

PR Award #: S423A200092

Center for Educational Improvement

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Absolute Priority: 1

Competitive Preference Priorities: 1, 2.

Project Title: The Compassionate School Leadership Academy (CSLA).

Project Description: The Compassionate School Leadership Academy (CSLA), a joint endeavor of the Center for Educational Improvement and Yale University Department of Psychiatry's Program for Recovery and Community Health, offers an immediate and direct response to urgent needs of America's youth by establishing a nation-wide network of educational leaders who are trained in Compassionate School Practices (CSPs). CSPs include and go beyond instruction in the main components of Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) to create cultures of learning that are compassionate, trauma-informed, and evidence-based. The overarching aim of the CSLA project is to prepare school leaders in high-need districts to be culturally responsive and ready to implement trauma-conscious and evidence-based SEL leadership practices, resulting in increases in SEL competence and academic learning, and the well-being/self-care of students and staff. The CSLA combines curricula developed for CSPs with evidence-based implementation strategies to offer an immediate response to calls for guidance and support in the implementation of Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) curricula into middle schools across the nation.

Project Expected Outcomes: The project anticipates that 300+ school leaders will be credentialed at Level I (completion of 6 courses), 150 leaders will complete the leadership academy, and 50 will be certified as CSL Coaches. During the 3 year project period, over 15,000 staff and 375,000 students will receive services at the 150 participant schools (150 schools x 100 staff/school x 25 students per staff). Further, changes will be amplified by the capacity of schools to continue these practices with refinements on an ongoing basis.

Project Partners: Yale University, Program for Recovery and Community Health; Metis Associates; Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals Association; Social Emotional Learning for Massachusetts; TeachLink; and the National Association of Elementary School Principals.