

SMCISD Trauma Training



The Why:

The five Communities In Schools Program Managers in the San Marcos Consolidated Independent School District wanted to provide the opportunity for all staff at present CIS campus' to participate in a 6 hour long Ethics: trauma Informed Ethical Services in School Settings training with a trained facilitator. Overall, this training would be adapted to school staff specifically and contribute to both teacher professional development and school climate.

Project Description:

The need for staff training regarding Trauma Informed Care practices has been identified as a high need at all present CIS campus' in SMCISD. Over the years within the district there have been a high number of suicide attempts and multiple deaths by suicide in which CIS Program Managers and Counselors have identified the benefit of providing teachers with the tools they need both in and out of the classroom while on campus working with students.

Project Details:

10

Teacher, Admin, & Support Staff participate in the trauma training.

1

Elementary School

2

Middle School

1

High School

Participated in the Trauma Training.

Incentives:

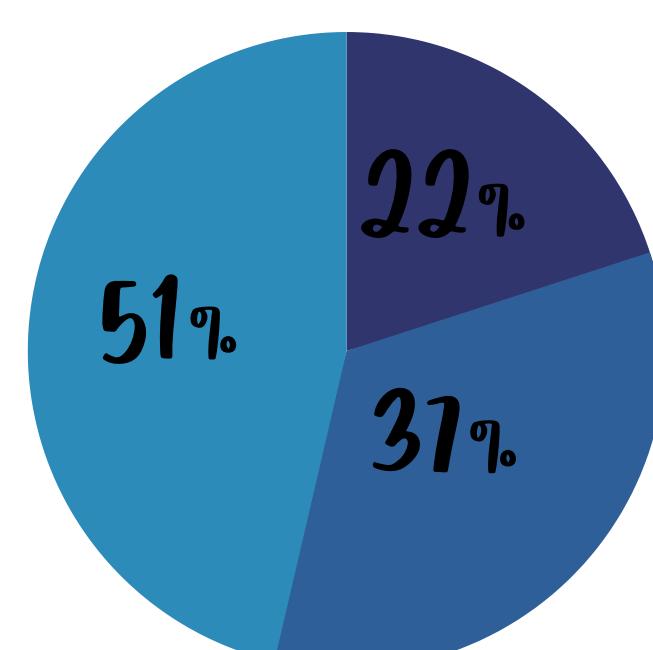
6 Hours of staff members required 12 hours of PD
3 iPads per Campus with a total of 15 iPads awarded
20 gift cards (\$50) per level training

Project Outcomes:

46% of participants reported having a greater ability to speak to and communicate about trauma with others, and 24% reported the training has shifted the way they view students and trauma responses. 17% of respondents noted they will implement more collaboration in their work, and 68% reported having more practical skills to address trauma than they had before the training.

Regarding the training experience itself, 51% of participants found the practical skills to be the most valuable part of the training, while 37% found the opportunity to learn from each other to be most valuable.

Training Experience: What was MOST Valuable?



Summary

In summary, the school staff from the 5 CIS supported campuses (SMHS, Goodnight, Miller, Crockett, Travis) were invited to participate in a virtual Trauma Informed Services in School Settings. Staff were provided an opportunity to enhance their self-awareness about the framework and principles of Trauma Informed Care. This interactive training session and discussion allowed for teachers and staff to discuss unique scenarios and be provided with the foundational tools they need in order to address trauma informed care affects the interaction with students in the school setting.

Success:

Overall each of the five campus identified the Trauma Training to be a success with staff and teachers that participated. At the high school level where the staff experienced 6 student deaths during the 20-21 school year, Program Manager John Sanchez observed the campus staff use the time to learn about trauma, the direct and secondary impacts associated with their lived experiences. During the session, staff members discussed how they handled and worked through the trauma they and their students experienced throughout the year, and their own personal traumas. Following the conclusion of the training, although tired, John Sanchez was greeted with appreciation for getting such a useful training together.

Challenge:

The nature of the training being about trauma led to some heightened emotions in particular with the first implementation of the training. For the next 2 trainings at the middle and high level, CIS Program Managers addressed that directly with the presenter and how the presenter could guide the conversation to remain on topic as well as be supportive during sensitive conversations.

How funds support Project?

The funds provided by the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation allowed the CIS SMCISD team to contract with Miriam Nisenbaum, LCSW, ACSW to provide the Trauma Informed Care Services in the School settings training and also allowed us to incentivize participation and partner with leadership for encouragement of staff to participate.

Hope After Grant...

Our hope is that school staff will gain competency and awareness surrounding the importance of trauma informed care practices in the school environment with students. In addition, the hope is that teachers left the training with tools they can apply both in and out of the classroom at school. As well as providing our staff with the slide deck and recording to be able to reference in the future.

John Sanchez - San Marcos High School

Linda Villanueva - Goodnight Middle School

Abby Nickle - Miller Middle School

Summer Soto - Travis Elementary School

Anna Martinez - Crockett Elementary School