



May Sands Montessori School

a public school of choice

1400 United Street, #110, Key West, FL 33040

Tel: 305-293-1400, Ext. 53418; Fax: 305-328-9005

Mental Health & Wellness Assistance Allocation Plan

Schools that seek to educate the whole child must engage in promoting social and emotional development in addition to academic rigor. In its 2012 publication, “Making the Case for Educating the Whole Child” the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) identified five tenets of whole child education which include an emphasis on developing and maintaining a **healthy lifestyle** in learning environments that provide physical and emotional **safety**, where students are **actively engaged** in learning and are personally **supported** by qualified and caring adults who **challenge** them to excel in academics. The National Association of School Psychologists (2014) advocated for school-based mental health services through a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) that includes universal wellness promotion, targeted prevention and intervention, and individual intervention to meet the needs of all students. The passage of Senate Bill 7030 by the 2019 Florida Legislature amends the Mental Health Assistance Allocation (MHAA) and requires all public schools, including charters to increase training of school staff and to enhance school-based mental health services for students.

As an innovative model of education, the May Sands Montessori School offers child-centered learning environments that support pro-social learning and personal development as fundamental components of its design. The school includes regular and varied opportunities for family engagement as a means of improving the school community through communicating expectations of scholarly behaviors, aligning values that model good citizenship, and offering personalized feedback to support the growing child’s independence. The school’s Mental Health and Wellness Plan utilizes research-based best practices that align with Montessori pedagogy to establish a safe and nurturing environment for all students. Additionally, the school has coordinated community resources from the Monroe County School District (MCSD) as well as the Guidance Care Center (GCC) to ensure a continuum of support for mental health training, assessment, diagnosis, intervention, treatment and recovery services.



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School Plan of Support

Item	Timeline	Coordinator	Completion Date
Hire instructional support staff: Interventionist for student personal development, executive function	June/July 2019	School Principal	9 July, 2019
Confirm community-based support for school-based services	June/July 2019	School Principal, Teacher of Student Supports	16 July, 2019
Update school policies and procedures regarding student referrals for mental health screening, requirements for school safety team	July/August 2019	School Principal, Charter Board	
Conduct all-school staff training of the five core competencies identified by the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)	August 5-9, 2019	School Principal	
Continue Youth Mental Health First Aid Training for new employees	August/September 2019	School Principal, Teacher of Student Supports	
Schedule supplementary health and wellness instructional programming with community-based resources to support all students	August 2019 and ongoing throughout SY2020	School Principal, Teacher of Student Supports, Instructional Program-level Leaders	



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Item	Timeline	Coordinator	Completion Date
All-school staff review of MindUp Curriculum and confirm continuous implementation throughout SY2020	August 2019 January 2020 March 2020	School Principal, Teacher of Student Supports	
Develop topics for Parent Information Nights as well as a schedule for SY2020 *Include supporting literature in biweekly newsletters	By August 27, 2019	School Principal, Teacher of Student Supports, Instructional Program-level Leaders	
Schedule monthly Problem Solving Team Meetings with Instructional Staff to address intervention concerns for students presenting with academic, behavior, and/or emotional needs	SY2020	Teacher of Student Supports	
Conduct a mid-year review of the school's Mental Health Plan	January 2020	School Principal, Teacher of Student Supports, Program-level Leaders	
Develop an updated Mental Health Plan based on feedback from SY2020 implementation	May/June 2020	School Principal, Teacher of Student Supports, Program-level Leaders	

Funding Allocation and Expenditure Assurances

The May Sands Montessori School estimates an allocation of \$4,571.70 for Mental Health

Assistance for the 2020 school year (Erin Williams, personal communication, July 1, 2019). The allocation will help fund a contracted licensed clinician from the Guidance Care Center (GCC) as well as targeted staff



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professional development for supporting improved mental health services at the school. The school's

allocation does not supplant other funding sources, increase salaries or provide staff bonuses.

Evidence-based Mental Health References

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