

Now Is the Time: Project Aware Grant

October 28, 2014

Awards

- *“Now Is the Time” Project Aware* from the United States Department of Health and Human Services – Substance Abuse Mental health Service Agency (SAMHSA)
- *School Climate Transformation (SCT)* from the United States Department of Education – Office of Elementary and Secondary Education and Office of Safe and Health Students

Funding Basics

Grant Years	School Climate Transformation	Now is the Time - Project AWARE	Annual Total
2014	705,427	1,948,267	2,653,694
2015	707,941	1,948,751	2,656,692
2016	707,941	1,948,797	2,656,738
2017	707,941	1,948,697	2,656,638
2018	707,941	1,948,697	2,656,638
Total	3,537,191	9,743,209	
		Grand Total	13, 280, 400

Need for Mental Health services

- 1 in 5 children are identified as needing a mental health (MH) service
- Only about a third of these children receive MH service
- School as the de facto MH provider
- Juvenile justice system is next level of system default

Now Is the Time Goal 1

- Develop a multi-tiered model that integrates a comprehensive systems approach for addressing the mental health needs of children and youth
- Piloted within three selected school divisions: Montgomery County, Pulaski County and Fairfax County

Now Is the Time Goal 2

- Integrate a multi-tiered systems framework for the delivery of mental health services that will increase the efficiency of systems at the state and local levels to advance collaboration, capacity, integration, and coordination of services

Now Is the Time Goal 3

- Expand the availability and delivery of Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) and Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) throughout the Commonwealth to increase early identification and intervention in cases of mental health distress in Virginia's youth

School Mental Health

- Involves partnership between schools and community health/mental health organizations, as guided by families and youth
- Builds on existing school programs, services, and strategies

Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA)

- Evidence-based curriculum that provides adult gatekeepers with information to identify youth experiencing problems with mental health and substance abuse and make referrals to supports services within the school and/or in the community

State Management Team

- Works to align policies and procedure to overcome barriers hindering local education, mental health and other youth/family services providers
- Provides state and local level systems with a continuous feedback loop during this transforming process

Shared Purpose: Mental Health and School Climate

- Schools supporting/promoting mental health of all students
- Prevention, early access, interventions, according to level of need
- School personnel feel confident and competent in identifying and intervening with accuracy and effectiveness

Now Is the Time for Transformation!

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