

COVID-19 School Wellness Initiative

CSWI-Chicago Cohort*

Alivio Medical Center | Grant Status: Completed

Alivio delivered 2,000+ therapy sessions to nearly 500 students, creating suicide-prevention focus groups and holding workshops for staff and parents alike. Students reported less depression and anxiety, and new county funding will sustain services for uninsured youth. alivio.org

Association House (2 Grants) | Grant Status: Completed

Association House served more than 400 students, far exceeding its goal. They offered student engagement days, mindfulness activities, and counseling while securing Cook County Health and Hospitals system funding to retain SEL and trauma-informed services in schools beyond the grant. associationhouse.org

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago | Grant Status: Completed

Catholic Charities reached 1,700 parents and 530 students through caregiver events, counseling, and workshops. Nearly 150 staff were trained in resilience practices, and families received food and stress management resources. catholiccharities.net

Children's Home & Aid Society (Brightpoint) | Grant Status: Open

Brightpoint doubled its goal, supporting nearly 300 children at Schubert Elementary. They added two community navigators, built strong school buy-in, and coordinated with the behavioral health team, showing how deep partnerships can amplify impact. brightpoint.org

Community Counseling Centers of Chicago | Grant Status: Completed

C4 included families and school staff in student care, focusing on depression, anxiety, and trauma. Their community-based model demonstrated that lasting healing is possible when schools and families are active partners in the process. c4chicago.org

*The original grant period was from January 2022 through June 2024. Due to myriad challenges, numerous grantees requested and received an extension of the grant. This report reflects the status of these grants as of September 1, 2025. All grants are planned to be completed by December 31, 2025.

“We are confident in our ability to sustain and expand CSWI, ensuring that it continues to serve as a cornerstone of health and wellness in our community.”

University of Illinois – Chicago Final Report

Friend Family Health Center, Inc. | Grant Status: Completed

Partnering with Girls Inc., Friend Family Health delivered SEL programming to more than 250 children, parents, and staff. Their work highlighted the importance and effectiveness of tailoring services across African American and Latinx communities. friendfhc.org

GRO Community | Grant Status: Completed

GRO provided culturally relevant supports, with a focus on African American boys and young men. By combining therapy, mentoring, and school engagement, they built trust and reduced mental health stigma in the Roseland and Pullman neighborhoods. grocommunity.org

Juvenile Protective Association (3 Grants) | Grant Status: Completed

JPA’s three grants supported more than 650 students through Project CARES, combining therapy, caregiver support, and trauma-informed educator training for stronger learning environments. Their Connect to Kids model helped teachers integrate SEL principles in everyday classroom strategies. jpachicago.org

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois | Grant Status: Completed

LSSI surpassed service goals by embedding social-emotional supports across schools and involving families and staff in healing. Their “Supporting the Ecosystem for Better Overall Mental Wellness” project gave them the staff, training, and know-how to carry behavioral health work forward. lssi.org

University of Illinois – Chicago (2 Grants) | Grant Status: Open

UIC combined therapy with community supports, including food gift cards and stress management/grief workshops. This engaged hundreds of parents and trained school staff in resilience, ensuring broad reach despite staff retention challenges. uillinois.edu