

# Healthcare Delivery in Public Schools

## Low Income Pool Proposal



## Background

- ❑ Palm Beach County School District includes 170 schools and 170,000 students.
- ❑ Over 48 percent of students are on free or reduced lunch program.
- ❑ More than 17,000 students have an ongoing health condition.
- ❑ Since 1997, every school has enjoyed a health clinic staffed by a Registered Nurse.
- ❑ School Health is a partnership between the School District, Department of Health and the Health Care District.

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## Problem

- ❑ Availability of funding continues to be more difficult from both public and private sources.
- ❑ Previously, several hospitals provided an important source of funding. (\$1.5 million each year)
- ❑ Decreased property values and other economic factors have impacted local governments ability to maintain funding.
- ❑ Local foundations have been impacted by economic downturn and are not able to provide assistance.

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## Role of the School Nurse

- ❑ Promote, protect and advocate for the health of students, families and school community.
- ❑ Provide nursing assessment and case management for illness, injury, abuse and social issues.
- ❑ Provide emergency care and injury response.
- ❑ Administer medications and treatment plans as prescribed by the physician.
- ❑ Monitor health needs of students with chronic conditions and special health needs.

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## Accomplishments in 2009

- ❑ Approximately 700,000 visits to the health room.
- ❑ More than 100,000 health screenings.
- ❑ Student health conditions included asthma, diabetes, cardiac, kidney disorders, bleeding disorders, cancer, epilepsy and ADD.
- ❑ Top health problems were gastrointestinal, ENT, musculoskeletal, neurological and respiratory.
- ❑ Over 80 percent of students presenting to the health room returned to class.

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## LIP Request

- ❑ Allow the Palm Beach County School District to provide a source of IGTs to support a new non-hospital program.
- ❑ The School District would provide \$2.4 million and receive \$6 million (\$3.6 million net of IGT) in funding from the LIP.
- ❑ All funds will be utilized to delivery school based healthcare services.
- ❑ Program will demonstrate how school based clinics can extend primary care and divert non-emergent conditions away from the ER.

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