



Integrating Schools and Mental Health Systems Grant

Overview of Michigan's Proposal

Grant Basics:

- MDE, MDCH, and the School-Community Health Alliance of Michigan (SCHA-MI), the provider and advocacy organization for school based/linked Child & Adolescent Health Centers, collaborated on developing a proposal for the *Integrating Schools and Mental Health Systems Grant*.
- MDE submitted grant to the United States Department of Education in June 2007.
- Michigan was one of 15 grantees funded (2 State Education Agencies and 13 Local Education Agencies).
- 18 month timeframe – August 1, 2007 – February 2009, with an option for a no-cost extension.
- Underlying USDOE grant themes:
 - Ensures responsiveness to diversity at all levels of the grant.
 - Recognize the value and unique perspective that parents/caregivers provide.
 - Recognize that schools are under tremendous pressure - strategies or recommendations developed by the local or state planning process need to reflect capacity within the school environment.

Components of Michigan's Proposal:

① Local Community Planning –

- Three local school districts were selected to convene district level teams to assess their current strengths and gaps as they relate to identifying, referring and treating school aged youth in need of mental health services. Each district will develop a community-specific plan of action that identifies tangible short and long term strategies aimed at improving how children in need of MH services are identified, treated and/or referred for services.
- 3 School Districts Selected: Sites were selected to reflect the diversity within Michigan's K-12 schools.
 - Beecher Community Schools
 - Waterford School District
 - Alcona Community Schools

- Community Deliverables Expected:
 - Development and implementation of a district level policy that minimally addresses how students with mental health needs will be identified, treated and/or referred for services.
 - Teachers, parents, and other interested community members will be trained on how to identify mental health needs of students, with an emphasis on early intervention.
 - Signed referral agreements with local CMH and other community providers/agencies.
 - Updated crisis intervention plan.
- ② Statewide Planning –
 - MDE, MDCH, and DHS will chair a Statewide Steering Committee (SSC) of diverse stakeholders to develop a set of recommendations to improve how schools address the mental health needs of students.
 - State Deliverables Expected:
 - Plan detailing the work of the SSC w/recommendations for developing capacity around student mental health.
 - Development of an interagency agreement between MDE, MDCH and DHS for improving children’s access to mental health services and programs in schools.
 - Development of a Statewide Model Policy on student mental health that will be endorsed by SSC and approved by State Board of Education.
 - At least 25 mental health workers at CAHCs will be trained in the CAFAS (Child & Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale).