### What is a school-based telehealth program?

A school-based telehealth program uses telecommunications technology to connect children in need of acute or specialty care services to a healthcare provider at a distant site.

### What resources do I need for a school-based telehealth program?

To implement a successful school-based telehealth program, you must have the following:

#### TECHNOLOGY
- Computer with webcam
- Bluetooth-enabled stethoscope and otoscope
- Internet access
- Technical support

#### COMMUNITY
- Support from school administration and staff
- Buy-in from parents
- Private space within school

#### STAFFING
- Trained school staff to serve as presenter
- Partnership with healthcare provider
- Personnel to market and manage program

#### FUNDING
- $10,000-$15,000 for equipment, training, support
- Funding to cover marketing and recruitment
- Depending on healthcare provider partnership, funding to access network of providers
How do I...

**secure support and buy-in?**

- Share research citing impact of school-based telehealth with principal and school district staff*
- Have staff and teachers use telehealth to become familiar with equipment and be ambassadors
- At parent meetings and open houses, demonstrate equipment and discuss benefits of telehealth
- Use simple terms such as “doctor visit with a computer” when communicating with parents

*see the Executive Summary of the School-Based Telehealth Implementation Report

**find a healthcare provider to partner with?**

- Consider hiring a company that provides access to a network of providers for a fee*
- Connect with a local federally qualified health center (FQHC) to provide access to providers
- If you have a school-based health center onsite, talk to the providers about adding telehealth
- Identify a local healthcare provider in your community and establish a partnership

*In Georgia, there are nonprofit and for-profit agencies providing this service along with telehealth equipment, training and ongoing technical support for varying costs (see https://tinyurl.com/SBTHGuidanceResources for more info).

**finance this program?**

- Consider partnering with local universities that conduct research in this field and can support efforts via grants
- Connect with insurance providers seeking to support school-based telehealth and help cover costs
- Work with partners to institute effective billing practices to ensure the financial sustainability of the program

For more resources and tools for developing school-based telehealth programs, visit https://tinyurl.com/SBTHGuidanceResources