 south dakota  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
*Learning. Leadership. Service.*

## Project AWARE

ADVANCING WELLNESS AND RESILIENCE IN EDUCATION

Jacquie Larson  
Teresa Rowland  
1-23-2020

doe.sd.gov

---

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

---

 south dakota  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
*Learning. Leadership. Service.*

### THE ORIGATION OF PROJECT AWARE

- In 2018, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration offered up to approximately 20 awards for Project AWARE State Educational Agency grants.
- The purpose of this grant program is to build or expand the school districts in partnership with state mental health agencies to:
  1. Increase awareness of mental health issues among youth
  2. Provide training for school personnel and adults who interact with youth to detect and respond to mental health issues
  3. Connect youth who may have behavioral health issues or serious mental illness and their families to needed services

doe.sd.gov

---

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

---

 south dakota  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
*Learning. Leadership. Service.*

### Project AWARE Goals

- Increase and improve access to mental health services for school-aged youth across South Dakota through partnerships with school districts, educational cooperatives, and community mental health centers
- Equip educational professionals with the tools necessary to recognize and respond to behavioral health issues among their students through multi-tiered systems of support
- Conduct outreach and engagement with school aged-youth and their families to promote positive mental health and increase awareness of mental health issues.
- Help youth develop skills that promote resilience, destigmatize mental health, and increase self- and peer awareness of mental health issues

doe.sd.gov

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**south dakota**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
*Learning. Leadership. Service.*

## The Strategy and Implementation of Project AWARE

**SD Project AWARE - Interconnected Systems Framework**

**TIER 3: Wrap-Around Services**

- Collaboration between LEA and CMHC
- Care coordination via in-school supports and telehealth
- Individualized assessment, intervention plan, family supports

**TIER 2: Targeted Interventions**

- Small group social activities
- Individual and/or group progress monitoring
- Targeted screening and parent education

**TIER 1: Universal Prevention**

- Universal screenings, support school and home partnerships
- Trauma-informed training for school staff
- Positive Behavior Supports & other prevention activities

**Home and Community Awareness**

- De-stigmatize through mental health awareness training
- Build self-healing, trauma-informed communities
- Create community partnerships

doe.sd.gov

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**south dakota**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
*Learning. Leadership. Service.*

## SD Project AWARE

- Beginning with four school partners, SD Project AWARE will expand throughout a 5 year period to include additional school districts across three cohorts
- Current school partners include: Black Hills Special Service Cooperative, Bridgewater-Emery School District, Sioux Falls School District and Wagner School District
- Community Mental Health Center partners include: Behavior Management Systems, Southeastern Behavioral Health, and Lewis and Clark Behavioral Health

doe.sd.gov

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**south dakota**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
*Learning. Leadership. Service.*

## The Recipients of the SAMSHA Project AWARE grant include:

- The SD DOE is one of approximately 20 Project AWARE recipients including 3 Native American Tribes across the nation.
- Project AWARE is a collaboration between the South Dakota Department of Social Services-Behavior Health Division and the Department of Education.

doe.sd.gov

---

---

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

**Identifying the Need**



Over 20% of students in public schools have a diagnosable mental health disorder that warrants additional supports  
Of those 20%, most (>70%) receive interventions in a school setting

In South Dakota, 10.4% of children ages 2-17 have been diagnosed with one or more emotional, behavioral, and/or developmental condition, an estimated gap of 9.6% of needed supports that are not identified for care

<https://www.southdakota.gov/>

doe.sd.gov

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Identifying the Need**

- Further, 17% of SD children live in poverty, a factor that typically correlates with increased need for specialized mental health care and family supports to eliminate barriers in accessing care.
- SD's current school psychologist ratio is 3 times less than the national standard of care.
- SD's current school counselor ratio is almost 2 times less than the ASCA recommendation

\*\*\*\*\*

*Outcome data from 1999 to 2016 indicates that SD had 233 deaths by suicide for children ages 3-18 (7.17% prevalence rate; South Dakota is one of the top 3 states in youth suicide deaths in the country.*

<https://link.gov/links/agency/county.htm> <https://www.kidcount.org/data/facts/2018-children-under-age-18-in-poverty-estimate>

doe.sd.gov

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Data Collection, Performance, and Measurement**

- A specific set of criteria is collected and reported to SAMHSA's Performance Accounting and Reporting System
- Example: The number of people who have received training in prevention or mental health promotion is one of the collection points.
- Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation

doe.sd.gov

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

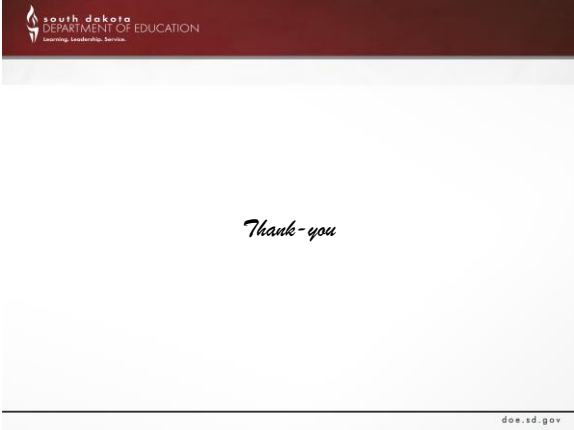
---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---