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Adjusted Allocation: 0.00

Remaining: -210,750.00
Application
Liberty Center Local (047589) - Henry County - 2014 - Straight A Fund - Rev 0 - Straight A Fund

Applicants shall respond to the prompts or questions in the areas listed below in a narrative form.

1. Project Title: Focus on Success: A Program to Address Distractions from Achievement and Prevent School Violence.

2. Executive summary: Provide an executive summary of your project proposal and which goal(s) in question 9 you seek to achieve. Please limit your responses to no more than three sentences.

3. Number of Students Served:

4. Lead applicant primary contact - Provide the following information:
   First Name, last Name of contact for lead applicant: Kristi A. Thompson
   Organizational name of lead applicant: Liberty Center Local Schools
   Unique Identifier (RN/Fed Tax ID): N/A
   Address of lead applicant: 193 West Young Street, Liberty Center, Ohio 43532
   Phone Number of lead applicant: 419-533-5011
   Email Address of lead applicant: kthompson@libertycenterschools.org

5. Secondary applicant contact - Provide the following information, if applicable:
   First Name, last Name of contact for secondary applicant: N/A
   Organizational name of secondary applicant: N/A
   Unique Identifier (RN/Fed Tax ID): N/A
   Address of secondary applicant: N/A
   Phone number of secondary applicant: N/A
   Email address of secondary applicant: N/A

6. List all other participating entities by name: Provide the following information for each additional participating entity, if applicable: Mention First Name, Last Name, Organizational Name, Unique Identifier (IRN/Fed Tax ID), Address, Phone Number, Email Address of Contact for All Secondary Applicants in the box below:
   First Call For Help
   Kathy Helmke, Executive Director Four County Family Center
   219 East Washington Nolton, Ohio 43454 Phone: 419-592-0950 kathelmke@fourcoCOUNTY.com
   Great Lakes Biomedical
   Tom Strasburger, VP Sales tstrasburger@publicschoolworks.com 2010 Madison Road Cincinnati, Ohio 45208
   Phone: 513-631-6111

7. Partnership and consortia agreements and letters of support: - (Click on the link below to upload necessary documents).
   * Letters of support are for districts in academic or fiscal distress only. If school or district is in academic or fiscal distress and has a commission assigned, please include a resolution from the commission in support of the project.
   * If a partnership or consortium will be established, please include the signed Straight A Description of Nature of Partnership or Description of Nature of Consortium Agreement.
   UploadGrantApplicationAttachment.aspx

8. Please provide a brief description of the team or individuals responsible for the implementation of this project including relevant experience in other innovative projects. You should also include descriptions and experiences of partnering entities.

Liberty Center Local Schools identified in 2011 that social and emotional issues were presenting a significant distraction from education as well as hazards to overall safety and welfare of students. At that time, partnerships were developed with area health and mental health agencies to address these challenges. A total of $57,000 was allocated for contracts with these partners with expertise in specific areas of physical and mental health. This experience allowed for evaluation of which measures which were effective, which were less than effective, and what gaps existed. Great Lakes Biomedical, Four County Family Center, and The Center for Child and Family Advocacy were all part of a 2011 initiative with Liberty Center Local Schools to address social and emotional dynamics that were distracting students from achievement. Their Services have been determined to be very valuable in moderating social and emotional barriers to student achievement. Another Agency, Recovery Services of Northwest Ohio was also involved in that initiative. While valuable, there is no need to seek additional contract funding with that agency at this time as funds remain available on the 2011 contract. One critical gap that has been identified in the 2011 initiative is mental health crisis and bullying response services. First Call for Help is the area agency dedicated to immediate crisis response and intervention. While the other agencies involved may take a few to several days to respond to a request for assistance, First Call for Help is, by design, a crisis response service. Hence, First Call for Help is included in the plan to manage social and emotional barriers to education in this initiative.

In addition, the plan involves purchasing services from Public School Works for the purposes of training staff to ensure sensitivity on social and emotional issues. In addition, Public School Works will allow parents and students to anonymously report incidents of bullying and other mental health crises by internet or phone. The Public School Works network connects emergency calls to school personnel and documents reports, thus providing accurate documentation of such incidents.

B) PROJECT DESCRIPTION - Overall description of project and alignment with Outcomes

9. Which of the stated Straight A Fund goals does the proposal aim to achieve? - (Check all that apply)
   - Student achievement
   - Spending reductions in the five-year fiscal forecast
   - Utilization of a greater share of resources in the classroom

10. Which of the following best describes the proposed project? - (Select one)
    - New - never before implemented
    - Existing and researched-based - never implemented in your district or community school but proven successful in other educational environments
    - Mixed Concept - incorporates new and existing elements
    - Enhancing/Scale Up - elevating or expanding an effective program that is already implemented in your district, school, or consortia partnership

11. Describe the innovative project

Focus on Success Program Design Part 1: Drug Testing

Reports Drug Use appears to have been significantly reduced since the implementation of the Drug Testing Program in August of 2011. Drug testing appears to deter drug use at Liberty Center Local Schools. SeeEd20. Part 2: Crisis Intervention and Bullying Response

Suicidal students cannot wait days or weeks for intervention. A reported 6% of Liberty Center students attempted suicide in 2013. The specialty of First Call for Help is immediate crisis intervention. While students have been frequently been referred to FCFH, the sliding scale fees are often cost prohibitive for many working families and have deterred some families from obtaining services when their children were exhibiting signs of acute suicidal risk. Bullying is a major distraction from education at Liberty Center. 30% of Liberty Center Students grades 6-12 reported being bullied on school property in 2013. FCHC has agreed to contract for bullying response services for both victims and offenders, as well as crisis response for students with acute suicidal risk. Part 3: Dating Safety, Abuse Prevention and Trauma Response

The specialties of The Center for Child and Family Advocacy include preventative services for dating and sexual violence, as well as responsive services for dating violence, general trauma, and sexual violence. National Institute of Mental Health statistics suggest that 1 in 4 females and 1 in 6 males will be victims of sexual assault or abuse before the age of 18. The report of 5% of Liberty Center students who have experienced dating violence, as well as the 15% who...
12. Describe how it will meet the goal(s) selected above. If school/district receives school improvement funds/support, include a brief explanation of how this project will advance the improvement plan.

The Focus on Success program will enhance student achievement (Goal 1) by reducing or eliminating the barriers to effective learning. As is well documented by the work of Maslow (1943), students who are healthy, emotionally supported, and have a sense of belonging will have the opportunity to perform at their highest potential.

13. Financial Documentation - All applicants must enter or upload the following supporting information. Responses should refer to specific information in the financial documents when applicable:

a. Enter a project budget

b. Upload the Straight A Financial Impact Template forecasting the expected changes to the five-year forecast resulting from implementation of this project. If applying as a consortia or partnership, please include the five-year forecasts of each partner organization and the overall costs to the consortium.

c. If subsection b) is not applicable, please explain why, in addition to how the project will demonstrate sustainability and impact.

14. What is the total cost for implementing the innovative project?

210,750.00 * Total project cost

15. What new/recurring costs of your innovative project will continue once the grant has expired? If there are no new/recurring costs, please explain why.

0.00 * Specific amount of new/recurring cost (annual cost after project is implemented)

16. Are there expected savings that may result from the implementation of the innovative project?

152,500.00 * Specific amount of expected savings (annual)

17. Provide a brief explanation of how the project is self-sustaining. If there are ongoing costs associated with the project after the term of the grant, this explanation should provide details on the cost reductions that will be made that are at least equal to the amount of new/recurring costs detailed above. If there are no new/recurring costs, explain in detail how this project will sustain itself beyond the life of the grant.

The partnerships forged through the Focus on Success Program introduce a comprehensive community-based approach to funding. As noted in the letter of support from the CEO of the Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board and the Henry County Health Commissioner, this collaborative approach to funding benefits everyone. Hence, it is anticipated that, in the future, partner organizations will include Liberty Center as a co-beneficiary of funding opportunities offered by sources not typically accessible to educational entities. Examples of funding sources available to our partners in the Focus on Success Program include but are not limited to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA), the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Mental Health (NIMH), the Ohio Department of Mental Health (ODMH) and others. This collaborative approach to funding is the cornerstone of the sustainability plan for the Focus on Success Program.

D) IMPLEMENTATION - Timeline, communication and contingency planning

18. Fill in the appropriate dates and an explanation of the timeline for the successful implementation of this project. In each explanation, be sure to briefly describe the largest barriers that could derail your concept or timeline for implementation and your plan to proactively mitigate such barriers. In addition, the narrative should list the stakeholders that will be engaged during that stage of the project and describe the communication that occurred as the application was developed.

Describe the ongoing communication plan with the stakeholders as the project is implemented. (Stakeholders can include parents, community leaders, foundation support and businesses, as well as educational personnel in the affected entities.)

* Proposal Timeline Dates

Plan (MM/DD/YYYY): 12/17/2014

* Narrative explanation


Implement (MM/DD/YYYY): 01/07/14

Subsequent to the large scale survey (YRBS/ companion survey) at the conclusion of year one and year three, there will be a meeting between Liberty Center administration and partner organizations to analyze data and make any necessary modifications to the design of the program. Specific behavioral indicators of barriers to student success include: 1. Percentage of students being bullied on school property 2. Percentage of students who use drugs and alcohol before sex 3. Percentage of students who report carrying a weapon in the past month 4. Percentage of students who report being physically harmed by a romantic partner 5. Percentage of students who report being maliciously bullied in the past year 6. Percentage of students who reported being involved in a physical fight 7. Percentage of students who attempt suicide 8. Percentage of students who report pervasive depression. These indicators help to identify areas of needed improvement and prioritize intervention strategies. Special emphasis will be placed on reducing school violence.

19. Describe the expected changes to the institutional and/or organizational practices in your institution.

20. Describe the rationale, research or past success that supports the innovative project and its impact on student achievement, spending reduction in the five-year fiscal forecast or utilization of a greater share of resources in the classroom.

21. Is this project able to be replicated in other districts in Ohio?

22. Every school district is part of a larger community that includes a county or regional Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board, community mental health centers, a county health department, and numerous other organizations whose mission is to promote the health and welfare of young people. As an example, Liberty Center is well served by other partner organizations. For example, students Liberty Center was extremely well served by organizations outside the realm of education when this proposal was initiated. As a result of developing these relationships, students will receive more comprehensive and more accessible services than they would have received with the various community organizations operating in isolation. Furthermore, the concept of cooperative budgeting, where schools partner with organizations outside education can open opportunities for schools can benefit from funding not typically accessible to schools. Liberty Center is available to consult at any time with other school districts interested in implementing this cooperative community based model for student welfare.

23. Describe the substantial value and lasting impact that the project hopes to achieve.

24. What are the specific benchmarks related to the fund goals identified in question 9 that the project aims to achieve in five years? Include any other anticipated outcomes of the project that you hope to achieve that may not be easily benchmarked.

* Implementation activities are coordinated by the district Human Resources and Curriculum Director. The Liberty Center Local Schools Guidance Department will coordinate mass prevention services and individual referrals for specialized interventions with the Center for Family Advocacy, Four County Family Center and First Call for Help. The Liberty Center Jr./Sr. High School will coordinate drug testing services with GHQ Lakes Region. This portion of the plan requires coordination from various school administration and staff from the Liberty Center Local Schools.

E) SUBSTANTIAL IMPACT AND LASTING VALUE - Impact, evaluation and replication

The focus on success program results suggest that the implementation of the Focus on Success program will increase by 20% in the school district. While the improved grades may not result directly in increased student attendance or increased graduation rates, it would be indicated by decreased numbers of D and F grades and decreased attempts at suicide, drugs and alcohol before sex. The current student population of Liberty Center and the student population of the schools in the Liberty Center Local School District are willing to send experts to Liberty Center to provide on site intervention. The Liberty Center Jr./Sr. High School Principal will continue to oversee that administration of the Drug Testing Program.
25. Describe the plan to evaluate the impact of the concept, strategy or approaches used.

* Include the method by which progress toward short- and long-term objectives will be measured. (This section should include the types of data to be collected, the formative outputs and outcomes and the systems in place to track the program's progress).

* Include the method, process and/or procedure by which the program will modify or change the program plan if measured progress is insufficient to meet program objectives.

Data will be collected on benchmark targets 1 through 5 at the end of every semester using the current school software. Benchmark data will be collected on targets 6 through 13 in the spring of 2015 and 2017 as part of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey and an age appropriate companion survey for elementary students. Ongoing feedback will be sought for the Focus on Success Program in staff meetings, reports from the Public School Works hotline and the school website. Counselors will also consult with partner organizations routinely to insure that prevention programs are offered by each partner organization on the subject area of their specialty on an annual basis. Counselors will also consult regularly with the leadership of partner organizations to refine services to fit the ever evolving needs of students.

By virtue of applying for the Straight A Fund, all applicants agree to participate in the overall evaluation of the Straight A Fund for the duration of the evaluation timeframe. The Governing Board of the Straight A Fund reserves the right to conduct evaluation of the plan and request additional information in the form of data, surveys, interviews, focus groups, and any other related data to the legislature, governor, and other interested parties for an overall evaluation of the Straight A Fund.

PROGRAM ASSURANCES: I agree, on behalf of this applicant agency and/or all identified partners to abide by all assurances outlined in the Assurance section of the CCIP. In the box below, enter "I Accept" and indicate your name, title, agency/organization and today's date.

I, Kristi A. Thompson, Superintendent of Liberty Center Local Schools, accept on behalf of all partners to abide by all assurances outlined in the Assurance section of the CCIP. I Accept 10/25/2013.