

FUNDING AVAILABLE!!!

Cohort 2: BUILD AND SUSTAIN HEALTHY SCHOOLS

Schools strive to help students reach their highest academic potential. The Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) School Health NJ Project, administered by the NJ Department of Health (NJDOH), has more than 10 years of experience promoting healthy schools. The WSCC model, shown below, is the project's framework and utilizes a collaborative approach to learning and health. This model helps schools address the health needs of students with its focus on the whole child and strengthened by a school-wide approach and support from the local community and its resources. Please click on this link: [Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child Model: A Guide to Implementation](#) for more information on steps and examples for effectively implementing the WSCC model.



Over the years, the WSCC School Health NJ Project has collaborated with various state, local and statewide professional organizations to improve school health to enhance student learning for life success. Our vision is to begin to transform the NJ public school landscape by directing resources to build and sustain healthy schools for all students. The NJDOH will provide up to \$15,000 over the course of 3 years, with an optional 4th year, to strengthen the school district's capacity to support and sustain healthy schools. Annual funding is contingent upon the availability funds.

This grant initiative is based on the following principles:

- Healthy children learn better.
- Health and academic achievement are inextricably intertwined.
- Schools are an ideal venue for chronic disease prevention.
- Administrative and Board of Education support is critical for creating a culture of health in schools.
- A commitment to systems change is required to sustain healthy schools.

The NJDOH is recruiting all schools but needs to prioritize those with at least 40% of students eligible for free/reduced lunch. Public middle- and/or high-schools, with a grade level of 6 and higher are eligible to lead this pilot in their school district. In addition to funding, the NJDOH's school health regional agencies will provide programmatic guidance and support throughout the time the school participates in the project.

Schools are expected to establish a WSCC Health and Wellness (H&W) Coordinator position and convene a WSCC H&W Team that will be responsible for assessing, developing, implementing and reporting on school health and wellness policies, programs and activities. The support of school administration is needed for the sustainability of this work once this grant funding ends.

We invite you to share this funding opportunity with your colleagues and others that are committed to improving the health of New Jersey students to enhance their learning. For more information, please email the Child and Adolescent Health Program Manager: cynthia.collins@doh.nj.gov