

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Grants to expand mental health services in schools

MADISON – Sixty-four school districts and consortiums are sharing \$3.25 million in state grant funding to provide school-based mental health services.

All of the funded projects involve collaboration with community mental health providers and other stakeholders to create comprehensive support systems for children, youth, and families. The new, competitive grant program attracted proposals from 141 applicants, representing 182 school districts and charter schools and requesting more than \$8 million. Grants fund activities for the 2018-19 school year and range from just over \$11,000 to the grant maximum of \$75,000.

“In a given year, one in five students faces a mental health issue, with more than 80 percent of incidents going untreated. Those students who do get help, more often than not, receive it through their school,” said State Superintendent Tony Evers. “This grant is a good start toward student mental health needs. But, we absolutely must do more to address student mental health so our kids have the support they need to be successful in school and eventually their communities.”

Students deal with the same mental health issues as adults, such as anxiety, depression, self-harm, and substance abuse. Whether treated or not, these problems can tie into major challenges found in schools: chronic absence, low achievement, disruptive behavior, and dropping out. Grant applicants conducted a local needs assessment along with their community partners to focus the proposal. Additionally, applicants had to demonstrate how parents, caregivers, and families would be involved in the project.

Grant funds may be used for a variety of services on a continuum from universal wellness activities for an entire school to intensive intervention for students in crisis. Grant proposals included activities to

- develop and support student and staff social and emotional wellness,
- increase staff capacity to create trauma sensitive environments,

(more)

- provide training to staff and students to recognize mental health challenges and know how to advocate for themselves and others,
- provide student support groups led by school and community mental health providers,
- develop referral processes to ensure students who need additional support are referred to qualified providers,
- create spaces in schools for community mental health providers to work with students, and
- provide guidance to students and families to access multiple systems and supports.

During the grant period, recipients will collect data on the number of students who receive mental health contact by school mental health providers and the number of students who receive contact or service from a community mental health provider. Additionally, grant recipients will develop an annual report on how activities addressed goals and outcomes in the grant proposal.

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NOTES: A list of school districts and consortiums receiving School-Based Mental Health Services Grants follows. This news release is available electronically at <https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/news-release/dpinr2018-72.pdf>.

School-Based Mental Health Services Grants

2018-19 School Year

Adams-Friendship Area	\$54,297	Menominee Indian	\$75,000
Altoona	\$75,000	Milwaukee Public	\$75,000
Amery	\$75,000	New London	\$57,500
Appleton Area	\$65,000	Northwood	\$62,375
Arcadia	\$59,650	Onalaska	\$58,860
Ashwaubenon	\$69,500	Oshkosh Area	\$75,000
Beaver Dam Unified	\$74,760	Pardeeville Area	\$11,119
Beloit	\$75,000	Pewaukee	\$42,720
Boscobel Area	\$68,171	Phillips	\$68,700
Cadott Community	\$23,926	Prairie du Chien Area	\$75,000
Chippewa Falls Area Unified	\$75,000	Prescott	\$66,700
De Pere	\$71,297	Racine Unified	\$75,000
Elkhorn Area	\$67,500	Ripon Area	\$75,000
Ellsworth Community	\$75,000	Sevastopol, Door County Consortium • Gibraltar Area, Sevastopol, Southern Door County, Sturgeon Bay, and Washington	\$75,000
Fond du Lac	\$75,000		
Green Bay Area Public	\$49,535	Stanley-Boyd Area	\$12,800
Hayward Community	\$55,500	Stevens Point Area Public	\$63,500
Hudson	\$70,985	Stoughton Area	\$66,836
Jefferson County Mental Health Consortium • Edgerton, Fort Atkinson, Jefferson, Johnson Creek, Lake Mills Area, Watertown Unified, and Whitewater Unified	\$75,000	Sun Prairie Area	\$75,000
		Tomorrow River	\$67,814
Kenosha	\$52,195	Trempealeau Valley Consortium • Blair-Taylor, Independence, and Whitehall	\$75,000
Kettle Moraine	\$75,000	Waukesha	\$74,862
La Crosse	\$24,100	Waupun	\$74,200
Little Chute Area	\$32,688	West Allis-West Milwaukee	\$73,590
Lodi	\$23,300	Wheatland J1	\$28,320
Madison Metropolitan	\$75,000	Wisconsin Rapids	\$75,000
Marinette	\$57,700	Wrightstown Community	\$75,000