

Erlanger-Elsmere Board of
Education PR#U215J190038
Abstract

Target population to be served: 593 elementary school students and their families in two schoolwide Title I schools. General community profile: Erlanger and Elsmere, in Northern Kentucky. Erlanger and Elsmere were once first-ring suburbs built to house railroad workers outside Cincinnati, Ohio. Over the years, the two cities have maintained separate government structures but have merged many other services, including the school district and social services, to function as one community. Extreme needs include: 314 homeless (13%) students in a district population of 2,387; lack of school achievement, high number of problem behaviors; physical, dental, and mental health challenges and substance abuse; truancy, problem behaviors, and violence. Extensive networks of service are in place including a state model early childhood education system, high quality after school programming, a 10-year substance abuse prevention coalition, and strong support from a myriad of public agencies. Coordination of services is a major challenge that will be remedied by this project.

Brief Project summary: EEFSCS will provide two school-based coordinators, one school psychologist, one school nurse, and one coordinator of services to homeless students and their families. Services will occur in all pipeline service areas, with new services focused in high quality school and out-of-school-time programs and services; family and community engagement and supports; and social, health, nutrition and mental health services and supports. Key to success of the project will be coordination of all pipeline services using the Community Alignment of Resources Tool and other infrastructures to ensure that all services work together, that gaps in services to students are identified and that duplications are minimized for these high need students and families. Goal: To improve the coordination, integration, accessibility, and effectiveness of services for children and families through full-service community schools serving students of Erlanger-Elsmere's high poverty elementary schools.

Two Program Objectives: 1) To increase the percentage and number of individuals targeted for services and who receive services during each year of the project period and 2) To provide expanded and new pipeline services to high need students in two schools to ensure that children are a) prepared for kindergarten; b) achieving academically; and c) safe, healthy, and supported by their parents. Key outcomes include reduced problem behavior; reduced school truancy; and increased student achievement in reading and mathematics. Additional outcomes include improved percentage of students who are prepared for kindergarten, increased family and community attendance at parent and community events, increased career awareness and interest, and more. Key partners include early childhood providers, mental health providers, safety net services providers, Family Resource Centers, police departments, substance abuse prevention providers, YMCA after school programs, and a regional education service agency.