

RHIP and COVID-19 MINI-GRANT PROJECT SUMMARIES

RHIP Final Mini-Grant Report for La Pine Middle School “La Pine Middle School BRYT Program (“Hawk Haven”)”

Reviewed by the Address Poverty & Enhance Self-Sufficiency Workgroup

Summary of Results:

- During the 2021-22 SY, a total of 12 students accessed the Bridges to Resilient Youth Trail (BRYT) Room for a full intervention/modified half day schedule and another 33 students utilized it for 1-2 periods as needed throughout the year.
- These students typically suffered from extreme social anxiety, depression and/or a recent concussion.
- The BRYT room is detached from the regular school building, providing a safe place for them to share their feelings, fears and challenges and partner with us to create a schedule that worked for them.
- They also learned new coping skills and practiced the new SEL strategies they learned in the BRYT Room.
- Overall, we saw a huge improvement in both attendance and academic performance because these students felt heard and cared for.
- We celebrated the small wins every day that they showed up for school no matter what time they arrived, and gradually, these students learned new routines and made small changes daily to create new healthy habits that helped them come to school regularly.
- We had five 8th graders in BRYT and all made significant progress. Four of them left MS on track to graduate HS and one made great strides socially/emotionally but was still struggling academically. We are linking him up with the HS BRYT program.

Story:

On the first day of school, we had an 8th grader who refused to even step into a classroom. They had a lot of social anxiety brought on by COVID and family trauma. They were initially shut down and very angry, but they enjoyed the calm environment and showed an interest in yoga and meditation. After 4 months we eased them into an advisory class and a math class (we shadowed them, so they knew they weren't alone). By the end of the school year, they came to BRYT one period per day and attended a full schedule.