

2012 Mental Health Mini-grant APPLICATION



Introduction

The Coordinated School Health and Safety Programs Unit of the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) and the Adolescent and School Health Unit of the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) are pleased to announce a funding opportunity to support the implementation of the State Board of Education's (SBE) Policy on Integrating Mental Health in Schools.

The Policy on Integrating Mental Health in Schools was adopted by the SBE in 2010, as a result of a statewide collaborative process led by the Michigan Departments of Community Health, Human Services, and Education. The goal of this collaboration was to develop a comprehensive policy to address the mental health needs of school-aged children. This policy serves as a guide to public school districts and academies, offering recommendations to incorporate mental health policies and practices into their school and classroom environment. For more information on the SBE Policy on Integrating Mental Health in Schools, please visit <http://www.michigan.gov/schoolmentalhealthtoolkit>.

Research continues to demonstrate a link between students' social and emotional well-being and mental health with their academic achievement and school success. Highlights include the following:

- *Rates of absenteeism and tardiness are much higher for students with mental health disturbance. (Gall, 2000)*
- *Emotional, behavioral, and social difficulties diminish the capacity of children to learn and benefit from the educational process. (Rones & Hoagwood, 2000)*
- *Approximately 20% of children and adolescents suffer from a mental illness resulting in mild functional impairments, AND, an estimated 10% have moderate to severe impairments. (Duchnowski, Kutash, & Friedman, 2002; Power, Eiralkdi, Clarke, Mazzuca & Krain, 2005)*

Grant Initiative

In order to positively impact the mental health of Michigan students, healthier school environments need to be established. A safe, healthy, and supportive school district utilizes the efforts of their Coordinated School Health Team (CSHT). A CSHT is a coalition of individuals from within and outside of the school community interested in improving the health of youth. The CSHT model is an interdisciplinary collaboration that helps create a school environment in which students are fit, healthy, and ready to learn. The CSHT should have representation from all eight components of Coordinated School Health, as follows: Nutrition Services; Health Services; Healthy School Environment; Counseling and Psychological Services; Health Promotion for Staff; Family and Community Involvement; Health Education; and Physical Education.

A Guidance Document regarding how to form a CSH team, from the Michigan Nutrition Standards, is attached to this email announcement. To help districts achieve a healthy school climate, MDE, in partnership with MDCH, is offering up to ten mini-grants to eligible school districts to begin to address the mental health needs of their school population. Grantees will receive \$3,000 and have one year to accomplish their objectives.

Eligibility

Any school district in Michigan, whether public or charter, is eligible to apply.

Applicants must agree to complete the following grant requirements:

1. Form a Coordinated School Health Team, which must include a building administrator and a mental health provider, in addition to representatives from all eight components of the CSH framework.
2. Complete the Social and Emotional Health Topic Area of the Healthy School Action Tool (HSAT), which can be located at www.mihealthtools.org/hsat.
3. Identify and address two or more gaps realized from the HSAT assessment.
4. Implement one of the 14 SBE recommendations from the Policy on Integrating Mental Health in Schools.
5. Develop a local school district mental health policy.

Budget Guidelines

The funding for this grant opportunity is provided by the Michigan Department of Education's Coordinated School Health and Safety Programs Unit, and the Michigan Department of Community Health's Adolescent and School Health Unit.

Funding may be used for the following:

- a. Staff time to work on grant initiatives.
- b. Substitute teacher reimbursement to release staff to work on grant initiatives.
- c. Supplies or materials related to accomplishing grant initiatives.
- d. Travel/mileage reimbursement.

Grant funds may **not** be used to pay for:

- a. Technology.
- b. Indirect costs.
- c. Fees unrelated to grant initiatives.

Submitting an Application

To apply for this funding opportunity, please complete and submit the attached application by **May 31, 2012**. Funds to support the implementation will be available upon notification of the grant award. Grant recipients will be notified by **July 2, 2012**. The grant period is from **August 27, 2012**, through **June 14, 2013**.

Applications should be sent via email to Kazeel@michigan.gov.

Non-Discrimination and Other Compliance with Law

Applications must include a statement of assurance of compliance with all federal and state laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination and with all requirements and regulations of the Michigan Department of Education.

Americans with Disabilities Act

The Michigan Department of Education is committed to providing equal access to all persons in admission to, or operation of, its programs or services. Individuals with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in this program are invited to contact the Michigan Department of Education for assistance.

Questions

Questions regarding this mini-grant should be directed to Lauren Kazee at MDE, c/o the Coordinated School Health and Safety Programs Unit in the Office of Grants Coordination and School Support at (517) 241-1500, or by email at KazeeL@michigan.gov, or to Kathy Weaver at the Michigan Department of Community Health at (517) 335-6599, or by email at WeaverK4@michigan.gov.

For more information on the School Mental Health initiatives, visit <http://www.michigan.gov/schoolmentalhealth>.