

# School District Grant: Reducing School Violence

## Berkshire Union Free School District

**GRANTEE:** Berkshire Union Free School District

**ADDRESS:** 13640 Route 22  
Canaan, NY 12029

**AMOUNT:** \$3,827,488

**DURATION:** 30 months

**POPULATION SERVED:** This project will serve approximately 300 male students placed at Berkshire Farm Center and Services for Youth's Residential Center by New York State's Juvenile Justice or Child Welfare systems. Students served will include those attending the Berkshire Junior/Senior High School located on campus.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION:** The project will focus on achieving program outcomes that impact the entire Berkshire Junior/Senior High School, specific targeted groups within the school and the needs of those students facing the greatest educational and emotional challenges.

Efforts to improve student attendance and academic performance will include on-campus, home-based and off campus mentoring; strategic reading and math strategies; Grade repeater groups, development of a longer school day; credit retrieval, and the development of workforce development courses. Student motivation and behavior will be aided by on-campus career centers, pre-intern and internships, and a family resource center. Programs that focus on wellness, parenthood, tutoring, peer mediation; and crisis intervention will also be offered. A youth court and restorative justice program will also be established. For staff enhanced classroom management and traditional case management training will be made available. Lastly the project will seek to further integrate within the student population its successful small animal and guiding eyes projects.

Minimum projected outcomes for this project include improved attendance and behavior. A reduction in the instances of violence coupled with improved motivational skills and course work performance. This will be achieved through the successful implementation of mentoring, educational, and employment strategies that each result in positive outcomes.

**GEOGRAPHIC AREA TO BE SERVED:** This project will serve the New York state geographical area. Specifically the project will serve male youth placed by the state of New York to the Berkshire Farm Center and Services for Youth's Residential Center.

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