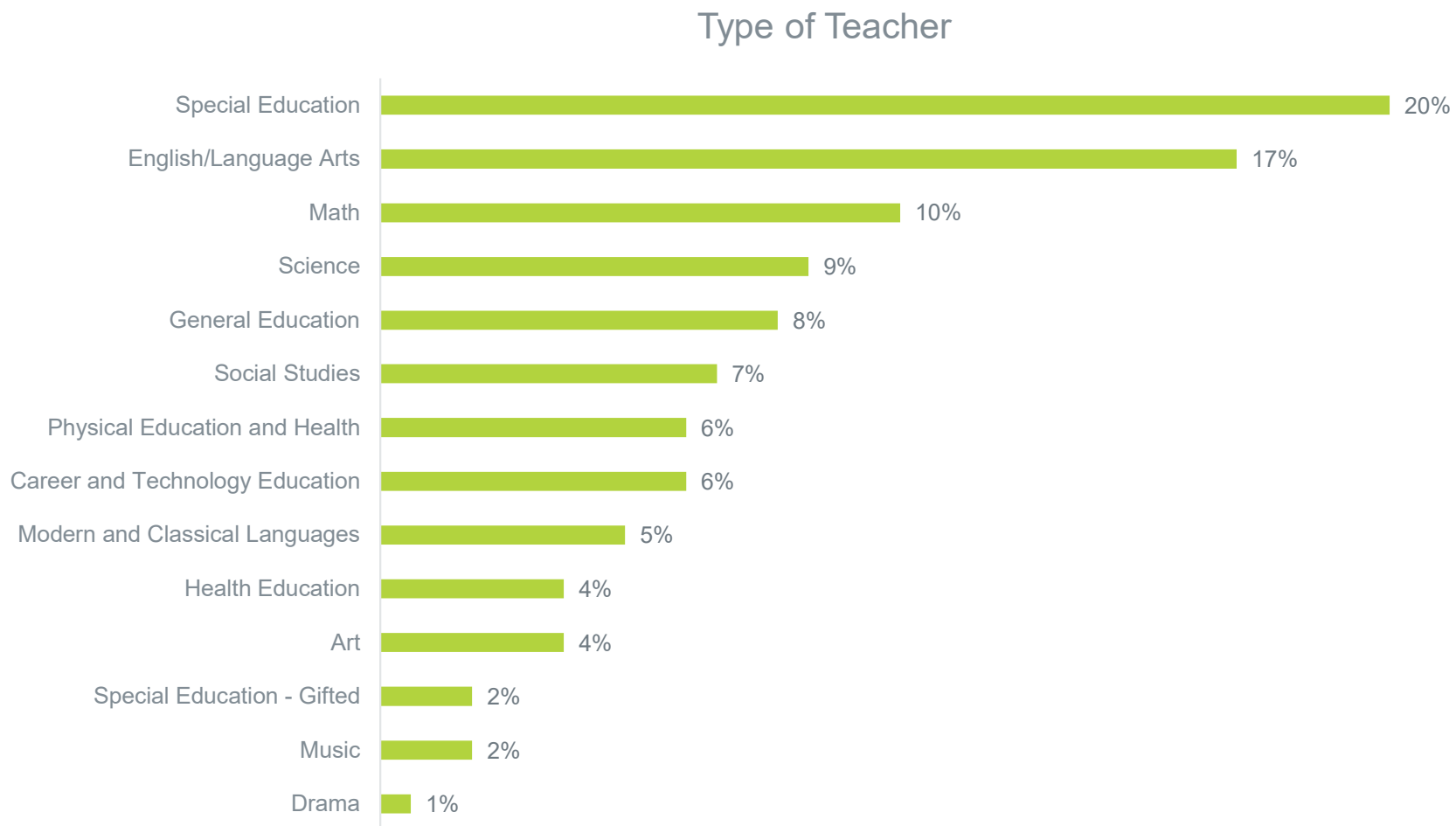
# School-SBHC Collaboration Survey

- SBHC asked a variety of school staff to complete survey
- Do school staff know the SBHC is on campus
- Do they make referrals to the SBHC
- What are the reasons for referrals to the SBHC

# Diverse Responses From School Staff



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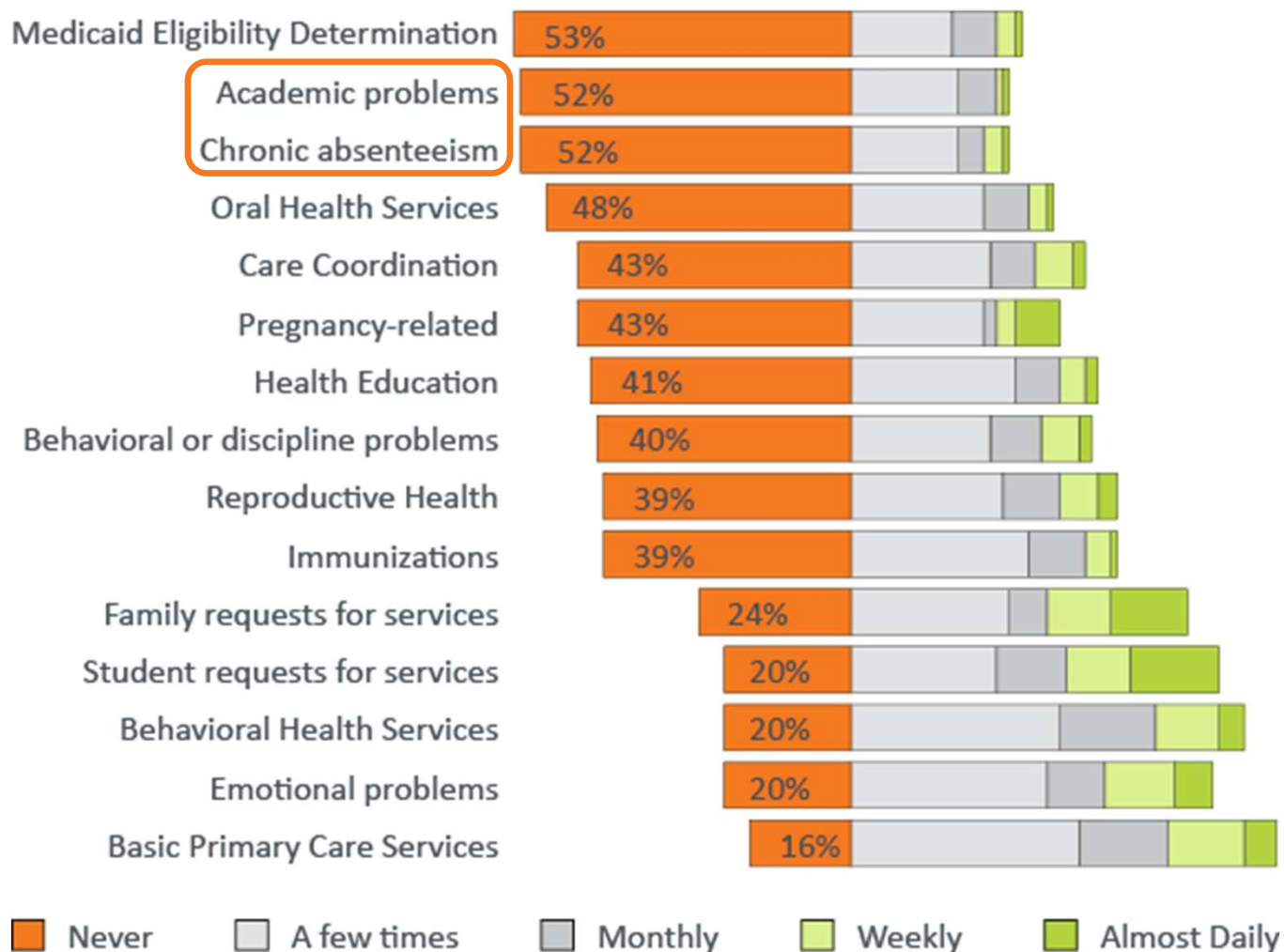
# Awareness of SBHC

Are you aware that your school has an SBHC?



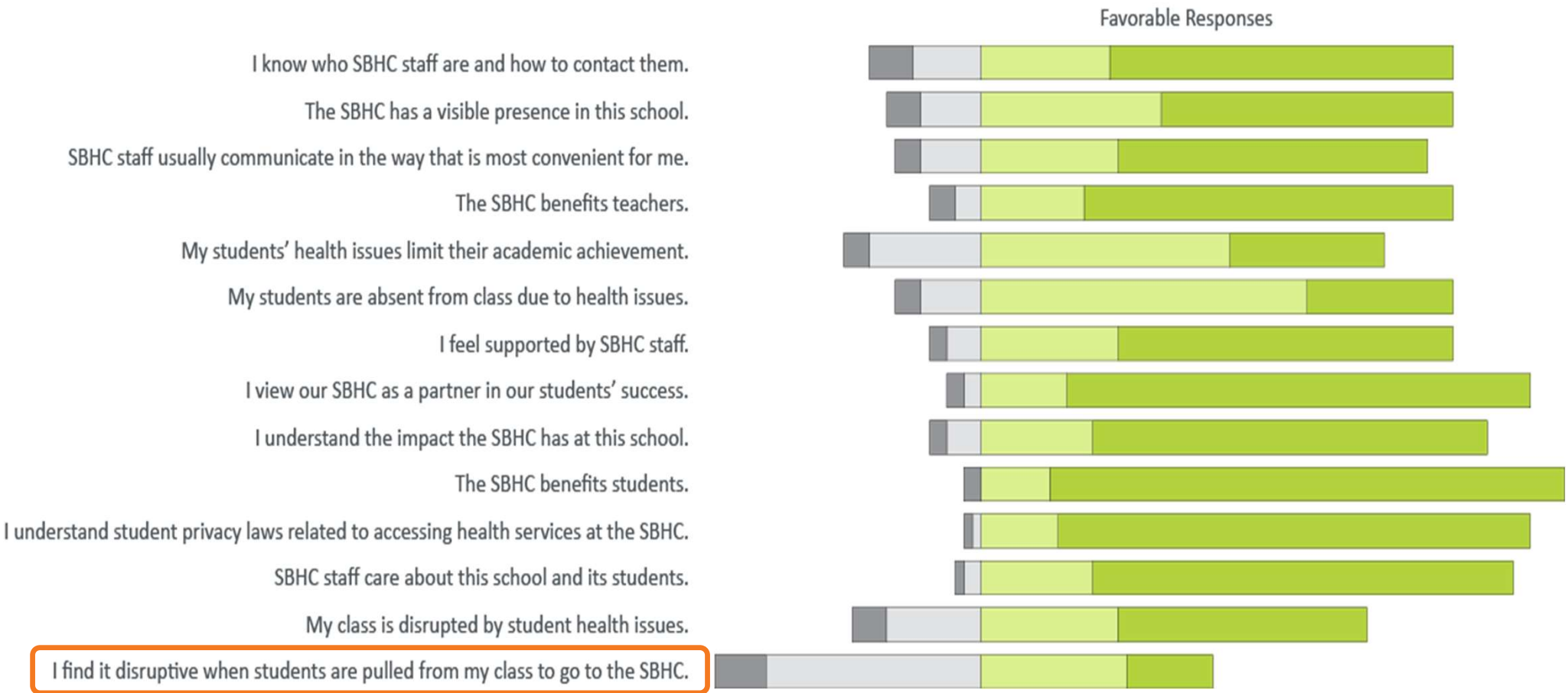
# Opportunities to Serve More Students

School staff report “Never” referring their students to the SBHC for these health services:



# School Staff Perceptions

School staff perceptions of SBHCs are highly favorable.

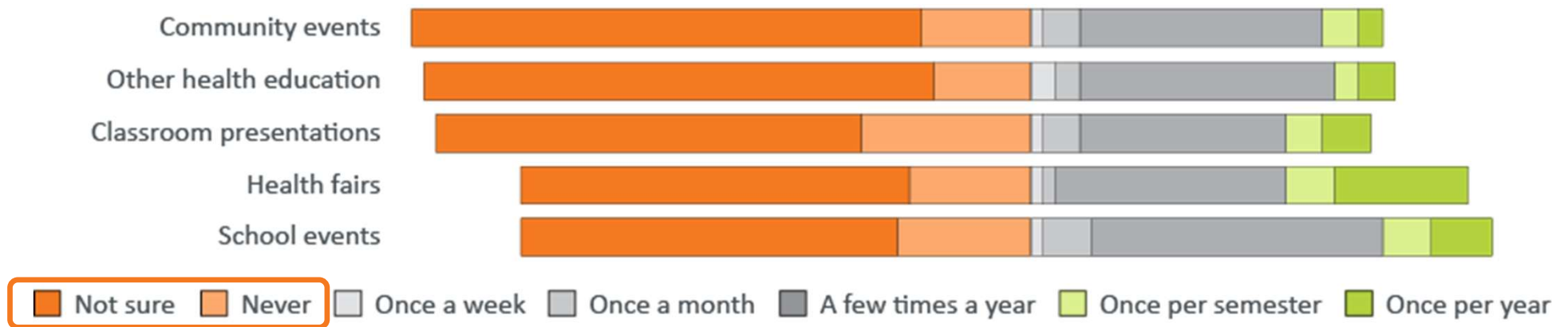




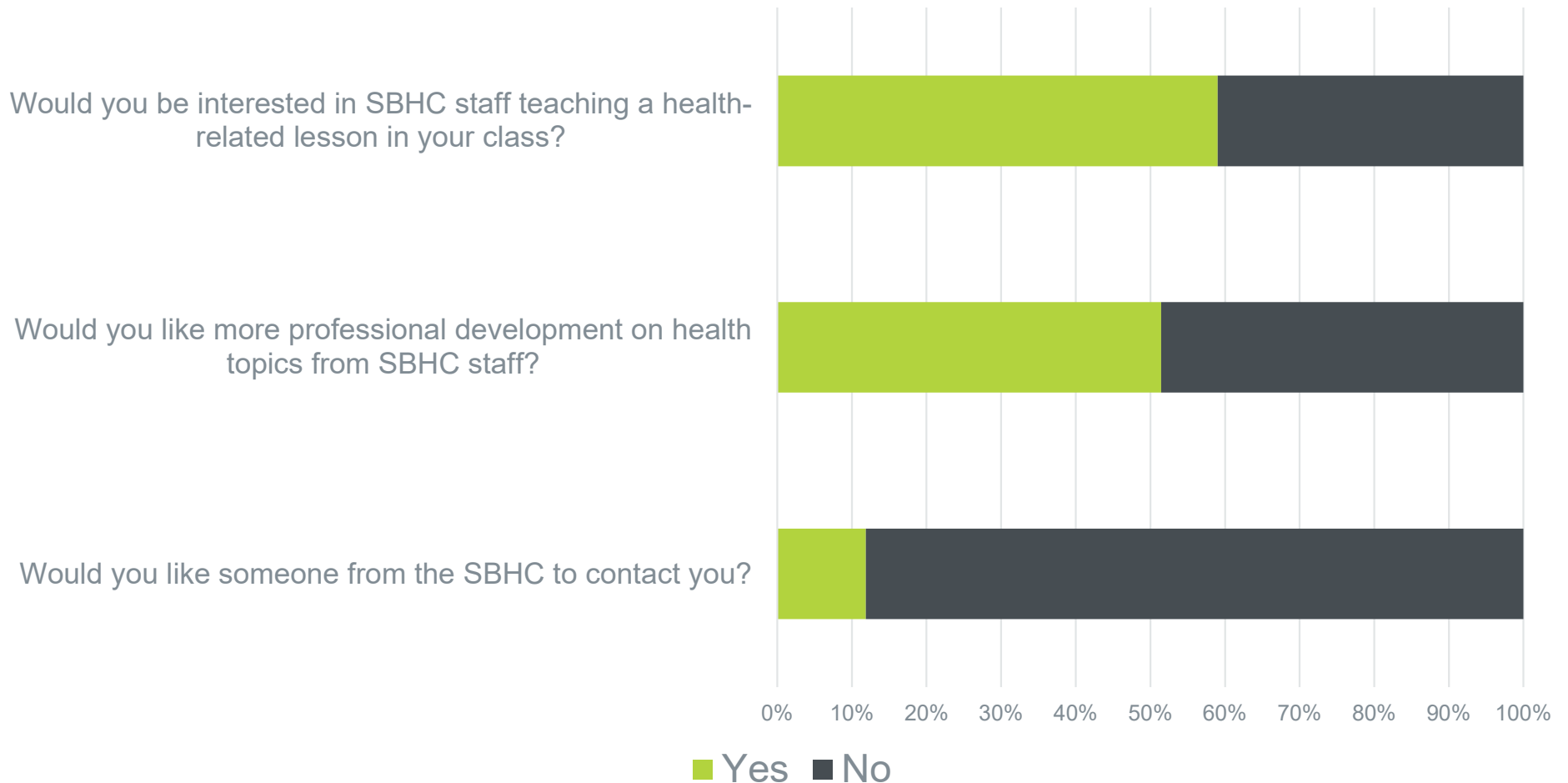
# SBHC School Involvement

SBHCs have an opportunity to become more involved at their school.

How often does your SBHC participate in the following school activities?




# SBHC Collaboration with School Staff



# Working Together to Close the Gap

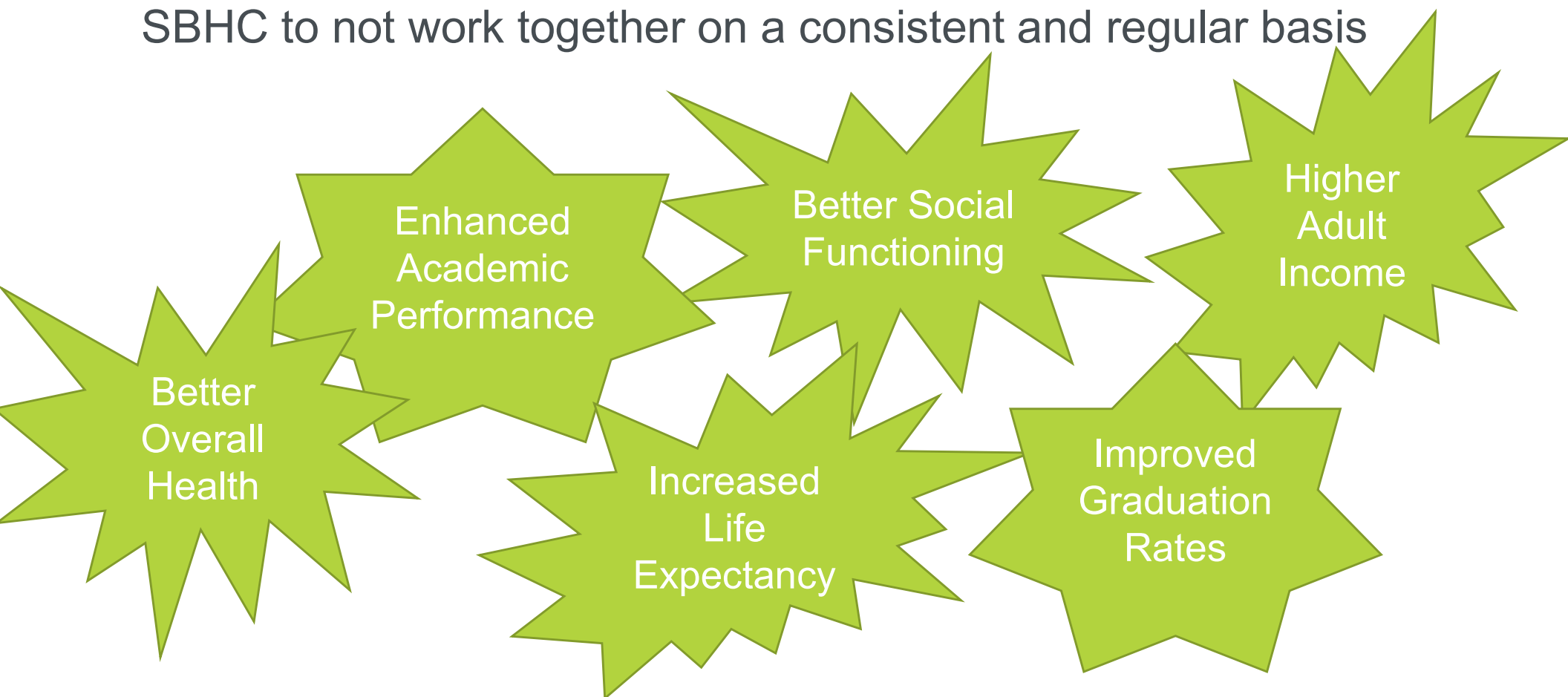
- Collaboration is key and on-going
- SBHC - Understand your school community's needs
- Communicate with school staff, have presence at school event – market your SBHC
  - Hours of operation
  - Services provided
  - Referral process
  - Best time to pull students
- School staff – visit SBHC to find out what they're all about
- Remember of that healthy students are more successful learners



“I did not realize that all of these services are provided for our students”

# Importance of SBHC and School Collaboration

- SBHCs and schools share a common goal: supporting student success in school
- The benefits of collaboration are too important for schools and SBHC to not work together on a consistent and regular basis



**Questions?**

# References

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# Breakout Questions

- Do you have a SBHC?
- What is your role in the school or SBHC?
- How do you currently partner with school nurses, counselors, health assistants, teachers, administration for student health and success?
- What can be done at your school to improve health and academic outcomes for students?