

health services



Dental HOME (Health Outreach Mobile Experience) Program

The OHIO Project (Oral Health Improvement through Outreach) improves access to dental care for underserved Ohio adults and children while increasing the College of Dentistry's recruitment and retention of minority students and faculty. The project hopes to reverse oral disease affecting the poor, elderly, and members of racial and ethnic groups. The Dental HOME Coach takes mobile dental care to an estimated 4,500 Columbus students annually within schools where a high need has been identified.

Participating Schools: Franklin County: Columbus City Schools
Ohio State Contact: College of Dentistry, 614-688-5567, dent.osu.edu/ohioproject/



Eye Clinic at Ft. Hayes Career Center

Under faculty supervision, fourth-year optometry students examine school children from ages 3-18 years, providing corrective eye-wear at no charge to those in need. The patients are scheduled for appointments through the school nurses, and the nurses typically bring the patients to the examinations and help with the selection and dispensing of glasses. Hundreds of children have received free eye care and glasses. In addition, optometry students and faculty mentor high school students enrolled in the Fort Hayes opticians program.

Participating Schools: Franklin County: Columbus City Schools—Fort Hayes
Ohio State Contact: College of Optometry, 614-292-5367

School Vision Screenings

Students and faculty of the College of Optometry perform vision screenings on over 2,500 elementary students at 26 central Ohio schools. Typically just under 25% of the children are referred for comprehensive vision examinations. Most vision screenings cost \$200, but the costs of many schools are covered by local Lions Clubs. The vision screenings are conducted as part of a laboratory for optometry students. There are a limited number of times available, and all times are currently used.

Participating Schools: Only a limited number of schools/youth can be served; Franklin County: Catholic Diocese of Columbus: St. Cecilia Elementary; Columbus City Schools—Weinland Park Elementary; Gahanna-Jefferson City Schools—Blacklick Elementary, Chapelfield Elementary, Goshen Lane Elementary, High Point Elementary, Jefferson Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, Royal Manor Elementary; Hilliard City Schools—Alton Darby Elementary; South-Western City Schools—Buckeye Woods Elementary, Darby Woods Elementary, Finland Elementary, Harmon Elementary, Highland Park Elementary, JC Sommer Elementary, Monterey Elementary, Prairie Lincoln Elementary, Prairie Norton Elementary, Richard Ave Elementary, Stiles Elementary, West Franklin Elementary; Central Ohio Christian, Clintonville Academy, Marburn Academy. Highland County: Greenfield Exempted Village—Greenfield Elementary.
Ohio State Contact: College of Optometry, 614-247-6840

Sports Medicine for High School Athletes

Ohio State's Sports Medicine Center and the Columbus City Schools have a partnership designed to enhance the availability of high-quality sports medicine care for the student athletes in the district. The center serves as the official sports medicine provider for the district.

Participating Schools: Franklin County: Columbus City Schools
Ohio State Contact: Sports Medicine Center, 614-293-3600, sportsmedicine.osu.edu/Outreach/CMH_Pub_Schools.htm

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Vision in Preschoolers

In response to the critical need for improved vision screening for preschool aged children, Ohio State's College of Optometry led a collaborative effort to research a community-based vision screening program, Screening Preschoolers for Vision Problems: A University Community Model Program. In Shelby County, six 4-H teens and the FCS Educator were trained and certified on three vision screening instruments, conducted four screenings, and screened 127 preschoolers 3 to 5 years old to detect three significant eye problems (amblyopia, strabismus, and refractive error), which if caught early are preventable. In Summit County, a team of 4-H members was trained to conduct accurate screenings at Akron-area YMCA preschool sites. In Henry County, 57 preschoolers were screened by one of nine certified 4-H screeners.

Participating Schools: Schools in Henry, Shelby, and Summit counties

Ohio State Contact: College of Optometry, Ohio State Extension, optometry.osu.edu/research/VIP/index.cfm



Preschool vision screening. Photo courtesy of Paulette Schmidt, College of Optometry.