



For Release

Tuesday, November 14, 2017

Nita Ludwig

309-558-2802

nludwig@co.rock-island.il.us

School Health LINK to Consolidate Clinic Locations

The School Health LINK (LINK) Board of Directors has announced it will consolidate its two clinics effective December 1, 2017. The Silvis School Health LINK located at 1314 10th Street will close permanently at the end of the day on **Thursday, November 30, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.** The Rock Island School Health LINK clinic will remain open.

The Board's decision to close the Silvis Clinic comes after operating limited office hours due to staffing challenges. For the last two years, the LINK had experienced an inability to secure consistent clinical staffing levels to maintain high quality patient care and service that children and parents in Rock Island County want and deserve. The LINK will transition all clients from the Silvis location to its Rock Island clinic. The School Health LINK will continue to operate a high-quality, fully-staffed, full-time clinic at the Rock Island location.

Dr. Nafees Khan of Franklin Pediatrics joined the School Health Link as its medical director August 1, 2017. The LINK is also staffed by two nurse practitioners and other clinicians. All health care services are billed on a sliding-fee scale based on total household income and size. Illinois Public Aid Medical Cards and All Kids are accepted.

The LINK is one of many school-based health centers in Illinois that work through a collaboration of hospitals, school districts and the local health department,

including the Rock Island County Health Department, Rock Island School District and UnityPoint Health - Trinity. The LINK provides comprehensive medical and behavioral health services to children from birth to early adulthood. It serves as a medical home providing sick care visits, yearly well child visits, school physicals and counseling services. The program's mission is to decrease school absenteeism and keep children healthy and ready to learn.

Office hours at The Rock Island School Health LINK clinic are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Rock Island School Health LINK clinic is located at 2508 25th Street, Suite A, Rock Island, Illinois. The phone number is 309-732-0958.

###