The Children’s Health Project of Detroit (CHPD) provides high quality medical and mental health services to children and adolescents in the metro-Detroit area through a mobile medical clinic and 11 fixed-site health centers at schools and community locations. The mobile and school-based clinic model allows CHPD to reach children and adolescents who might otherwise encounter barriers to care such as lack of transportation to medical appointments or physician shortage. CHPD sites are youth-friendly and age-appropriate spaces that allow clinicians and service providers to meet young people where they spend most of their waking hours, feel comfortable and are open to learning. CHPD provides care to children and adolescents who are medically underserved, in neighborhoods where most children live in poverty.

Serving Communities in Need

Children and families in Detroit experience high level of unmet health care needs. Nearly 40% of the city’s young children are under-immunized, asthma prevalence among children is nearly three times higher than the state average, and hospitalizations for pediatric asthma is 50% higher for children than adults. Detroit has experienced a severe shortage of primary care doctors in recent years. As a result, many children have gone without access to comprehensive primary and preventive health care, placing their long-term health and well-being at risk.

CHPD proactively serves some of Detroit’s most vulnerable adolescents, including LGBTQ youth experiencing homelessness. Under the leadership of Medical Director Dr. Maureen Connolly, CHPD contributes to the provision of wrap-around services available to patients at the Ruth Ellis Center, a social services agency which serves at risk and homeless LGBTQ young people.

CHPD provides services without regard to income level or insurance status. Services are never denied due to a patient’s inability to pay and all sites provide insurance application assistance.

Available Services

- Primary and urgent care
- Health care maintenance and treatment for chronic conditions
- Physical and sports examinations
- Immunization assessment and administration
- Behavioral health case management and referrals
- Health Education
- Basic crisis intervention and risk reduction counseling
- Prescription delivery
- Laboratory testing
- Medicaid outreach and application assistance
- Individual, group and family therapy referral
- Vision and hearing screening and referrals

Program Sites

CHPD currently serves several schools, visiting each site on a weekly basis. Three of the schools are K-8 and the fourth is a high school. Current schools include Dixon, Thirkell, Cody, and Detroit community schools, each with a student body ranging from 600-800 students. The addition of nurses inside three of the schools ensures a health care presence five days a week.