

## **Mental Health Grant Information**

In May 2019, The Kickapoo and LaFarge School Districts teamed up to apply as a consortium to access additional funding to support mental health needs for our students. In the summer of 2019, we were notified that we were awarded the full amount of \$75,000 (to split between the 2 districts). This grant is a 2 year application, meaning we will receive \$75,000 this year and \$75,000 next year.

### ***What are the goals of this grant?***

Through this grant, we aim to address the following needs:

\*Reducing the barriers to access mental health services by contracting with an independent agency to provide on site services to students. This is intended to reduce the burden of family members missing work to take children to appointments, transportation issues, and allowing for students to miss less instructional time. We also want to provide local directories of providers so that families have an easier starting point when exploring services.

\*Providing support and education to families promoting more knowledge of mental health as well as strategies to implement in assisting their children who may be struggling with mental health needs

\*Providing additional staff training on mental health

\*Providing additional student training on mental health, including symptoms and where to seek help

\*Improving upon the school based screening and intervention of mental health needs through evidence based practices and curriculum

### ***What can (and can't) this grant be used for?***

We can use funding for: evidence based programming around suicide prevention, mental health literacy, bullying prevention and social and emotional development, stigma reduction and substance abuse, professional development and staff coaching, student training in mental health/wellness, data collection system, screening systems, equipment to assist with promoting mental health literacy, parent nights, supplies, administrative costs, and creating treatment spaces that are comfortable and confidential (10% limit on this).

We can NOT use funding for: paying directly for mental health services from independent contractors.

### ***Who are we currently collaborating with?***

We have made connections with Scenic Bluffs Community Health Centers, Vernon Memorial Hospital, Stonehouse Counseling, and the Vernon County Trauma Task Force. We are open to adding more agencies to the list that are willing to collaborate to support the mental health needs of our students.

### ***Who do I contact for more information, if I wish to access services for my child(ren), or if I wish to take an active role in providing input on grant activities?***

For the Kickapoo School District, please contact

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