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Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Washington, D.C. 20531

GRANT AWARD NOTICE

IMPORTANT

FAX TRANSMISSION NUMBER: (803) 734-5167

To: The Honorable Nikki R. Haley

(803) 734-2100

From: Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Communications

For more information, please contact: Adam T Spector

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SUBJECT:

FY 14 Developing Knowledge About What Works to Make Schools Safe



Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Office of Communications

Washington, D.C. 20531

GRANT NOTIFICATION

Grant Number: 2014-CK-BX-0012

Name & Address of Recipient: Chesterfield County School District
401 West Boulevard
City, State & ZIP: Chesterfield, South Carolina 29709-0000

Recipient Project Director/Contact:
James Goodwin
Superintendent

Phone: (843) 623-5274

Title of Program: FY 14 Developing Knowledge About What Works to Make Schools Safe

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Amount of Award: \$ 2,460,220 Date of Award: 09/30/2014

Awarding Agency: National Institute of Justice
Laurie Bright

Supplement: No

Statutory Authority for Program:

FY14(NIJ - Comprehensive School Safety Initiative) Pub. L. No. 113-76, 128 Stat. 5, 64; 28 USC 530C

Impact/Focus: Local

CFDA Number: 16.560

Project Description:

Most of what is known about what works to promote school safety is based on evaluations of stand-alone interventions, despite national calls to integrate interventions to account for limitations inherent to each approach when delivered in isolation. Chesterfield County (SC) School District, in partnership with Clemson University's Institute on Family & Neighborhood Life and the University of Oregon's Institute on Violence & Destructive Behaviors, propose to fill this knowledge gap by integrating two evidence-based approaches: School-wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (SWPBIS) and the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program (OBPP). Both approaches target school, classroom, student, family, and community level risk and protective factors. Thus a primary goal of this project is to develop a comprehensive, feasible, and effective intervention that combines SWPBIS and OBPP strategies into one integrated approach that improves school safety. SWPBIS/OBPP modules will be developed and assessed in an iterative fashion, with feedback from focus groups and key informant interviews with stakeholders. A second goal involves conducting a randomized controlled trial with 5,700 elementary, middle, and high school students (grades 3-12 attending 16 schools nested within three attendance areas) and 450 educators to assess the integrated SWPBIS/OBPP approach against an OBPP-only and a control condition. Key student outcome variables include involvement in bullying and cyberbullying, perceptions of bullying, perceptions of school climate and safety, and aggressive behavior. School level data on suspensions, referrals to the criminal justice center, truancy probation violations, and dropout rates will also be collected and analyzed. Teacher outcomes include school safety, school climate, and perceptions of bullying. Although several quasi-experimental studies of the OBPP in the U.S. have produced positive results, no RCT's have been conducted. This study will permit us to examine the effectiveness of the OBPP compared to a control condition and SWPBIS/OBPP condition (a third goal of this project). A fourth goal of the project is to assess the cost-effectiveness of the SWPBIS/OBPP approach. Several school-based mental health professionals will be hired to meet the needs of children and families. Thus, a final goal of the project will be to assess the effectiveness of school-based mental health

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professionals' services on school safety, through interviews with teachers, administrators, and parents. A variety of procedures will be used to analyze the qualitative and quantitative data including multi-level modeling. Findings will be disseminated to academic audiences, practitioners, and policymakers through journal and trade publications, presentations, blogs, and free webinars. All data will be archived. ca/ncf

For more information about this grant, contact the Office of Justice Program's Office of Communications at 202/307-0703.