

The Diabetes program has been developed and implemented in response to the concerns of parents, school officials and healthcare professionals that children with diabetes-both types 1 and 2-receive the support they need to effectively manage their diabetes while at school.

The goal of the program is to make sure that children with diabetes are managed effectively, feel good and make the most out of their learning experience while in the school setting.

Managing diabetes effectively requires attention to details, such as being able to perform blood sugar tests at certain times and having access to snacks required to balance the effects of insulin and physical activity. As well as having an environment that is educated and supportive. Such details and tasks are critically important and can affect a child's medical control, which ultimately affect a child's ability to learn.

Often parents and healthcare professionals worry that, due to lack of support and adequate access to resources and information, school personnel won't be able to provide the same quality of care that children with diabetes receive at home. The program has been developed to respond to that concern and insure that the school staff is trained and children get the care they require to perform well in school.

A Certified Diabetes Educator with years of clinical experience in in-patient and outpatient settings as well as having Type 1 diabetes himself is the coordinator of the program. The Diabetes Program of the OUSD will provide the following services:

1. *Liaison with each child's healthcare team, receive a copy of the physician's orders and make sure they are followed.*
2. *Help insure 504 compliance; assist in developing Individualized School Health Care Plans for each child with diabetes.*
3. *Train and support school nurses and other personnel in principles of diabetes management, drawing/administering of insulin and glucagon and maintaining proficiency in the latest management technology (e.g., insulin pumps, blood sugar testing equipment, and insulin pens).*
4. *Case management of every child with diabetes, on-site, working together with designated school nurses; on-call by pager to staff, parents and healthcare professionals.*
5. *Trouble-shooting difficult cases with more frequent contacts with the child's physician, the child and his/her family and more frequent on-site supervision with school staff to enable most efficient use of resources and best care for the child and family.*
6. *Provide educational seminars and county resource guides on types 1 and 2 diabetes.*
7. *Develop/Implement extra-curricular exercise/sports programs.*
8. *Work with the OUSD Nutritional Services to ensure a "diabetes healthy" food environment in the schools.*
9. *Coordinate efforts focusing on identifying children and families at risk for type 2 diabetes and directing them to the appropriate health care resources.*
10. *Initiate and develop collaborative efforts with county, state and federal programs focusing on diabetes.*
11. *Initiate and develop defined partnerships with industry contacts as a way of supporting specific Diabetes Program events.*

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT'S DIABETES PROGRAM



The program is unique and believed to be the only one of its kind in the State of California; perhaps even in the country. Currently in its initial development phase the program will continue to unfold and expand in new and exciting ways over the course of the next year.

The hope is that by providing these services for children with diabetes and their families, parents and healthcare providers will feel assured, staff will be trained and alert and children will get the most out of their educational experiences.

*Our motto, "**Healthy Children Learn Better**", is the driving force behind the Diabetes Program and all the other programs we sponsor in the Department of Health Services.*

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