

School District Grant: Reducing Youth Involvement in Gangs

Milwaukee Public Schools

GRANTEE: Milwaukee Public Schools

ADDRESS: 5225 West Vliet Street
Milwaukee, WI 53208

AMOUNT: \$4.8 Million

DURATION: 27 months

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Milwaukee's Future's First Initiative will enhance the ongoing school reform work of the District. This effort will provide a comprehensive and integrated delivery of programs and services for all students to help prevent violence and gang activities while building workforce readiness skills. This initiative will connect youth serving agencies, government entities, the criminal justice system, workforce development efforts, mentors from the faith-based community, and the school district in a new era of inter-governmental and community collaboration and information sharing on behalf of Milwaukee's youth.

MAJOR TRACKS:

- Futures First Initiative: Will target 10 high school/locations and focus on the 450-600 students returning from expulsion, adjudication, or who are in the process of reassignment for other behavioral issues.
- Pyramid of Intervention: Will provide a range of services that assist youth with a continuum of activities from prevention to support to intervention and ultimately through successful re-entry.
- Small High Schools: Will connect young people to adults who are able to support success and provide various forms of intervention through the use of proven advisory models.
- Opportunity Center: Will focus heavily on reading and math while working to ensure students catch up to their peers by the third year of high school.
- Milwaukee Mathematics Partnership: Will coordinate efforts with the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee by providing professional development and mathematics instructional coaches to teachers in the target high schools.
- Violence Free Zone: Will be created through technical assistance from the The Center for Neighborhood Enterprise.
- School Resource Officers: Youth-focused Resource Officers will be provided to work, interact and support students in the local high schools.
- Work Experience: This activity will fund subsidized employment opportunities for out-of-school youth offenders in order to obtain experience; acquire workplace skill sets; earn minimum wages; and explore career-track occupations.
- Move High School: Will provide an individualized, self paced learning environment using online coursework and onsite guidance and counseling services.

GEOGRAPHIC AREA TO BE SERVED: Milwaukee Public Schools

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