

# Program: School-based Mental Health Screening

Problem Statement: Students need access to early identification of mental health concerns before problems develop or worsen. Early intervention can help prevent the need for more intensive services later. Mental health screening allows schools to implement the necessary level of support to help students address mental health needs which leads to better outcomes for students academically, socially, emotionally, and physically.

## Resources:

- FY21-FY24 \$500,000.00 competitive grant
- 2024 Legislative session changed funding to a formula allocation and increased funds to \$1,000,000.00
- 90% allocation is based on student daily membership count 10% allocated for LEAs that exhaust all funds and request additional funding based on a competitive process
- Board Approved Screening Tools for Depression, Anxiety and Suicidal Ideation
- School-based Mental Health Screening Guidebook for LEAs
- Required training on screening program and grant reporting requirements

## Core Strategies (Outputs):

- USBE provides funding to support LEAs to provide mental health screening
- USBE provides a School-Based Mental Health Screening Program Report
- LEAs promote universal screening and educate parents on the importance of early identification of mental health needs
- LEAs collect data to report on their outcomes of the screening program
- Schools work with parents on connecting services within the school environment and to local community resources

## Short Term Outcomes:

### Screening Program Data

- In FY21 3,205 students were screened compared to FY24 10,764 students were screened. In FY24 28% were then connected to services either within the LEA or as a referral to community resources.
- In FY21 18 LEAs participated in screening. In FY 25 75 LEAs participated in screening

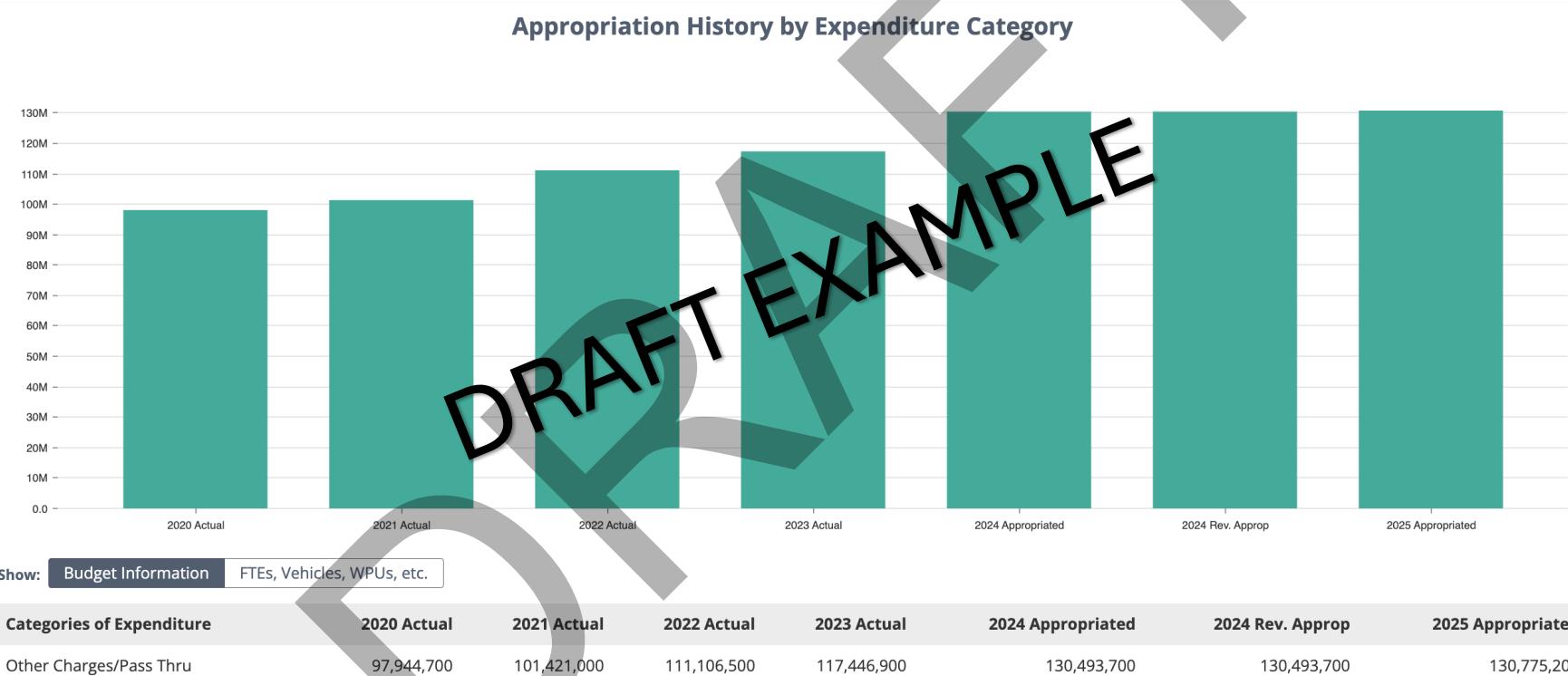
### Screening Grant Data

- In FY21 4 LEAs were awarded funding. In FY23 20 LEAs were awarded funding.
- In FY24 10,764 students were screened. Of those 1,890 students were screened from grant funding

## Performance Measure(s) Alignment:

- Sharp Survey 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, & 12<sup>th</sup> grade students
- Mental Health High Treatment Need 2019:19.3% 2023:25%
- Moderate Depression 2019:62.2% 2023:66.8%
- Suicide(made a plan) 2019:12.3% 2023:13.2%

# Financial Data



# USBE Program Support and Administration

## USBE Personnel

(Roles Responsibilities)

### Prevention Specialist: Threat and Crisis Response

- Distributes applicable funding to districts based on screening requirements
- Create and administer record of determination survey for all LEAs
- Create and distribute accountability and data report
- Create annual screening program report
- Create and update canvas training. Distribute enrollment to all relevant staff conducting screenings.
- Support and coach LEAs in implementation of their screening program

## Fiscal Administration Requirements

- Publish Annual Screening Program Report
- Ensure grant applications align with statute [53F-2-522](#) and rule [R277-625](#).
- Administers reimbursement request with LEAs through Utah Grants ensuring requests align with allowable use of funds.

## Monitoring/Evaluation Requirements

No formal monitoring or evaluation

## Recommended Alignment to R277-114

Category: TBD

Rationale: XX

# *Policy Questions for the Board*

- There has been some concern that school staff like secretaries/aides are being asked to do the screening. Would the board consider requiring screening to be done by Qualifying Personnel as described in code 53F-2-415?
- Knowledge and training of how to administer and interpret results of specific screeners may not be common practice. Would the board consider those performing screening be required to be trained on the screening tool(s) chosen by their LEA?
- There has been some feedback about the funding going to larger LEAs that may already have the staff to perform screening. Smaller LEAs and charters struggle to have the resources and funding to conduct screening. Would the board consider requesting legislation to change the funding process back to a competitive grant process?