

## NOW IS THE TIME MICHIGAN PROJECT AWARE

### PROJECT OVERVIEW

#### OVERALL PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

The MDE and MDHHS Project AWARE Proposal focuses on creating and sustaining an enhanced infrastructure aligning policies, practices, programs, and partnerships around meeting the mental health needs of students and their families, in addition to providing high-quality, research-based professional development. This infrastructure will enable districts to improve their ability and capacity to implement, sustain, and improve the delivery of mental health services to all students. This will be done by: 1) improving coordination of state and local resources and enhanced integration and coordination of behavioral health services, and 2) implementing Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) state and local training programs in three Michigan counties .

#### PROJECT GOALS

1. Increase the number of districts and students served by Project Aware through the Intermediate School Districts (ISD) to maximize the number of school-aged youth served.
2. Increase the capacity of educational systems to detect, respond to, and connect children, youth, and families with appropriate behavioral health resources and supports through increased coordination and collaboration within and between state and local educational systems, behavioral health systems, and community partners.
3. Increase awareness of the behavioral health needs of school-aged youth among students, families, school personnel, and community members through education, promotion, and prevention so that students feel more safe, less bullied, and more hopeful.
4. Increase the capacity of educational systems to collect, compile, and use data to improve the behavioral health of school aged youth served within Project AWARE Intermediate School Districts.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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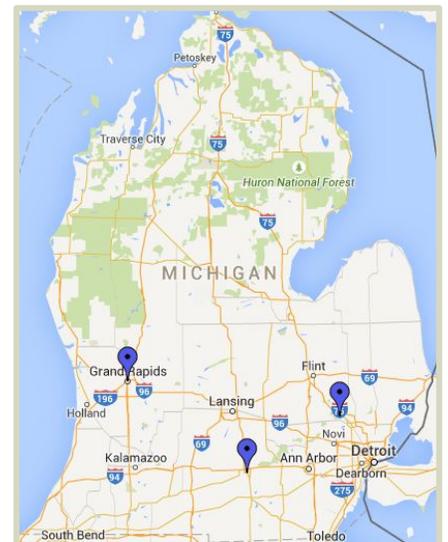
### PARTNERS

#### THREE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT (ISD) PARTNERS

- Kent Intermediate School District
- Jackson Intermediate School District
- Oakland Intermediate School District

#### Populations of Focus

- Students living in poverty and rural areas, minority students from diverse racial and ethnic groups, and students living in school districts with higher incidences of bullying, suicide, and attempted suicide.
- LGBTQ community and their specific needs.



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## OTHER PARTNERS

Michigan Department of Education (Office of School Support Services - Coordinated School Health & Safety, Office of Education Improvement & Innovation -School Improvement, Office of Great Start & Early Childhood, MiBLSi – Michigan Integrated Behavior & Learning Support Initiative); Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (Mental Health Services to Children & Families, Office of Child Welfare Policy & Program, Juvenile Justice Programs, Office of Recovery Oriented Systems of Care, Family & Community Health - Adolescent and School Health); Michigan State Police, Parent Action for Healthy Kids, Prevention Network, Local ISDs, LEAs & CMHs.

Collaboration and Integration with Safe Schools/Healthy Students and School Climate Transformation grants.

## STRATEGIES

### EVIDENCE-BASED/INFORMED AND/OR PROMISING PRACTICES

- Promotion of Multi Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)
- ISDs will determine district-level need and interventions based on data, using MiPHY, Michigan's survey system to identify students' health behaviors and perceptions.
- Ongoing assessment within each ISD to identify opportunity to increase capacity to support LEA efforts to meet the mental health needs of students and their families.

### MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING

- As a result of previous grant funding, Michigan had trained 228 YMHFA Instructors prior to the initiation of Project AWARE. In order to support the sustainability of previously-trained instructors, Michigan is utilizing current YMHFA Instructors for YMHFA trainings, while strategically training and embedding additional instructors. The state plans to host 9 trainings per year to expand offerings to state level partners and LEAs outside of Project AWARE communities.
- Annually train at least 375 culturally and linguistically diverse First Aiders (125 in each ISD) for a minimum 1,875 over the course of the grant.

## ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

- The state continues to lead the development and implementation of a data collection, tracking, and analysis system so that schools can identify students with mental health concerns to be referred to systems within the school or a community mental health organization out of school.
- The Michigan team continues to be a model for data driven decision making. They have used data to customize support to address each district's specific student mental health needs. They excel not only with quantitative data collection and analysis, but additionally collect qualitative narratives from each ISD at six-month intervals.
- A champion of systems thinking, Michigan AWARE continues to pioneer and model collaboration with SS/HS. They are also pioneering state level collaboration data collection, serving as a key pilot for the national evaluation for AWARE.
- The Joint State Management Team originated as an interdepartmental state level team that was brought together by the Safe Schools Healthy Students (SSHS) grant. This past year, MDE was awarded two additional grants: Project AWARE and the School Climate Transformation Grant. These grants are also designed to improve mental health and positive school climate within the educational system. As we have added additional grants and partners to the Joint State Management Team, our conceptualization of this team has expanded toward an interagency child services team/platform designed to collaborate in meeting the needs of the whole child and family beyond the lifetime of these grant initiatives. As a result, we are establishing a new mission and vision and renaming of the JSMT for sustainability past the lifetime of the grants.
- Baseline data from the Joint State Management Team Collaboration Survey was established in January 2016; the state's evaluation approach continues to be a pioneer for AWARE nationwide.