Founded on the ideal of delivering quality health care with dignity, Odessa Brown Children’s Clinic is Seattle Children’s only primary care clinic and a vital community partner. Odessa Brown Children’s Clinic runs the Garfield Teen Health Center at Garfield High School and provides health care services at five central Seattle elementary schools. Odessa Brown’s school-based health services are funded through levy dollars and independent partnerships with each school.

**Garfield Teen Health Center**

Since 1993, Garfield Teen Health Center (GTHC) has served adolescents’ unique health needs, providing special attention to students who are at academic risk or have no other means of obtaining healthcare. A full-time nurse practitioner, a certified mental health counselor, and a patient care coordinator, as well as a part time psychiatrist and nutritionist staff the GTHC.

During the 2016-2017 school year, GTHC provided 509 students with health care in 2498 medical and mental health visits. Over half of visits were for social, emotional and behavioral issues.

The Seattle Public School’s school nurse is located in GTHC and provides students timely access to GTHC services. Close partnership with the school nurse resulted in Garfield High School attaining one of the highest immunization rates in the district (99%). With referrals from the school nurse, the registered dietician experienced an increase of over 41% in patient visits between the 15-16 and 16-17 school years.

GTHC sponsors multiple peer support groups to address specific needs such as drug abuse, obesity, depression, intimate partner violence and GLBTQ issues, all of which can negatively affect academic success. New GTHC initiatives for SY 2017-18 include:

- Hosting a motivational speaker to teach life skills like time management, goal setting and conflict resolution.
- Collaborate with Harborview Sexual Assault Center to help change the school culture around sexual assault.
- Convene a transgender support group and facilitate discussion on GLBTQ issues including bullying and harassment.
- Provide drug and alcohol education and awareness, utilizing monthly themes and activities.
- Increase awareness and improve education around the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine.

![Demographics](image)

**Figure 1** User demographics of OBCC School Based Health Centers compared to Seattle Public School Enrollment.

**Elementary Health**

Odessa Brown is excited to be providing health care services at five neighborhood elementary schools, Beacon Hill International, Madrona K-8, John Muir Elementary, the Nativity School and Leschi Elementary. The Odessa Brown Clinic began working with elementary schools in 2011, when Beacon Hill International School and Madrona K-8 joined the GTHC to form the school based health program. This expansion was realized with funding provided through an education levy. Licensed Mental Health therapists and ARNP’s provide health services in the schools several days each week. Community care coordinators integrated into the schools to provide case management, engage parents, identify psychosocial barriers and to provide resources to students and their families.
Since 2011, our clinicians have provided over 16,000 school based health visits. During the 2016 – 2017 school year, 669 students received medical, dental and mental health services at our school based health centers, greatly reducing the number of absences. Three additional partnerships have brought the benefits of school based health centers to the Nativity School, John Muir and Leschi elementary schools. Currently, services at the school based health centers have evolved to include care coordination, nutrition and cooking programs, behavioral health and parenting groups as well as summer fitness camps.

**ARNP Services**

At Beacon Hill International School and Madrona K-8 an ARNP is in the school for 2 mornings per week providing well child check ups and acute care, in addition to annual immunizations for students. The ARNP at each school is focused on spending time engaging families and school faculty in school based health care as well as building partnerships in care with the school nurse for chronic disease management and coordination.

**Behavioral Health**

A PhD or master’s trained clinician is on-site at each school three days per week supporting students, their parents and teachers in children’s healthy emotional development and readiness to learn. The school-based therapist provide support with:

- Daily routines
- Improving communication
- Learning to identify feelings
- Emotional regulation
- Social skills
- How to deal with difficult situations

**Oral Health Screening School-wide**

We are screening students school-wide (K-6) for any oral health needs and providing care coordination to assure children have a dental home for preventative care as well as help children receive timely needed treatment.
Care Coordination

A care-coordinator is dedicated to each school to help children and families get the health care access they need – including insurance, appointments, prescriptions, medical, behavioral health and dental care access.

To learn more about Odessa Brown’s school-based health care services, please contact Arlesia Bailey, (206) 987-3675 or arlesia.bailey@seattlechildrens.org.