

Mental Health Funding



Wisconsin Youth Need Our Help Today

The 2021 Youth Risk Behavior Survey showed Wisconsin students are dealing with mental health challenges more than ever before. More than half of all students surveyed self-reported having “significant” problems with anxiety. One-third of all students surveyed reported feeling sad or hopeless almost every day for more than two weeks in a row. Over 18 percent of students surveyed said they seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year. The time to help our students is **now**.



Building on the Success of Get Kids Ahead

Gov. Evers’ budget provides more than \$235 million to meet the mental health needs of Wisconsin students. The budget makes the Get Kids Ahead initiative permanent, providing funding for reimbursement of costs to school districts and independent charter schools that provide mental health services and programs for students. This investment would provide enough funding for every Wisconsin district, from the state’s smallest to largest, to employ mental health professionals.



Funding Mental Health Professionals in Our Schools

With many school districts lacking funding to staff mental health professionals, \$36 million in state aid provided in Gov. Evers’ budget builds on the success of the previous provision providing funding for school social workers to expanded categories of student services staff.



Mental Health Training

The budget provides more than \$1 million in aid so school districts can offer mental training to staff, expanding both the access to training and the allowable types of training.

