

SEL HUB Continues to Grow & Expand Services for 2022-2023

School staff and students are experiencing record-level mental health strains due to the ongoing pandemic. In fact, nearly 50 percent of America's children experience at least one adverse childhood experience, and many students and staff have unmet mental health needs.

School leaders know they need to create more trauma-responsive environments but don't always know how to do it. The REACH statewide initiative, currently being offered through the Regional Offices of Education, can help.

What is REACH?

The REACH* (Resilience Education to Achieve Community Healing) statewide initiative provides support and guidance to schools in the use of a user-friendly tool to help schools gauge their level of trauma-responsiveness, along with a data-driven approach to action-planning for implementing trauma-responsive policies and practices within schools.

How do REACH schools benefit?

- Personalized coaching from the ROE to identify the SEL and trauma-related strengths and needs of the school and to create and implement data-driven action plans
- Concrete tools and strategies to expand trauma responsiveness
- School access to the REACH Resource and Learning platform containing SEL and trauma-related on demand trainings
- (New for 2022-2023) Invitation to SEL-related speaker events throughout the year
- (New for 2022-2023) Option to participate in the new Communities of Practice (CoP) to collaborate and share best practices with peers and subject matter experts
- (New for 2022-2023) Option to participate in Professional Learning Communities (PLC) throughout the year to support the REACH process and to collaborate with leaders from other participating schools from the area
- All of the services above are sponsored by the SEL Hub grant and are available to participating DuPage County schools at no cost

What is required of REACH schools?

- Identify a school team and team leader for the REACH process
- School leader (and team members) participate in asynchronous trainings to prepare for the REACH process (2.5 hours)
- With the support of an SEL Hub coach from the ROE, the team utilizes a self assessment tool to identify the trauma-related needs of the school
- With the support of an SEL Hub coach from the ROE, the school creates an action plan based on the identified needs and priorities

More Information

Please contact Maureen McAbee (<u>mmcabee@dupageroe.org</u>) or Sharon Frys (<u>sfrys@dupageroe.org</u>) and/or attend one of the 30-minute informational meetings highlighted below.

- September 12, 2022 at 9:30 AM
- September 13, 2022 at 1:30 PM
- September 14, 2022 at 4:00 PM

Register for an informational meeting here.

Together we can create more responsive and equitable schools and classrooms throughout Illinois!

*The REACH statewide initiative is a collaborative effort between the Illinois State Board of Education, the Center for Childhood Resilience at Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, Illinois Department of Public Health, Partnership for Resilience, and the Stress and Trauma Treatment Center.