
Exemplary Program Summaries

Expelled and At-Risk Student Services Grant

Program Name: Alternatives for High Risk Students

County	School District	Contact Name, Phone, Fax, & E-mail	Address
Adams/ Arapahoe	Adams/ Arapahoe 28J	Sharon Moore 303/340-0864 303/326-1283 E-sharonm@hline.aps.k12.co.us	15701 E First Ave. Ste 217 Aurora, CO 80012

Successful Outcomes

Through the Expelled and At-Risk Student Services Funding, Aurora Public Schools has had Alternative to Suspension programs in North Middle School and South Middle School for four years, 2000-2004. Each program has unique features and both of the programs have worked actively to reduce the number of out of school suspensions. The programs provide an opportunity for academic support, behavioral management skill training, problem-solving and discussion activities, counseling and refocused learning behaviors. The programs offer a safe and structured learning environment for students who need to be removed temporarily from the regular classroom for disciplinary reasons. The goal of each of the programs is to reduce the number of out of school suspensions and potential expulsions of students by providing additional support to these students prior to the occurrence of major problems.

As can be seen in Table One, the out of school suspension numbers have decreased during the time of the grant. Additional alternative to suspension strategies are being used within the schools to provide consequences at varying levels based upon the student infraction. Students are suspended for behavior harmful to other students, typically fighting, for continued disobedience or defiance or for safe school violations.

Table One Unduplicated Out of School Suspension Data									
1999-2000 – Before Grant		2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
North	South	North	South	North	South	North	South	North	South
306	179	196	179	194	227	225	220	147	152

Program Name: Redirection Program

County	School District	Contact Name, Phone, Fax, & E-mail	Address
Arapahoe	Littleton District 6	Jenni Villano Phone: 303/347-3394 Fax: 3030/347-4394 E-mail: jvillano@lps.k12.co.us	5776 S Crocker St Littleton, CO 80120

Successful Outcomes

Project Redirection, known throughout Littleton Public Schools (LPS) and the community as the Redirection Program, has become a viable component of the District 6 educational system. During the seven semesters the Redirection Program has been in operation, 194 students have been served. The Program has experienced a 394% increase in the yearly number of students enrolled and has developed partnerships with District schools, law enforcement, the city of Littleton, community agencies and mental health agencies. The Board of Education, the superintendent, and district administration have a strong commitment to the sustainability of this “exemplary program.”



During the past 3 ½ years, the Redirection Program has increasingly provided positive academic and behavioral interventions for expelled students and students who are at-risk of expulsion. Redirection is viewed district wide as an opportunity for students to learn from their mistakes, address behavioral issues, gain necessary educational and social skills, and maintain their progress towards completing their education. In addition to expelled students, Redirection serves the needs of students with multiple suspensions, are habitually disruptive, are alienated, have aggressive behaviors/anger issues, social/emotional/behavioral concerns, or have multiple risk factors.

Program Name: Boulder Preparatory High School -Intervention Team

County	School District	Contact Name, Phone, Fax, & E-mail	Address
Boulder	Boulder Valley School District	Lili Adeli Phone: 720/480-3959 Fax: 303/545-3959 E-mail: liliadeli@excite.com	5075 Chaparral Ct Unit 1 Boulder, CO 80301

Successful Outcomes

Boulder Preparatory High School is a charter school serving at-risk students. We receive student referrals from the courts, probation, social services, juvenile correction and other youth agencies. Over the last three years the number of referrals from current students trying to get their friends and relatives back in school and on track has increased.

The Boulder Valley District's definition for students at risk includes those with: limited English proficiency, discrimination based on race/ethnicity/sexual-orientation, low income family, transience or homelessness, inadequate preparation for school in early childhood, prolonged gaps in school attendance, history of juvenile crime convictions, suspension or expulsion; history of drug or alcohol abuse, detrimental physical or mental health status, learning disabilities or other disabilities.

Based on the above list of at-risk qualifiers 98% of our student population is considered at-risk. Students come to Boulder Prep based on the population size and personalized attention that they receive. The increasing size of other public high schools has become overwhelming for some students and they simply prefer our small community.



Program Name: Brush Middle School - Project Success

County	School District	Contact Name, Phone, Fax, & E-mail	Address
Morgan	Brush County School District RE2-J	Ken Miller Phone: 970/842-5035 Fax: 970/842-3009 E-mail: kmiller282@yahoo.com	P.O. Box 585 Brush, CO 80723

Successful Outcomes

For the three years prior to the implementation of this program in November 2001, Brush Middle School had averaged three expulsions, 103 suspensions, and 62 repeat suspensions per year. The program had three goals for the 2003/2004 school years.

1. Reduce the number of students with excessive (over 20) absences by 25%.

We used our Student Support Coordinator to monitor absences and contact families of students. Written notices were mailed on the 5th, 8th, and 10th absence. The Student Support Coordinator, the administrators, and the School Resource Officer made phone contacts and home visits. Some referrals were made to Social Services. Registered, return receipt letters were mailed to over 20 parents.

We were able to reduce the excessive absences from 41 to 34, which is a reduction of 17%. We feel that we have learned from this year, and that we will be able to further reduce the numbers next year. Of the 34 students with more than 20 absences, there were three with major medical issues that required them to miss school for extended periods.

Although the number of excessive absences was reduced, we found that our district policies and practices kept us from being more aggressive with legal action when other methods failed. We will be revising our attendance policies before next year.

2. Keep the number of out of school suspensions below 50%, and the repeat suspensions below 20%, of the average of the three years prior to our program.

Our out of schools suspensions totaled 57 this year, which is 54% of the three-year average prior to program implementation. Repeat suspensions were eight, which is 13% of the number of repeat suspensions prior to implementation of the program.

3. Reduce the number of office referrals by 10%.

Our office referrals were reduced by 13% this year.

Program Name: Positive Refocusing Education Program (P.R.E.P.)

County	School District	Contact Name, Phone, Fax, & E-mail	Address
Denver	Denver Public Schools-Prep High	Jodi Hogle Phone: 303/964-2980 Fax: 303/964-2976 E-Mail: jodi_hogle@dpsk12.org	2200 W 28th Ave Denver, CO 80211

Successful Outcomes

Denver Public Schools defines “at-risk” students as “those who are likely to leave school prematurely because they face any combination of factors that are detrimental to their academic and personal success, such as: poor grades; negative school attitude; history of delinquent behavior (including violence and substance abuse); living in an impoverished environment; being a year or more behind in grade level; or failing to perceive the relevance of the school curriculum.”

The P.R.E.P. (Positive Refocusing Education Program) Center provides a variety of alternatives of alternatives for students that are at high risk of expulsion from school. Middle and high school aged students access a continuum of support that includes prevention and intervention for middle and high school levels. The targeted intervention efforts are for students with chronic behavior or disciplinary issues, medical or psychological fragility, or high risk of expulsion or long-term suspension.



The components of P.R.E.P. include, Alternative Placement Services, Safe City Collaboration, Gillian Youth Center ART, Horace Mann Middle School In-School Suspension Program, the Emerson Street After School program, and the centralized, self-contained P.R.E.P. middle and high school alternative setting. The importance of parental involvement and support is recognized by P.R.E.P. and the continuing involvement of parents is tracked, including parent attendance at Parent Empowerment Groups conducted weekly, and contacts mad with parents by telephone, in conferences to plan for student programming, and other P.R.E.P. activities.

Program Name: Escuela Tlatelolco Expelled & At-Risk Exemplary Program

County	School District	Contact Name, Phone, Fax, & E-mail	Address
Denver	Escuela Tlatelolco	Nita Gonzales Phone: 303/964-8993 Fax: 303/964-9795 E-mail: njgonzal@aol.com/nita@escuelatlatelolco.org	2949 N Federal Blvd. Denver, CO 80211

Successful Outcomes

Education and Prevention Services – Overview. The overall mission of Escuela Tlatelolco Centro de Estudio (Escuela) is to liberate the mind, heart, and spirit of students, through the knowledge of cultural expression, moral courage and honorable behavior; to empower students to become well educated, responsible, self-directed, think critically and creatively, to challenge them to embrace their own history, acknowledge and embrace their self-worth, and develop a commitment to social justice; and to reinforce education as knowledge learned and shared.

Serving At-Risk Latino Youth. Escuela brings more than 34 years of experience serving low-income Latino students who are at-risk of being expelled or who have been previously expelled from a public school. Escuela's unique blend of educational best practices from throughout the Western Hemisphere has resulted in a program that teaches youth not only how to overcome barriers of poverty, language, and cultural differences, but also how to turn those barriers into assets. Escuela's program carefully builds in protective factors designed to counter or buffer the exposure to specific risk factors for violence or for victimization. The Secundaria program counters the behavioral risk factors already present in the personal histories of at-risk youth.

Escuela has high expectations that youth will attend college and be productive citizens. Escuela supports those expectations with a project-centered, interdisciplinary, portfolio-based curriculum that challenges students to transform their at-risk behaviors, remain in school, and increase their potential for higher education. Escuela also provides increased individual attention, strong teacher involvement, extended day programs, and a strong commitment for students' families. Students take college courses and perform community service as an integral part of the school's life. As students engage in experiential learning, college academics and community service, they gain academic, political and social acumen – all skills essential for personal and professional success. Escuela is consistently able to help students transform patterns of academic failure into a 90% graduation rate.

Program Name: ECCOS School Based Program

County	School District	Contact Name, Phone, Fax, & E-mail	Address
Denver	Denver Public Schools	M.E. Morreo 303/480-1920 303/433-9627 E-mail: memorro@aol.com	655 Broadway Ste 450 Denver, CO 80203

Successful Outcomes

ECCOS (Ethnic Counseling Community Outreach Services) Family Center has provided mentoring and counseling services to high school students for the past four years, under the grant program for "Expelled and At-Risk Student Services." The program was initially implemented at Denver West High School, and in the last year it expanded to Abraham Lincoln High School. Our past record of successful outcomes include: a steady increase in the number of students served, from 16 students served in the 2000-2001 school year, to a present outcome of 62 students in the 2003-2004 school year. In addition, the top three program outcomes utilized every year to measure success have been:

- Reduction of at least one failing grade (or for those students who did not have a Fail upon entering a program, an improvement of at least one grade in at least one class).
 - Reduction of their discipline referrals at school.
 - Improvement in family involvement.
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Program Name: Project Respect

County	School District	Contact Name, Phone, Fax, & E-mail	Address
Pueblo	Pueblo School District 60	Terri Martinez-McGraw Phone: (719) 549-7380 Fax: (719) 549-7376 E-mail: tmartine@pueblo90.k12.co.us	215 E Orman Ave Pueblo, CO 81004

Successful Outcomes

Project Respect recognizes the importance of parental involvement and support, and the continuing involvement of Project Respect parents in a variety of activities is also tracked. Parents become involved as valued collaborators from the day their student is identified by the Project Respect staff as a good candidate for the program. When a student is referred to Project Respect, the first step made is a home visit by a community advocate, who collaboratively and persistently approaches the family about the program, its benefits, and the commitment to working with families within their own values and respecting their concerns and goals for the child and other family members.

Home visits and outreach are a cornerstone of Project Respect, and no exceptions are made regarding involving the family in this intensive and respectful manner. As the relationship between the community advocate and the student and family progresses, a strengths and needs assessment is conducted to assist in developing an individualized plan and goals that the student and family have identified as important. The needs identified drive the actions of the community advocate in referring, providing, and leveraging support. Support may include tutoring, work program, mental health referrals, health services, transportation, and family support. The interest of the student and family likewise drive planning and connection with opportunities for team and individual sports, recreation, arts, field trips, and working with animals.



Program Name: Grand Alternative School

County	School District	Contact Name, Phone, Fax, & E-mail	Address
Grand	West Grand School District #1-JT	Jed Trefen Phone: (970) 724-0077 Fax: (970) 724-0077 E-mail: trefenj@westgrand.k12.co.us	P.O. Box 515 Kremmling, CO 80459

Successful Outcomes

The Grand Alternative School was created in 1998 to provide an opportunity for students who were not experiencing success in the traditional high school environment. We serve students ranging in age from fourteen to twenty years old. There are two components to our program. Our day program is open to students (ages 14-20) who are still residing at home but are experiencing considerable difficulties in the regular high school. We also serve students (ages 16-20) in an evening school who are normally more independent and have broken affiliation with their parents. Traditionally we have served approximately twenty-three students per year. The program is designed to maintain high expectations but provides a high degree of success. The program is administered by two certified teachers and provides intensive behavioral modification services, therapeutic counseling, family services, and day treatment options.

- In the spring of 2004, seventeen out of twenty-three students, or 74% of our enrollment, demonstrated an increase in their overall academic performance.
 - We have reduced the number of expulsions which have occurred within the district. Last year, we had only one expulsion and no expulsions the previous year. We believe this reduction is a direct result of the opportunities provided by our alternative program.
 - We have helped students reach specific treatment goals. At Grand Alternative School, all students receive individual and group therapy from a licensed counselor. For 2003-2004 school year, 100% of the students attained at least one of their treatment goals with several of the students accomplishing the majority of their goals.
 - We have maintained a high percentage of parental involvement. Without parental commitment, students are not allowed to enroll in the program. After a thorough analysis and study, some students and their parents are asked to participate in family therapy through a day treatment component of the local Department of Social Services. We have experienced approximately a 95% parental contact rate during our conferences which are conducted each grading period.
 - This past year, seventeen of the twenty-three students (74%) improved their attendance rate.
 - We have a high graduation rate. This past year, the District had eleven high school graduates (twenty-nine total graduates) who had been enrolled in the Grand Alternative School at some point in time. Nearly 40% of the graduating class received services from Grand Alternative School. The school also provided GED classes to the community.
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