

ABSTRACT

Lehigh Valley Community Schools Consortium: Allentown Full-Service Community School Project

The Lehigh Valley Community Schools Consortium consists of United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley (UWGLV), in partnership with Allentown School District (ASD), Communities in Schools of the Lehigh Valley (CISLV), St. Luke's University Health Network (SLUHN), and Promise Neighborhood Lehigh Valley (PNLV). Our consortium seeks funding to expand services at Raub Middle School (grades 6-8) and welcome Union Terrace Elementary and Washington Elementary (grades K-5) as new community schools in our network. Our target population is students, families and community members in the Center City neighborhood of Allentown - Pennsylvania's 3rd largest urban school district.

Target schools are all high-poverty, high minority, high English as a Second Language Title I buildings. We expect to serve 2,031 students, 600 families, and 150 community members for 5 years. Our project is designed to add staff to schools who will coordinate needed services. In addition, we will add culturally competent services to address needs that are barriers to learning and academic achievement. Behavioral health supports, Positive Youth Development programs, and Integrated Student Supports will address chronic absenteeism, trauma, behavioral issues and lead to increased academic achievement. Resident community leadership workshops will provide parents with the skills to be community leaders and advocates for students. Our pipeline of coordinated services will provide supports that positively impact students from Kindergarten readiness up to college or the workforce. Project goals, objectives and performance measures will ensure that children are: **prepared for kindergarten; achieving academically; and safe, healthy and supported by engaged parents.**