Opportunity Funding for Mental Health Services

For more information and to submit applications:

Susan Haberstroh – susan.haberstroh@doe.k12.de.us
Tina Bates – tina.bates@doe.k12.de.us

Funding Period: Fiscal Year 2020
Delaware Department of Education
Opportunity Funding Form
2019-2020 School Year

Opportunity Funding
Directed funds for mental health services

Application deadline: Friday, Aug. 9, 2019

Purpose: The Opportunity Funding directed to mental health services provides $5.0 million in FY20, $2.5 million in HB 225 (Annual Appropriations Act) and $2.5 million authorized in HB 226 (One-Time Supplemental). With a total supplemental amount of $7.5 million over three years, the total amount will be $15 million contingent on future appropriations.

It shall be apportioned to schools which quality for a Reading Interventionist under the Student Success Block Grant as detailed in House Bill 225 (the FY20 operating budget).

This funding shall be used by school districts and charter schools for mental health services in the form of school counselors, school social workers or licensed clinical social workers, school psychologists, and/or for additional reading supports for grades K-5. Services may include the employment of staff, where such funding may be used to cover 100 percent of personnel costs on a 10 to 12-month basis and/or contracted services.

This funding is allocated separately from the directed funds for English learners and low-income students.

Allocation Method: Amounts vary per school and that amount is indicated below. Each LEA has already received the first half of the funding; the second amount will be released upon receipt and approval of this application.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISTRICT/CHARTER NAME:</th>
<th>Christina School District</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stubbs (Frederick Douglass) Elementary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADDRESS:</td>
<td>Now Known As: Stubbs Early Education Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTACT NAME:</td>
<td>Whitney Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTACT PHONE:</td>
<td>(302) 429-4175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTACT EMAIL:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:whitney.williams@christina.k12.de.us">whitney.williams@christina.k12.de.us</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>ALLOCATION AMOUNT:</td>
<td>$72,167</td>
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Overall summary

1. What will you do to offer mental health supports specifically to low-income and English language learners?

A multi-tiered system of support will be implemented using an innovative method of service blending the approaches of a licensed professional worker/counselor of mental health, and an additional school-based guidance counselor. These two individuals will provide multiple levels of care, to our English Language Learners and low-income families. Resources and strategies include focusing on trauma-informed practices, positive behavioral interventions/supports and parent-child interactions. This innovative approach will focus on improving the well-being of children and families socially, emotionally, and academically.

Services will be divided into tiers. Tier one is the collective support in which children have access to mental health services in the school setting. Tier-two level consists of small group counseling/connections, classroom behavior management strategies, individual counseling and additional professional development (for our staff) related to social and emotional barriers to academic achievement. The third tier is individualized with more intensive strategies provided that include resources accessed through the licensed mental health professional and based on the student’s and families’ needs.

Services are provided by trained professionals experienced in working with vulnerable families living in at-risk communities, and include certified bilingual support personnel and materials for English language learner families.

2. How will the funding also assist students not in those two subgroups?

The reconfiguration of the Stubbs Early Education Center, now includes services and supports for adults within the Dual Generation Center located on the second floor of the school. Approximately 85% of all students in the Stubbs community are low income, and all funding operates as the federal funding Title I school-wide model, where all students and families can receive support if in need. All students and families will be invited to participate in all funded related activities and services, including mental health supports, early learning reading and family literacy programs. Supports will be provided to all children and families, based on need, temporarily or long-term, and not solely based on socioeconomic status.

3. What kind of specialist are you hiring (school counselor, school social worker, licensed clinical social worker or school psychologist)?

3. Contractual services will be used for licensed professional mental health/counselor and an additional school counselor.

4. Are you using this money for additional reading supports in addition to mental health services? If so, what types of services will be provided?

This funding will also support the Get Delaware Reading Wilmington (GDRW) initiative at Stubbs. Get Delaware Reading Wilmington is a multi-year two generational initiative designed to proactively engage low-income and English Language learner families with year-round academic and social supports necessary to be ready to learn to read while in kindergarten. Through the family engagement component of the initiative, services will be provided to support parents’ engagement in the early literacy model used by their children’s teachers, and strengthening parent-child interactions that support a love of reading for the whole family. Literacy home packets will be prepared and sent home regularly with families. These materials such as books, manipulatives such as magnetic letters, magnetic word strips, flash cards and decodable readers will support reading and literacy development at home.
5. Is this money is being used to contract services?
   YES [x]  NO [ ]

6. Please provide a copy of your expenditure plan.

Assurances and signatures:

As the chief school officer of the district or school, including the indicated school, I am authorized to submit for the funds identified in this form. I am also authorized to obligate the district or charter school to conduct any activity approved under this form in accordance with all applicable state requirements, including statutory and regulatory requirements, and program specific requirements. The information contained in it is true and correct to the best of by knowledge and belief. By submitting this form, I acknowledge that I understand and agree to abide by all applicable requirements. I further agree that

1. I understand that this funding may not be used to supplant otherwise available funding.
2. I understand that our district shall be authorized to assess a local match to provide for the local contribution of personnel costs associated with this appropriation (districts only).

Chief School Officer (printed name): Richard Greene
Signature: __________________________ Date: 10/2/2019

As the business manager of the district or school, including the indicated school, I am authorized to submit for the funds identified in this form. I have read this form and reviewed the financial information contained in this form. The information contained in this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I have reviewed and approve the submission of the budgetary information for this form. By submitting this form, I acknowledge that I understand and agree to abide by all applicable requirements. I further agree that

1. I understand that this funding may not be used to supplant otherwise available funding.
2. I understand that our district shall be authorized to assess a local match to provide for the local contribution of personnel costs associated with this appropriation (districts only).

Business manager (printed name): Roger A. Sussre
Signature: __________________________ Date: 10/1/2019

By signing this form, I am approving the plan submitted by the district or charter.

Secretary of Education/Designee (printed name): __________________________
Signature: __________________________ Date: __________________________
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<td>Comments</td>
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