

Strategic Planning and Use of ESSER Funds: Building and Sustaining School-based Supports

October 20, 2021

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The logo for NMPED (New Mexico Partnership for Educational Development) features a large, stylized funnel shape. Inside the funnel, the letters "NMPED" are written in bold, red, sans-serif font on a yellow banner. The funnel is filled with various colorful icons representing different fields of study: art (paint palette, paint bottle, stars), music (violin, musical notes), science (microscope, DNA helix, scissors, ruler, globe, apple), mathematics (ruler, compass), and general education (laptop, books, pencil, basketball). At the base of the funnel, two cartoon children's heads are visible, looking up. Below the funnel is a yellow square containing the New Mexico state flag symbol, a stylized sun with rays.

Fall LEA Workshop Series: Strategic Planning & Use of ESSER Funds

- >> **A NM PED sponsored series in partnership with Region 13 Comprehensive Center at WestEd**
- >> **Workshop topics will be determined by LEA priorities and expressed needs.**

Some initial topics for consideration include:

1. Planning/ implementing evidenced-based interventions
2. Maintenance of Equity requirements
3. Allowable uses of federal one-time funds
4. Ramping up the use of one-time funds
5. Sustaining financial support for effective programs
6. Building effective interagency collaboratives
7. Measuring, documenting, and disseminating effective use of taxpayer resources

Today's Session

Objectives:

- *To consider the strategic use of ESSER funds to build and sustain school-based health supports*
- *To engage with other local education agencies to share ideas, strategies and challenges*

Agenda:

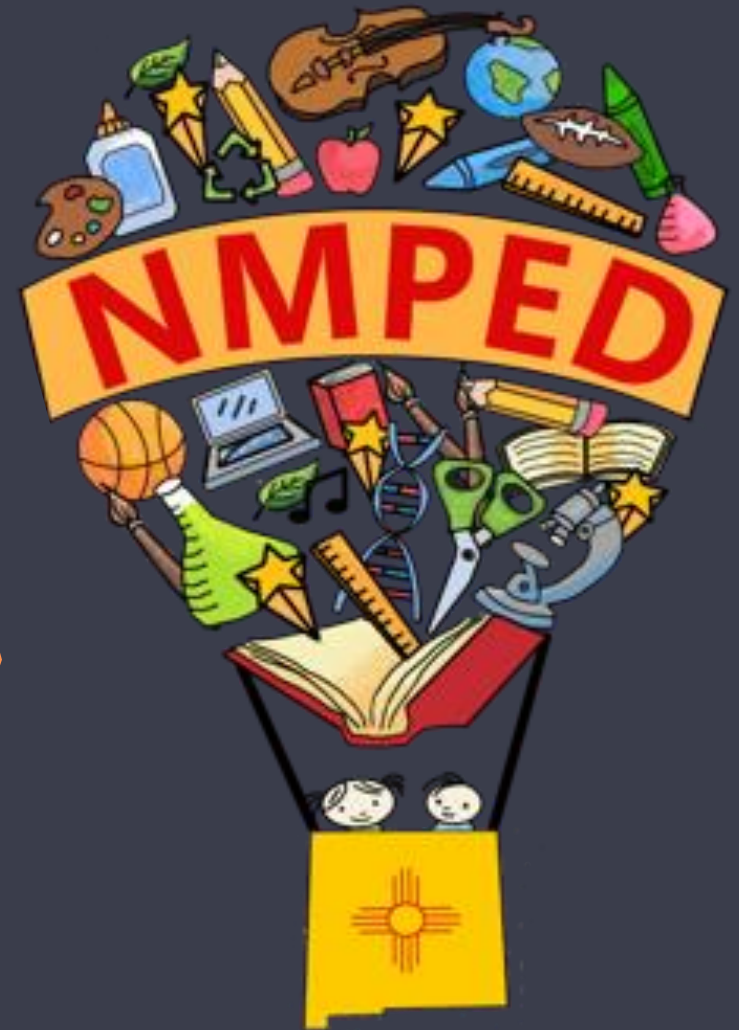
- Whole group presentation: *Building and Sustaining School-based Health Supports with Leslie G. Kelly & Kristin Oreskovich*
- Small group discussion
- Whole group share out
- Closing

Building and Sustaining School-based Health Supports

Leslie G. Kelly, MA

Kristin Oreskovich, RN

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Today's presentation will address the following questions:

How might LEAs use ESSER funds to provide Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) training or to purchase SEL programs that are evidence based?

How can LEAs use ESSER funds strategically to free up state SEG funds that can support Medicaid-billable behavioral health services for all students?

How might LEAs use these dollars to launch or expand school-based health clinics?

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How might LEAs use ESSER funds to provide Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) training or to purchase SEL programs that are evidence based?

- www.newmexicoselportal.com
7 mindsets – professional development, coaching and more.
Fred Bridges Fred@7mindsets.com
- SEL Experts Local and National:
[New Mexico's Roadmap](#) Student SEL Supports tab
- <https://hsc.unm.edu/echo/partner-portal/programs/education/social-emotional-learning.html>
UNM Project Echo for Educators: SEL for School and SEL Leaders Series: every other Tuesday 3:30-4:30pm
- PED SEL mini grants- awards made Spring 21 and Fall 21
Over 140 awards, some received funding both times

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How might LEAs use ESSER funds to provide Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) training or to purchase SEL programs that are evidence based? (continued)

- Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL) List of Evidence Based Curriculums = PreK-12:
<https://casel.org/guide/preschool/>
<https://casel.org/guide/elementary/>
<http://secondaryguide.casel.org/#MS-Programs>
<http://secondaryguide.casel.org/#HS-Programs>

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Addressing Staff Needs:

Recognize Staff may have:

May have experienced their own loss or stress (financial, personal, social, physical/medical)

Seen negative comments about the schools' response or feedback from families

Not had closure with any students or staff members that are not returning

Establish system wide approaches to compassion fatigue and stress (i.e., tap in, tap out; buddy classrooms; boundary setting, self-care happening

Self care should become part of the school culture rather than be the entire responsibility of each individual

Stress management

Physical activity

Healthy snacks/food

Mindfulness/meditation

Self compassion breaks

Gratitude lists

Identify community resources to support staff

Increase communications so all are aware of available supports and employee benefits that support wellness

Work with HR to determine procedures for sick leave

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“An empty lantern provides no light. Self-care is the fuel that allows your light to shine brightly.”

U N K N O W N

How can LEAs use ESSER funds strategically to free up state SEG funds that can support Medicaid-billable behavioral health services for all students?

- Currently, only health related services written into a student's IEP qualify for Medicaid reimbursement via the Medicaid School Based Services (MSBS) program. Providers can bill Medicaid and the school/district can recover 30-40% of the cost for those services. Many districts use those funds to pay for nursing, counseling and other services.
- July 2022, schools will be able to bill Medicaid via the free care policy reversal for school-based behavioral health services for non-IEP students enrolled in Medicaid. Much like MSBS, 30-40% of these billed services will be returned to the schools. There is, however, a lag time to receive reimbursements as they are made quarterly and the initial reimbursements could take up to a year.
- Creative staffing: hiring non-licensed staff to provide prevention/early intervention activities and/or who can support counseling, social work and nursing staff with ESSER funds and free up SEG for those that can bill using sign-on bonuses and hiring incentives.

How might LEAs use these dollars to launch or expand school-based health clinics?

SBHC in New Mexico

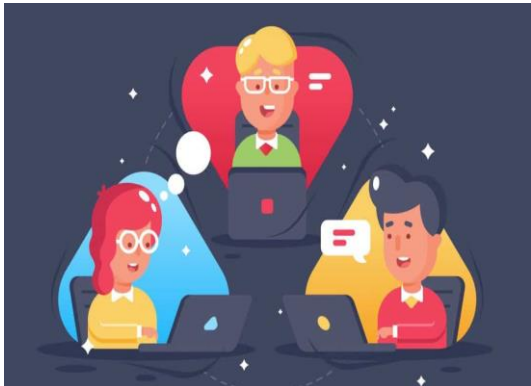
- More than 25-year history of SBHC in New Mexico
- Over 70 SBHC across the state, about three-quarters of those receive supplemental operational funding from DOH Office of School and Adolescent Health
- SBHC model in New Mexico includes the provision of **both** physical and mental health services and sometimes oral health, case management and health education
- SBHC can help support academic success by addressing common reasons for absenteeism and poor performance such as chronic health conditions and social, emotional issues - physically and mentally healthy students are better learners

SBHC in New Mexico

- Partnership between a school/district and medical organization to increase access to health services for students
 - Key to the success of the SBHC – schools are not in the business of healthcare operations and health clinics need the support of school for sustainability of the clinic on campus
- OSAH currently partnering with New Mexico Alliance for SBHC in developing SBHC planning grant criteria
 - Will offer small amount of funding and guidelines for medical organizations and schools to put pieces in place to open a SBHC
 - Regardless of interest in mini-grants, planning criteria will be available this fall
- Other considerations for smaller schools/districts
 - Connecting with local clinics offering telehealth to become a spoke for a SB telehealth or mobile health outreach

Contacts For Technical Assistance on Opening a SBHC

- Kristin Oreskovich, SBHC Program Clinical Operations Manager, New Mexico Department of Health Office of School and Adolescent Health
 - Kristin.Oreskovich@state.nm.us
- Nancy Rodriguez, Executive Director, New Mexico Alliance for School-Based Health Care
 - nancy@nmasbhc.org
- Wilma John, Program Manager, New Mexico Alliance for School-Based Health Care
 - Wilma@nmasbhc.org
- [New Mexico Alliance for School-Based Health Care | Redefining Health for Students \(nmasbhc.org\)](https://nmasbhc.org)



Breakout Session

Format:

20 minutes facilitated by a member of the NMPED TA team

Be prepared to share your ideas!

Guiding Questions:

1. What are one or two take-aways for you from today's presentation?
2. What are some creative staffing strategies you or other districts have employed or would like to?

Thank you for all you do for the students and families of New Mexico!

Leslie Kelly, Behavioral Health Coordinator NM PED

Leslie.Kelly@state.nm.us 505-819-9676

Group Share Out



- What were one or two take-aways from today's presentation that your group discussed?
- What are some creative staffing strategies that your group shared?

Session Evaluation

Link in chat

We appreciate your feedback!



Thank you!

