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3 **2021 RES-058**

4 **AWARDING MAJOR CONTRACT TO MMSD FOR K-12 EMOTIONAL WELLNESS**  
5 **AND MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT GRANTS DCDHS – PEI DIVISION**

6 Dane County Department of Human Services' (DCDHS) Prevention and Early  
7 Intervention Division (PEI) is seeking authority to award a contract to the Madison  
8 Metropolitan School District (MMSD) as a recipient of a K-12 Emotional Wellness and  
9 Mental Health Support Grant. These one-time grants were created using American  
10 Rescue Plan (ARP) of 2021 funds.

11  
12 PEI has been granted funding authority within 2021 RES-012 to offer and allocate one-  
13 time grants to Dane County Public School Districts to assist K-12 students and their  
14 parents/caregivers in meeting student mental health and wellness needs during the  
15 transitional period of re-entry to physical school settings during the continued COVID-19  
16 pandemic. Only Dane County Public School Districts were eligible to apply for this grant  
17 opportunity. This funding opportunity was not open to private schools, individual schools  
18 within a school district, other units of state or local government, or private for-profit or  
19 not-for-profit entities or individuals. These grant monies will provide bridge funding to  
20 assist students and their families until area school districts are able to launch their own  
21 independent ARP plans. The proposed grant design reflects the need to institute  
22 programming and supports quickly, and includes flexibility to address the needs of  
23 individual school districts as schools and communities transition back to in-person  
24 schooling and COVID-19 vaccines become more widely available in our community.

25  
26 Grant activities may include the following: expansion of, or needed adaptation to, any  
27 currently provided mental health supports offered by Dane County School Districts,  
28 youth and/or parent/caregiver peer support, resource linkage or navigation, wellness  
29 activities, purchases of computer software and/or hardware, or online subscriptions to  
30 support student/family mental health or mental wellness or other related materials, or  
31 one time basic needs allocations for families to help promote safety and wellbeing.

32  
33 In compliance with 2021 RES-013, Following is the statement of justification, explanation  
34 of expected outcomes and plan for quarterly data collection and other outcome  
35 measures.

36  
37 This funding responds to noted mental health concerns of Dane K-12 students during  
38 the COVID19 pandemic by providing short term resources that expand current mental  
39 health supports for students and help bolster wellness and wellbeing. In addition to  
40 concerns from school districts about the need for short term resources to meet growing  
41 student mental health challenges, the April 2021 edition of the Wisconsin Office of  
42 Children's Mental Health Fact Sheet cites that Wisconsin Health Insurance companies  
43 have seen a 100% increase in the number of self-harm, substance use and mental  
44 health claims for teens between calendar years 2019 and 2020. This same publication  
45 calls upon policy makers to increase student mental health supports especially in school  
46 settings.

47  
48 The K12 Emotional Wellness and Mental Health Support Grant application required that  
49 this funding could not be used to supplant other funding sources or duplicate current  
50 services or activities.

51 This funding does not expressly leverage or require current partnerships in order to  
52 execute the activities, however the creation of the grant framework and confirmation of  
53 current Dane County K-12 student mental health and wellness needs was done in  
54 partnership with Dane County’s Children’s Mental Health Collaborative and staff from  
55 Public Health Madison and Dane County.

56  
57 Guidance regarding the ability to utilize American Rescue Plan Act funding for issuance  
58 of the K12 Emotional Wellness and Mental Health grants was obtained in review of  
59 HR1319 - The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 by the Dane County Department of  
60 Administration and the Corporation Counsel’s Office.

61  
62 This funding seeks to increase mental health service and resource linkage for K12  
63 students by 50%; to expand overall mental health supports by 40%; to increase wellness  
64 activities by 40% and to ensure sustainability plans for all funded activities. The lowered  
65 percentage increases were set to reflect to shorter time frame for the execution of  
66 allowed grant activities. The funding also seeks to ensure that immediate basic family  
67 needs are met to help ensure overall well-being is achieved.

68  
69 Implementation progress will be reported quarterly in a one page report that will be  
70 submitted by the funded school district prior to the release the quarterly payment. A final  
71 summary report will be submitted by the funded school district by December 31, 2022  
72 indicating progress in achieving performance indicators, the manner in which the activity  
73 addressed equity, and sustainability plans for the continuation of the activity or indication  
74 of goal completion (including rationale and metrics if applicable).  
75 The ongoing quarterly report is not required for contracts under \$20,000.

76  
77 All grant awards are under \$100,000.except for the following school districts:

78  
79 The Madison Metropolitan School District is receiving funds to support Resource  
80 Navigators for students and families, transportation assistance and increases to bilingual  
81 mental health supports district-wide for a total of \$454,754.

82  
83 The Oregon School District is receiving funds to expand current existing partnerships  
84 with mental health providers (including providers of color) to ease access for under  
85 insured and uninsured populations, create and expand mindfulness spaces for students  
86 district-wide and expand tools in social emotional learning curriculums for a total of  
87 \$103,119.

88  
89 The Verona Area School District is receiving funds to expand Zones of Regulation and  
90 create calming mindfulness spaces in all elementary schools, increase suicide  
91 prevention efforts and restorative practices in middle and high school, and expand  
92 responsive classrooms and assist with multiple family basic needs requests district wide  
93 for a total of \$450,000.

94  
95 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the following contract be awarded and that  
96 the County Executive and the County Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to sign  
97 the agreement on behalf of Dane County, and that the Controller is authorized to issue  
98 checks for grant issuance to qualified Dane County school district applicants.

99

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
100 Madison Metropolitan School District	101 \$454,754