Wisconsin School-Based Mental Health Professionals Project

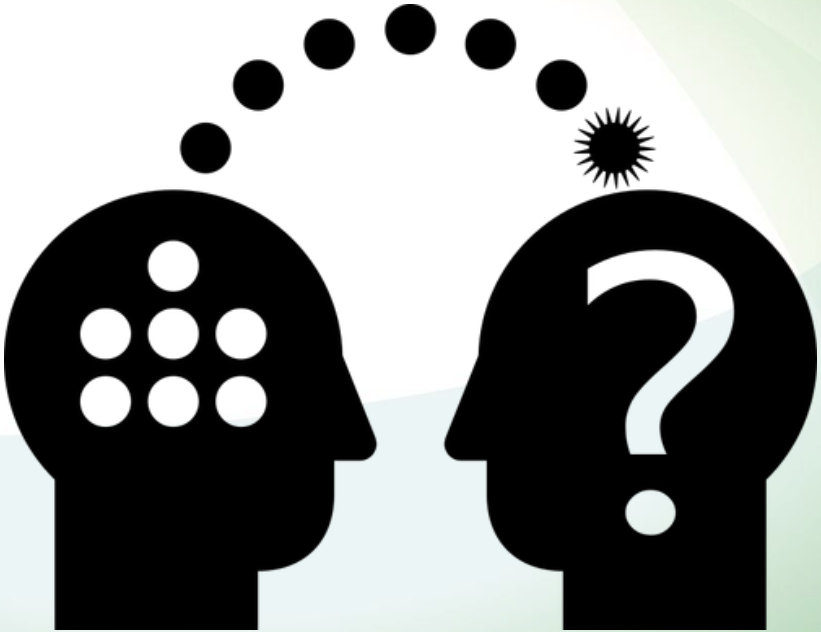
Karen Horn,
School-Based Mental Health Professionals
Educational Consultant
Student Services/Prevention & Wellness Team

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF
Public Instruction
Jill K. Underly, PhD, State Superintendent

Learning Objectives

Overview of the School-Based Mental Health Project

- Priority areas
- Goals
- Current data
- Resources



Grant Award

- From U.S. Department of Education
- $10 million over the next 5 years
- One of six states awarded
- Competitive Preference Priorities:
  - Training Existing Mental Health Service Providers to Qualify Them for Work in LEAs with Demonstrated Need
  - Rural Applicants; Spurring Investment in Qualified Opportunity Zones; or American Indian/Alaska Native Tribal Applicants

Project Focus

Goals of the Grant Program

- Assist high need school districts in recruiting and retaining pupil services staff, such as school counselors, school social workers, and school psychologists.
- Help reduce high student-to-pupil services staff ratios.
- Increase graduate training opportunities for those interested in pursuing a school based mental health profession.
- Increase the diversity within these professions to better reflect the diversity of Wisconsin's student populations.

Ratio of SBMHP to Students

	Recommended Ratio	National Average*	State Mean
School Counselor	250	444*	495
School Psychologist	500-700	1526*	1,539
School Social Worker	250	2106*	1,936

Percent of SBMHPs District Wisestaff Reporting (2019)

Ethnicity	Pct	2020 Census Data Population Stats
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.5%	0.8%
Black or African American	3.5%	5.6%
Hispanic/Latino	2.0%	6.2%
Asian	1.1%	2.7%
White	92.2%	81.8%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.1%	<.01%
Two or More Races	0.6%	2.6%

The Approach

- Working with UW Pupil Services Programs to create and expand pathways to licensing.
- Working districts/schools with high needs to recruit and retain DPI licensed school-based MH staff.
- Working with Tribal Leaders and communities to recruit and retain school-based MH staff that serve members of federally recognized tribe(s).
- Increasing diversity within school-based mental health professions.

Grant Timeline

Spring 2021 - Spring 2022

- Planning and contracting with UWs to build infrastructure for pupil services programming to increase access.

- Enrollment and implementation of virtual and/or expanded pupil services programming.

Grant Timeline

Fall 2021 - Spring 2022

- **Data-driven LEA selection with identified need.**

- **Planning and contracting with selected LEAs to build infrastructure for recruit and retain pupil service professionals.**

Frequently Asked Questions

How can my school/district apply?

Frequently Asked Questions

How are high need schools and districts identified?

Frequently Asked Questions

Can we hire a teacher or other educator to fill a pupil services position?

Frequently Asked Questions

An educator in my school/district that wants be a School Counselor, School Social Worker or School Psychologist, and is interested in this project - what can we do?

Additional Information and Resources

Home | Licensing | Families & Students | Schools & Educators | Libraries | Data & Media

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Search

Student Services / Prevention and Wellness

- Student Services/Prevention & Wellness and COVID-19
- Team Directory
- Weekly News
- Safe Schools
- Pupil Services
- School Mental Health
  - Mental Health E-

STUDENT SERVICES / PREVENTION AND WELLNESS / SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH / FEDERAL SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS GRANT PROGRAM

Federal School-Based Mental Health Professionals Grant Program

For the purposes of this grant, SBMH Professionals include school psychologists, school counselors, and school social workers

Please note, this is a **different** grant than the state funded School-based Mental Health Services Grant. For more information, see the State School-based Mental Health Grant

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Questions? Please contact:

Karen Horn

School-Based Mental Health Professionals Educational Consultant

karen.horn@dpi.wi.gov