

COVID-19 School Wellness Initiative

CSWI-Illinois Cohort*

Centerstone (3 Grants) | Grant Status: Completed

Centerstone strengthened school ecosystems with SEL lessons, mentoring, and on-site social workers. At Carterville alone, the program reached 2,341 students, and the district is sustaining both clinical and parent liaison roles. centerstone.org

Chestnut Health Systems, Inc. | Grant Status: Completed

Chestnut solidified a partnership with District 118 and built a Youth Wellness Coalition, embedding therapists within the two largest schools in the district. They served 2,191 children and trained 940 adults, with positions planned to continue through grants and district cost-sharing. chestnut.org

Community Health Care, Inc. | Grant Status: Completed

CHC combined school-based services with telehealth/specialty access and a Community Health Worker model, in addition to offering staff wellness sessions. They served 608 children and trained 207 adults across five partner schools. chcqca.org

Community Resource Center, Inc. (2 Grants) | Grant Status: Completed

CRC delivered tiered supports that helped many students remain in their home schools rather than moving to therapeutic day placements. CRC served 887 children and trained 78 adults, with reports of students using learned strategies at home. crconline.info

FHN Jane Addams Family Counseling Center | Grant Status: Completed

FHN focused on Tier 2 and 3 supports with embedded clinicians to meet higher-acuity student needs. They served 613 children and trained 216 adults in wellness strategies, including Youth Mental Health First Aid. fhn.org

Gateway Family Services of Illinois | Grant Status: Completed

By partnering with five school districts, Gateway embedded clinicians and SEL strategies directly into classrooms. Teachers reported stronger student regulation and engagement, proof of collaboration transforming learning environments. gatewayfamilyservices.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.

“Perhaps the most important outcome of the program I have observed has been the normalization of help-seeking behavior in our school and community.”

Hillsboro Area Hospital Final Report

Heritage Behavioral Health Center, Inc. | Grant Status: Completed

Through Project BRAVE, Heritage worked with Mt. Zion schools, empowering a student-led mental health team while also training staff in trauma-informed practices. They served 1,566 children and trained 370 adults. heritagenet.org

Hillsboro Area Hospital | Grant Status: Completed

Partnering with local providers and families, Hillsboro wove prevention, intervention, and referral systems into schools through Sources of Strength, a collective approach that ensured students had reliable, any-time support systems. hillsborohealth.org

Hoyleton Ministries | Grant Status: Completed

Hoyleton provided primarily Tier 3 school-based counseling in East St. Louis, adding staff to meet demand and reporting improved student behavior and decision-making. They served 301 children, with 2,649 direct service hours. hoyleton.org

Methodist Medical Center of Illinois | Grant Status: Open

Through UnityPlace (UP) School Wellness Program, Methodist embedded behavioral health therapy services into Peoria County public schools, strengthening wrap-around supports and improving student coping and resilience skills. Teachers noted the profound positive impact of on-site counselors for early detection. methodisthealthsystem.org

North Central Behavioral Health Systems, Inc. | Grant Status: Completed

NCBHS delivered school-based counseling and SEL supports across multiple districts, navigating consent and coordination barriers to expand Tier 3 care access. To date, they have served 187 unduplicated children. ncbh.org

Vermilion Association for Special Education | Grant Status: Completed

VASE’s tiered model cut referrals to therapeutic day school, which they later sustained with the school board absorbing the project position. They served 154 children while partnering with Communities of Practice to train 25 adults in personal wellness. vase.org