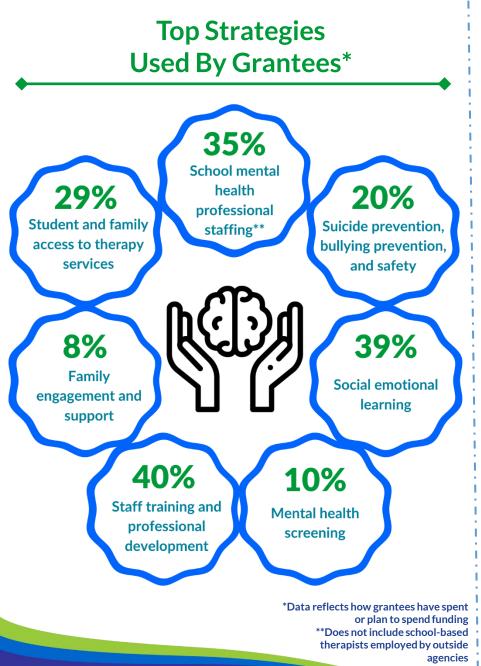
Building Comprehensive School Mental Health Systems in Wisconsin

Get Kids Ahead Initiative 2022-2023

Public Instruction



Get Kids Ahead Initiative

The Get Kids Ahead (GKA) Initiative provides funding to Wisconsin schools to help build and sustain Comprehensive School Mental Health Systems (CSMHS). A CSMHS provides a continuum of services and supports to promote student and staff mental health and wellbeing.

In 2022 and 2023, a total of \$30 million was allocated to 450 Wisconsin school districts, independent charter schools, and tribal schools.

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Social Emotional Learning

39% of grantees spent, or plan to spend, funding to support students' social emotional learning (SEL). SEL can contribute to:

- improved academic achievement and engagement;
- decreased externalizing behaviors;
- cultivation of coping skills, resiliency, and protective factors, contributing to wellbeing; and
- increased sense of school safety and belonging. (CASEL 2024)

Staff Training

40% of grantees spent, or plan to spend, funding on staff training, professional development, or coaching.



School Mental Health Professionals

35% of grantees spent, or plan to spend, funding to increase staffing of school mental health professionals.

School Counselors: 55 Grantees

School Social Workers: 33 Grantees

School Psychologists: 23 Grantees

Mental Health Navigators: 23 Grantees

Interventionists: 7 Grantees

Other MH Staffing/Stipends: 23 Grantees

Access to Therapy Services

29% of grantees spent, or plan to spend, funding to increase student and family access to therapy services. This includes school and community-based therapists, student and family assistance plans, telehealth services, and mental health navigation.

