

OHIO STUDENT WELLNESS AND SUCCESS FUNDING PLAN

| A. STUDENT WELLNESS AND SUCCESS INITIATIVES (ORC 3317.26(B)) | B. COMMUNITY PARTNERS (ORC 3317.26(C)) |
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Mental health services2. Services for homeless youth3. Services for child welfare involved youth4. Community liaisons5. Physical health care services6. Mentoring programs7. Family engagement and support services8. City Connects programming9. Professional development regarding the provision of trauma-informed care10. Professional development regarding cultural competence11. Student services provided prior to or after the regularly scheduled school day or any time school is not in session | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A board of alcohol, drug and mental health services2. An educational service center3. A county board of developmental disabilities4. A community-based mental health treatment provider5. A board of health of a city or general health district6. A county department of job and family services7. A nonprofit organization with experience serving children8. A public hospital agency |

School District: Willoughby-Eastlake City School District

Primary Partner(s):Crossroads Health and Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio

Total Student Wellness and Success Funding: \$485,994 **Mental and Physical Health Services Allocation (50% Min):** 100%

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Board Approved Date: 9/11/2023 **Resolution #:** R-23-123

Identify District Needs (Include Data and Evidence of Need)

District data demonstrates a persistent rise in behavioral referrals over successive years, posing challenges to prioritizing effective teaching and learning. Building principals unanimously identify a pressing demand for mental health services, supported by referral rates and completed safety evaluations. In the recently concluded 2022-23 academic year, approximately 362 students received school-based mental health assistance through a community agency. Notably, 20 safety screenings were conducted for students at self-harm or harm-to-others risk. Additional compelling indicators of District needs encompass a decline in student attendance from 95.6% (2019-2020) to 92.4% (2021-2022), coupled with a surge in chronic absenteeism from 15.6% (2020-2021) to 23.4% (2021-2022). Concurrently, the economically disadvantaged subset escalated from 28.82% (2020-2021) to 41.26% (2022-2023).

District Strategies/Programs/Services

Willoughby-Eastlake Schools offers school-based mental health services that provide for both short-term and long-term needs. Our skilled counselors conduct brief interventions, assessments, and continuous treatments through individual and group sessions. These services are designed to support students facing diverse mental health difficulties, enhancing their emotional and behavioral wellbeing within the academic setting. By facilitating access to these resources, we empower students at Willoughby-Eastlake to effectively manage challenges like anxiety, depression, peer dynamics, and family issues.

Willoughby-Eastlake utilizes a tiered approach to ensure that every student's mental wellness and academic journey is comprehensively supported, reinforcing their ability to thrive both personally and academically.

District Personnel Responsible and Roles

Tier 1: Our dedicated staff, including administrators, teachers, guidance counselors, and school resource officers, contribute to fostering a mentally healthy school environment. They establish a safe space, nurture positive relationships, and offer initial guidance. These professionals provide essential counseling, classroom strategies, coping skills, and suitable referrals for mild mental health concerns.

Tier 2: The Family Liaison team provides specialized assistance beyond the scope of regular staff, counselors, and resource officers. They create personalized intervention plans, connect families with internal and external resources, and address external factors influencing student well-being.

Tier 3: School-based mental health counselors form the backbone of intensive and specialized services. They deliver long-term individual counseling, crisis intervention, and therapeutic measures for students with severe mental health challenges. These counselors collaborate with families, develop comprehensive treatment plans, conduct assessments, and actively contribute to multidisciplinary initiatives.

Anticipated Use of Funds

Willoughby-Eastlake is estimated to receive \$485,994 in Student Wellness funds. We have budgeted all of this money as well as additional funds towards the cost of SROs and Guidance Counselors.

- SROs: \$400,000
- Guidance Counselors: \$1,714,710.96

Community Partners and Roles

Crossroads Health

- Preventative Services
- TSS Training in all buildings
- Day Treatment
- Crisis Intervention
- School-Based Counselors

Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio

- Provides supports that help us enhance the health, well-being, and safety of our students
- Utilizes a consultative approach to support District's identified needs
- Technical assistance
- Screening tools
- Frameworks
- Professional Development
- Coaching
- Referrals to additional supports and services as needed

Progress Measures

Family Engagement and Satisfaction Surveys: Implement a regular survey among students/families. Gather feedback on their satisfaction levels, perceived effectiveness of the services, and whether they feel better equipped to manage their mental health challenges. Monitoring changes in students' reported well-being and their perceived support can provide insights into the program's impact.

Referral Trends and Timeliness: Track the trends in referrals for mental health services at the end of each semester. Measure the number of referrals made by teachers, counselors, and other staff members. A reduction in the number of referrals could indicate improved early intervention and support effectiveness.

Mid-Year Progress

We conducted a mid-year survey with parents that asked a number of questions to determine the effectiveness of our programming.

When asked on a scale of 1 to 5 regarding satisfaction with the mental health counseling services provided to their child at school, 77.8% of respondents expressed the highest level of contentment.

Inquiring about their child's sense of preparedness in managing their mental health subsequent to engaging in school-based counseling services, responses varied. Specifically, 44.4% rated it as a 5, 33.3% as a 3, with 11.1% each indicating a 1 and another 11.1% indicating a 3.

Assessing the degree of awareness concerning mental health resources accessible to their child within the school community, 77.8% of participants rated their level of information at a 4 or 5.

When prompted about the likelihood of utilizing school-based Crossroads services for future mental health needs of their child, an overwhelming 88.9% expressed their inclination towards utilizing Crossroads.

Mid-Year Plan Modifications

No modifications are planned. However, a parent night is planned with NAMI to provide information on "Ending the Silence" for families and will include various community-based mental health supports.

Referrals will be compared from the first and second semesters during the end-of-year progress.

End-of-Year Progress

Students Served during the 2023-24 school year by Crossroads:

- 488 students received services during the 2023-24 school year
- In addition, **1119.2** hours were provided to the district that were NOT connected to an identified student. This could be as a class lesson, classroom support, consulting with teachers or staff on students.

Services Provided:

- Preventative Services--large or small group programming to reduce risk of substance abuse and mental health disorders
- School-based Services--short-term and ongoing group and individual intervention
- Trauma Sensitive Schools Training in all buildings
- Day Treatment Programming--therapeutic educational setting
- Crisis Intervention
- Lake County Trauma Response Team--respond when we call for assistance; typically utilize several times per year
- Threat Assessments either at their facility or if needed in the home when district requests/refers
- Support to our PBIS District Team
- Referrals for family therapy and additional intensive therapy at facility
- Walk-in Diagnostic Assessments
- Walk-in Primary Care Services
- Medication Management including on-site pharmacy

Impact of Services on the School:

- Access to needed services on site, taking a child to an appointment is very difficult for many of our families
- Impacts behavior by helping to reduce disruptive behaviors
- Supports for students experiencing stress, anxiety, mental and emotional challenges to allow students to better attend and engage in their learning
- Reduces the stigma of mental health by providing the service at school
- Staff training helps to equip them to better support their students
- Availability of trained staff during a crisis

End-of-Year Plan Modifications for Subsequent School Year

Evaluating school-based counselor staffing in WE to ensure we are providing adequate support to our buildings.

Meeting quarterly to review the services and supports and to make adjustments as needed to the school-based programming.

Current FY Final Expenditures

Willoughby-Eastlake is estimated to receive \$528,907 in Student Wellness funds. We have budgeted all of this money as well as additional funds towards the cost of SROs and Guidance Counselors. Total cost estimates:

- SROs: \$400,000
- Guidance Counselors: \$1,714,710.96