



**Program #40111 - Culturally Specific Mental Health Workforce Development** FY 2024 Adopted

**Department:** Health Department **Program Contact:** Yolanda Gonzalez  
**Program Offer Type:** New **Program Offer Stage:** Adopted  
**Related Programs:**  
**Program Characteristics:** One-Time-Only Request

**Executive Summary**

Over the last 10 years significant increases in behavioral health challenges including depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation are the leading cause of disability and poor life outcomes in young people. Marginalized youth are especially vulnerable and often do not have access to support or services.

Recognizing the lack of culturally responsive mental health providers available to work with youth in schools, this pilot program will support workforce development opportunities for interns seeking licensure and/or internship hours thereby increasing capacity for and accessibility to culturally grounded school-based mental health services.

**Program Description**

In partnership with local schools of social work and community-based non-profits, the Culturally Specific Mental Health Workforce Development Program will support bicultural/bilingual interns providing behavioral health services to the Latinx community with supervision and access to culturally grounded best practices, ensuring that interns receive consistent statewide standards and processes for training, licensing, and hiring from community-led agencies.

This pilot program will allow social work interns to complete internships at culturally-specific afterschool programs for 6th to 12th grade students in three different schools where they will use a combination of learnings from their coursework and tools from culturally responsive providers to support students, both one on one and in small groups. Interns will focus on increasing youth’s knowledge about their own mental health needs, decreasing loneliness, and providing youth with clinical and social interventions either directly or through an external provider.

As an added benefit, this model increases capacity and support for frontline providers to reduce burnout and staff turnover while strengthening referral systems that ensure all students have access to services and support.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY22 Actual	FY23 Budgeted	FY23 Estimate	FY24 Offer
Output	Number of school-based mental health social work interns supported	NA	NA	NA	3
Outcome	Number of group sessions held for youth in schools	N/A	N/A	N/A	9
Outcome	Total number of unduplicated youth served	N/A	N/A	N/A	30

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2023	2023	2024	2024
Contractual Services	\$0	\$0	\$154,286	\$0
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$154,286</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$0</b>		<b>\$154,286</b>	
<b>Program FTE</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: