**Success story title: A School-based Clinic Makes a Difference: Where Health and Academics Merge**

**Describe the Health Problem Addressed by the Program/Activity:**

**Several families across the state of Tennessee are affected by today’s economy, but now more than ever, Newport City School System has seen its share of needy families. In recent years, Coordinated School Health has proudly established a name for helping people across our community. More and more Coordinated School Health is called on to help children and families get back on the right track. CSH connects families with resources that help them provide food, clothing, shoes, AND EYE glasses and even holiday gift purchasing. One void still remained, health care! In order to solve that lingering problem, CSH director worked diligently all four years to partner with a medical agency and bring in a school-based clinic to Newport Grammar School. Children were without medical care because they had no insurance or transportation to get to assigned doctors. Our school nurse was burdened with the fact that these children were not receiving the care they needed in order to function while at school, not to mention their lack of interest and accumulated tardies. Coordinated School Health: Where health and academics merge! Finally, JANUARY 18, 2011, our welcomed Newport Grammar School Cherokee Clinic opened to students and staff. upon opening, critics were amazed that we were able to house an on-site nurse practioner with a nurse and receptionist to manage the facility. what a blessing for our children.**

**Describe your successful program/activity:**

**Now, I am proud to mention that several of our children are receiving medical care because of Cherokee Health Systems belief that we had a void to fill. To- date several children have been successfully treated for common problems but I want to share a story about one student in particular, who was diagnosed with celiac disease. A small, frail third grade child frequently came to the school nurse complaining of aches and pains while missing several class hours a week. This sparked concern among the attending staff. After noticing the repetitive behavior and comparing screening data on this particular child, the nurse red-flagged the fact he was experiencing a continual, but gradual weight loss problem. Sincerely concerned, she referred the child to our nurse practioner who immediately took over all examinations. Problems communicating with illiterate parents complicated matters but did not slow anyone down. Quickly, the referral was made. This child needed more care than we could provide so arrangements were made for him to see a specialist which revealed this child suffered from celiac disease. Upon diagnosis, IEP meetings were called, Cafeteria and Second Harvest adjustments were made and PARENTAL EDUCATION assistance was provided, even to the point of bringing in the Health Department to help with unplanned purchases. Our new school-based clinic saved this child from a life-threatening disease.**

**Describe the impact of your successful program/activity:**

**Because Coordinated School Health pushed to bring in a School-based Clinic, children’s lives are saved! Literally!!**