



## Invitation to Participate™

### Call for Professional Development Presentations

Alignment Rockford Committee: Grades K-8 Behavioral Health Committee

Date of release: April 18, 2011

Responses must be submitted by: May 4, 2011

#### Project overview

Rockford Public Schools and the Alignment Rockford K-8 Behavioral Health Committee are seeking organizations to provide professional development workshops for RPS teachers and support staff during the summer of 2011. All workshops should build greater understanding of behavioral health topics and their impact on teaching and learning. These workshops may last between 2 and 6 hours in length and will be offered at no cost to all RPS staff and teachers as well as to Rockford area community organizations that work with children.

#### Services requested

The Behavioral Health Committee has identified very broad categories pertinent to RPS 205 faculty, staff and community organizations to suggest topics which will support improved student behavioral health. These categories are meant to be descriptive. Workshops in topics across the student behavioral health spectrum are welcome.

- **Mental health awareness and crisis interventions**
- **Social/Emotional Learning**
  - **Self awareness:** recognizing one's emotions as well as one's strengths and limitations
  - **Responsible decision-making:** making ethical, constructive choices about personal and social behavior
  - **Relationship skills:** forming positive relationships, working in teams, and dealing effectively with conflict
  - **Social awareness:** showing understanding and empathy for others
  - **Self management:** managing emotions and behaviors to achieve one's goals
- **Cultural community awareness and connections**
- **Locating local community resources to support behavioral health**

#### RPS Visualize 2015 goal selected

*Enhance learning opportunities for all students.*

#### RPS Visualize 2015 strategy selected

*5.1.4 Promote a proactive guidance counseling program that empowers students to make responsible choices about their social, scholastic and future professional lives.*

#### Alignment Rockford Grades K-8 Behavioral Health Committee Vision

The purpose of the Grades K-8 Behavioral Health Committee is to ensure that all students in Grades K-8 are empowered to be engaged learners.

#### Target population

- RPS teachers and staff
- Rockford area community organizations

### Expected date of implementation

- Late June through mid-August, 2011 (specific dates will be based on district, provider and venue availability)

### Expected outcome

Positive school climate is promoted as community organizations conduct behavioral health workshops in which participants will:

1. Improve understanding of behavioral health issues which impact teaching and learning
2. Learn common language and terminology around behavioral health issues
3. Develop tools and strategies to address specific challenges related to behavioral health issues
4. Know what community resources exist to support needs in the classroom

### Assessment strategies

Success will be measured by:

- Number of organizations providing workshops
- Number of teachers and staff attending
- Participant satisfaction survey at the conclusion of each session
- Follow-up efficacy surveys with provider organizations and participants

### Overview of Alignment Rockford

The purpose of Alignment Rockford (AR) is to align community resources in support of public school strategies to raise student achievement, improve the health and happiness of our children, and advance the economic and social well-being of our community. Our goal is to improve the achievement of all school children through a city-wide partnership initiative that will provide important and needed services to the schools. Your expertise and programs are critical to the success of Alignment Rockford. We hope you will join us in this effort.

### Invitation to Participate™ process

The Grades K-8 Behavioral Health Committee has developed a pilot project to align the resources of community organizations – non-profits, government agencies, colleges and universities, businesses, faith-based organizations, and others – in support of a common goal. The Invitation to Participate (ITP)™ process provides these community organizations with an opportunity to propose ways that they can align their existing resources for increased impact on student outcomes. The committee will review proposals based on organizational capacity and expertise, willingness to collaborate, and likelihood of success.

### Benefits to participating organizations

Participation in this pilot provides your organization with the following benefits:

- Improvements in outcomes for all Rockford children, particularly those who need additional support to realize their potential.
- Opportunities to contribute in areas in which you have specific skills and capacities.
- Opportunities for collaboration and for building individual agency capacity.
- Data and measurable results to support outcome reporting to funding agencies.
- The opportunity to be a partner with a community-wide initiative to redesign, elevate, and increase the effectiveness of the delivery of services to Rockford's school children.
- The ability to work directly with Rockford schools, and to establish a strong relationship with key administrators and teachers.

### Submission directions

Organizations who submit a proposal in response to this ITP™ must agree to the following statements of intent and conditions:

- This will be a collaborative effort. To achieve the goals of AR, organizations will need to work together to provide services.
- While there are currently no financial resources to support the effort in the short term, AR intends to seek significant resources to support successful models for collaboration and delivery.
- Your organization may need to redirect resources, personnel and otherwise, to participate in this project.
- If delivering services in the schools, your organization must comply with RPS policies.
- Your organization agrees to report resources contributed to committee work, using AR forms and processes.

We invite you to submit a proposal by **May 4, 2011** by completing the attached Response Form and faxing it to 815-637-7629 or emailing it to [dianepeters@alignmentrockford.com](mailto:dianepeters@alignmentrockford.com).

If your organization would like to offer multiple workshops, please complete a separate Response Form for each topic.

All proposals will be reviewed by the Behavioral Health Committee on May 5, and your participation will be confirmed by **May 20, 2011**.

### Alignment Rockford Grades K-8 Behavioral Health Committee members

Chair:	Jon Malone	RPS 205
Vice Chair:	Bill Pruyne	Anderson Packaging
	Ronnie Bazan	RPS 205 – West View Elementary School
	Mary Ellen Commare	Youth Services Network
	Beth Conkling	RPS 205
	Dee Dunnett	Winnebago County Health Department
	David Gomel	Rosecrance Health Network
	Ann Higgins	Rockford Housing Authority
	Eileen King	National Alliance on Mental Illness
	Don Kinney	Blackhawk Area Council Boy Scouts of America
	Kathy Kwiat-Hess	Rotary Club of Rockford
	Kim Lake	RPS 205 – Flinn Middle School
	Danita Lewis	YWCA of Rockford
	Maureen Mostacci	Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling
	Vikki Noe-Eltvedt	Rockford MELD
	Anqunette Parham	
	Bruce Parks	Mildred Berry Center
	Sue Razbadouski	Family Counseling Services of Northern Illinois
	Samuel Sarpiya	Rockford Community Church
	Scharnae Walker	Rockford Public Library

### Additional information

If you have any questions about the event, please contact Jon Malone at [malonej@rps205.com](mailto:malonej@rps205.com).

If you have questions regarding the Invitation to Participate™ or the ITP™ process, please contact Laurie Preece at [lauriepreece@hotmail.com](mailto:lauriepreece@hotmail.com).

## Call for Professional Development Presentations ITP™ Response Form

ITP™ Release Date: April 18, 2011  
Responses Due: May 4, 2011

Please complete a separate form for each proposed workshop.

### Contact Information

Organization	
Street Address	
City State ZIP	
Phone	
Contact Name	
Title	
Email Address	

### Proposed Workshop

Title of Workshop	
Name of Presenter(s)	

### Workshop Topic

Which topic will your workshop address?

- Mental health awareness and crisis interventions
- Social/emotional learning
- Cultural community awareness and connections
- Locating local community resources to support behavioral health

### Description of Workshop

In 100 words or less, please describe your proposed workshop. This information will be used to apply for Continuing Professional Development Units (CPDUs).

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**Your Organization**

Please describe your organization’s expertise in the selected topic area.

**Venue**

Do you have a venue available to conduct your proposed workshop or other workshops? If so, please describe. How many can it accommodate? What is its availability?

If you do not have access to a venue, please describe your needs for space and technical support.

**Signature**

Name (printed)	
Signature	
Date	

**Submit**

Please submit this completed form before May 4, 2011, by faxing to 815-637-7629 or emailing to [dianepeters@alignmentrockford.com](mailto:dianepeters@alignmentrockford.com). Thank you.