WELL-BEING SAFETY ASSESSMENTS

DEDICATED TO PREVENTING VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS

GRANT-FUNDING EDITION

www.well-beingsafetyassessments.com
573.451.2151

10300 County Road 8130
Rolla, Missouri 65401

SCHOOL SAFETY
SOLUTIONS
FOR CHALLENGING TIMES.

Well-being Safety Assessments understand the importance of assisting private and public schools with the search for school safety funding. This booklet was created to partner with school officials to assist them as they navigate through the GRANT WRITING PROCESS for **SCHOOL VIOLENCE PREVENTION FUNDING.**

EVIDENCE-BASED

School Safety Solutions that demonstrate a statistically significant effect on assisting Students, Schools and Teachers.

EVIDENCE-INFORMED

Well-being Safety Assessments utilizes widely-available trusted research that has been tested, tried and true to design and implement successful student programs.

DATA-DRIVEN

Well-being Safety Assessments makes strategic decisions based on data analysis and interpretation.

HOW TO WRITE A
GRANT PROPOSAL

For

SCHOOL SAFETY SOLUTIONS

Well-being Safety Assessments (WSA) is dedicated to preventing violence in schools across the United States.

WSA provides **THE PROACTIVE COLLECTION:** A toolbox filled with budget-friendly school safety solutions that assists all schools, large and small.

The School Wellness Assessment	The School Reporting System	School Safety Environmental Assessment	Editable Teacher Websites	School Violence Prevention Training	SEL Virtual After School Classes
This 55 question online assessment screens students in 8 targeted areas, including anger, depression, drugs/alcohol and mental health related issues. A preliminary report of all high-risk students are provided to the school designee within 48 hours.	Schools can subscribe to this anonymous reporting system allowing students, staff, parents and community members to call, text, SMS message and email when there is a school related issue. Crisis workers are available 24/7-365	This assessment will allow School Administrators to receive a thorough report looking at how efficient and effective their school security is when compared to the three-point environmental review recommended by the Federal Commission on School Safety. This is an on-site school enironment	Create professional virtual classrooms with IT assistance for each of your teachers with our professional drag and drop teacher websites. 300 sites with Administrator Portal Site to add and delete addtional websites	A full day of school violence prevention training beginning with two live performances from the WSA student performers. An expert speaker talks about a personal experience with violence. Many student audience members receive t-shirts, wristbands and stuffies. A digital handbook is discussed in the afternoon in	School Districts can now subscribe to online after-school SEL classes for all students: 3rd grade-High School. Students can participate in classes that promote self-awareness, self worth, self-managment, relationship skills and responsible

✓ **School Wellness Assessments**

✓ **School Reporting System/The School Helpline**

✓ **The School Safety Environmental Assessment**

✓ **Editable Teacher/Counselor Websites**

✓ **School Violence Prevention Training**

✓ **Social-Emotional Learning Classes**

8 Tips to School-Safety Grant-Writing

A grant is a monetary award given by a government agency, foundation, corporation, or other entity to another body in order to plan, implement or operate a particular program or fund a particular project, like **SCHOOL SAFETY SOLUTIONS.**

Get Prepared

Grant writing is like baking your favorite homemade cake. It requires time to gather all the "right" ingredients. You must have all the right tools and most importantly, you can't rush it. This booklet will help you as you navigate through the grant proposal process.

Follow School Guidelines

Most educators don't realize you will need the school administrator's approval before submitting a school grant. If the grant is over $5,000, the school board/school superintendent will probably need to sign-off. Check with the Grant office in your district before applying.

Determine who your Implementer is

Typically the person who writes the grant is not the person or persons who will be implementing the funded program. Because of this, you will need to connect with the right people at your school. Work together as you answer key questions:

1. What steps are necessary for implementation of this program?
2. What is the expected timeframe? Will this take a day or two, months or the entire school year?
3. Who is responsible for training the staff and how will this be done?
4. How will you evaluate the success of the funding?
5. Who is in charge to write the final letter to the funding agent?

Locate the Funding Source

There are many different ways to secure funding for your school through grants. You may want to write a small grant before you tackle a larger federal grant.

Foundation and Corporation Grants are funded between $500 and $50,000 with most averaging around the $7,000 range.

- Grants 4 Teachers is a complete online resource for information related to K-12 grants. They focus on the needs of teachers, particularly K-12 educators.
- Grants.gov provides an electronically means to find and apply for competitive grant opportunities from all federal grant-making agencies and encompasses over 900 grant programs offered by the twenty-six Federal grant-making agencies. It streamlines the process of awarding over $350 billion annually to state and local governments, academia, not-for-profits, and other organizations.

Get a Copy of a Successful Grant from the Funding Agency

Most foundations have a list of their grant winners on their website. Use the sample winning grant or contact a grant winner to assist you as you put together your school proposal. Most people are happy to share their successes.

Attend a Grant Writing Workshop

Search online for current workshops/seminars that will educate you on how to write a grant. You-Tube also has some great resources including this one by Janux: https://youtu.be/7QthG1uAxvE

Include 10 Elements in Your Proposal

1. **Title and cover letter**
2. **Introduction/Abstract/Summary:** A short review of the proposal with information about your school, its ability to complete the project, need, methods to be used and how those served will benefit.
3. **Background Information on your School:** Describe what makes your school awesome! Talk about the location, demographics, mission, relationship to the service area and past successes in the project area. Establish your credibility.
4. **Problem Statement:** Describe the problem or need with statistical data, Align it to the funding source's goals and priorities. What problem are you trying to address or correct and why? Improving School Safety? Preventing School Violence?
5. **Program Goals:** Identify expected outcomes and benefits in measurable terms. How is the situation expected to change as a result of the grant funding? What program are you wanting to purchase and why? What school safety solution goals do you have in mind?
6. **Plan of Implementation**: Write down the activities that will be accomplished to directly support the achievement of the objectives. Include a timeline in this section as well as a description on staffing needs. What activities are you going to be doing?
7. **Plan of Evaluation:** Provide a plan for showing the success of the project at designated times and at the conclusion of the project. How will you know the program was a success? How will you know you met your goal?
8. **Sustainability:** Include how program expenses not supported by the grant will be met and how your overall goals will continue after the grant ends.
9. **Budget:** Describe the costs the funding source will meet and the methods used to determine those costs. WSA will give you a FREE QUOTE; just ask!
10. **Additional information:** Letters of support • Personnel resumes • Proof of 501(c)3 status

Project description – Include your project goal and solution, what you hope to achieve, funding level sought, and identify your population.

Use Statistics

The key ingredient to creating a grant proposal is STATISTICS.

Evidence-Based:

- Strong evidence from at least one well-designed and well-implemented experimental study, or
- Moderate evidence from at least one well-designed and well-implemented quasi-experimental study, or
- Promising evidence from at least one well-designed and well-implemented co-relational study with statistical controls for selection bias.

Evidence-Informed:

- a program that demonstrates a statistically significant effect on improving student outcomes or other relevant outcomes.

Data Driven:

- a decision-making process which involves collecting data, extracting patterns and facts from that data, and utilizing those facts to make inferences that influence decision-making

WSA utilizes statistics to design, review and implement School Safety Solutions

How does Well-being Safety Assessments statistically line up?

For grant writing purposes, the following statistical information is provided supporting the quality school safety services offered through Well-being Safety Assessments, LLC.

Evidence-Based:

- WSA utilizes the **Federal Commission on School Safety Research, Report and Recommendations** to design, review and implement their school safety services. The report's summary and recommendations are identified here with the coinciding safety service offered through WSA.

Following the school shootings in Parkland, Fl (2018), President Donald Trump established The Federal Commission on School Safety. The goal of this commission was to extensively research school violence and produce a report to include all recommendations to prevent future school related tragedies. After numerous field visits, listening sessions and meetings with students, parents, school officials, school safety personnel, law enforcement officers, and mental health professionals, recommendations by The Federal Commission on School Safety were developed for leaders at local, state and federal levels (December 2018).

- WSA employs the **National Center for Education Statistics** to determine what key areas to concentrate on within their school safety programming to ensure assessment questioning, educational classes and preventative trainings are addressing the current needs of students, educators and school officials.

The Crime and Safety Surveys Program collects and reports data on crime, violence, and safety in U.S. elementary and secondary schools. The following statistics are from the School Crime and Safety topic area in the Condition of Education system of indicators. These indicators focus on topics such as school shootings; student and teacher victimization; fights, weapons, and illegal substances; and discipline, safety and security practices.

- WSA uses **The Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS)** through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to determine the specific risk-trends being seen within children and teenagers.

The YRBS system monitors six categories of health-related behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death and disability among youth and adults, including:
  - Behaviors that contribute to unintentional injuries and violence
  - Sexual behaviors related to unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV infection
  - Alcohol and other drug use
  - Tobacco use
  - Unhealthy dietary behaviors
 - Inadequate physical activity
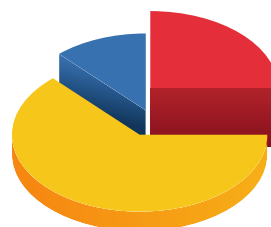
How does Well-being Safety Assessments statistically line up?

For GRANT WRITING PURPOSES, the following statistical information is provided supporting the quality school safety services offered through Well-being Safety Assessments, LLC.

Evidence-Informed:

- Well-being Safety Assessments, LLC provides **THE PROACTIVE COLLECTION:** A toolbox filled with SCHOOL SAFETY SOLUTIONS including:
    - **School Wellness Assessments**
    - **Social-Emotional Learning Classes**
    - **School Environmental Assessments**
    - **An Anonymous Reporting System/The School Helpline**
    - **School Violence Prevention Training/Handbook**
    - **Cultural Diversity Training**
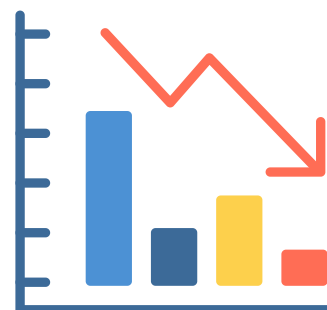
The Proactive Collection was designed, reviewed and implemented based on continuing statistical research as demonstrated below.

FAST STATISTICAL FACTS

1. **School Wellness Assessments** screen students in 8 targeted areas including Anger Management/Aggression, Depression/Suicide/Self-Harm, Emotional/Social, Drug/Alcohol Abuse, and COVID-19 challenges. Schools choose to utilize the screening ***quarterly, bi-annually or annually.*** All schools assessed to date by the School Wellness Assessment demonstrate data consistent with U.S.CDC youth trends (2019). Summary identified below.
    - Students are experiencing violence, such as bullying (both electronically and at school) in increased numbers .
    - Students report of negative mental health and safety issues continue to increase. A growing percentage of students surveyed reported that they did not go to school because of safety concerns.
    - An increasing percentage of American youth felt sad or hopeless for at least two weeks to the degree that they could not engage in their usual activities. The percentage of students who seriously considered suicide or made a suicide plan also increased significantly in the last decade.
    - 15 % of students in grades 9-12 drank alcohol before the age of 13.
    - In 2019, about 15% of high school students had used select illicit drugs.
    - In 2019, 29.2% of students in grades 9-12 have had a drink of alcohol in the last 30 days.

FOR GRANT WRITING PURPOSES, THE FOLLOWING STATISTICAL INFORMATION IS PROVIDED SUPPORTING THE QUALITY SCHOOL SAFETY SERVICES OFFERED THROUGH WELL-BEING SAFETY ASSESSMENTS, LLC.

2. **Social-Emotional Classes** are offered through Well-being Safety Assessments and address the five core SEL competencies as defined by CASEL. Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) has conducted a meta-analysis of school based universal interventions that concludes that they looked across 213 studies involving more than 270,000 students and found the following:

- SEL interventions that address the five core competencies increased students' academic performance by 11 percentile points, compared to students who did not participate.
- Students participating in SEL programs showed improved classroom behavior, an increased ability to manage stress and depression, and better attitudes about themselves, others, and school.
- Additional meta-analyses echoed these findings. Consistency across independent research teams offers strong support that well-implemented SEL programs are beneficial.

Subsequent analyses spoke to the long-term effects of SEL implementation as well as SEL's effectiveness in diverse cultural contexts. (casel.org)

Long-term effects:
- Measured a positive correlation between strong social emotional assets (measured at the end of intervention) and higher levels of well-being up to 18 years later. (Taylor et al., 2017)

Effectiveness across cultural contexts:
- An SEL approach was consistently effective with all demographic groups both inside and outside the United States. This supports the idea that social and emotional assets promoted in SEL can support the positive development of students from diverse family backgrounds and geographic contexts. (Taylor et al., 2017)
- SEL interventions show the largest effect size when the intervention is designed with a specific context or culture in mind. This supports the idea that SEL is not a 'one-size-fits-all' intervention. (Wiglesworth et al., 2016)
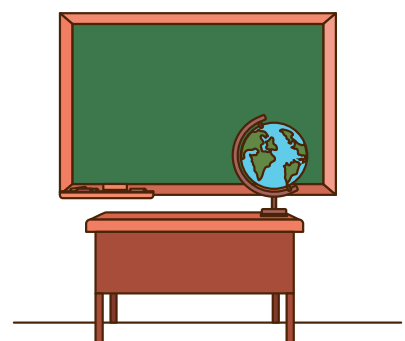
How does Well-being Safety Assessments statistically line up?

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Data-Driven:

- Well-being Safety Assessments, LLC provides **THE PROACTIVE COOLECTION:** A toolbox filled with SCHOOL SAFETY SOLUTIONS including:
  - **School Wellness Assessments**
  - **School Environmental Assessments**
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  - **School Violence Prevention Training/Handbook**
  - **Social-Emotional Learning Classes**
  - **Cultural Diversity Training**
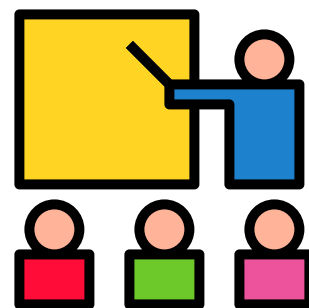
The Proactive Collection was designed, reviewed and implemented based on continuing statistical research as demonstrated below.

FAST STATISTICAL FACTS

1. **School Violence Prevention Training,** offered through WSA, is a safety prevention solution which includes a full-day of violence prevention information beginning with a student-led performance skit discussing the importance of reacting appropriately to unsafe/suspicious behavior at school. Next, a student survivor of school violence provides a dialogue with students as they discuss their personal response in a violent situation. Finally, students review a 54 page handbook filled with valuable information about school violence and ways in which to prevent it.

The Federal Commission on School Safety observed and determined through the data collected in 2018 that character education programs may work best when the whole school integrates character education into the day-to-day work of the students. School leaders can establish character development as a priority by supporting both classroom-level and school-level practices, as well as collaborating with families and community organizations.

2. **Anonymous Reporting System/The School Helpline** is a WSA must-have where students, parents and educators can call, text, message or email with a trained WSA Crisis Worker 24/7-365 days/yr. Reports are taken and housed in an online central housing system where school administrators have access to at anytime. Crisis workers provide local, state and national mental health referrals but will also take reports on homework issues, COVID-19 challenges, child abuse/neglect, and anything school/home-related. School officials are notified by phone for emergency reports and email/text for non-emergency reports.

How does Well-being Safety Assessments statistically line up?

For grant writing purposes, the following statistical information is provided supporting the quality school safety services offered through Well-being Safety Assessments, LLC.

FAST STATISTICAL FACTS

The Federal Commission on School Safety reports (2018): Prior to most school attacks other students had concerns about the attacker yet most did not report the information. Creating a means **to easily report** is key to preventing violence within schools.

Well-being Safety Assessments created **The School Helpline,** an anonymous reporting system through this **DATA DRIVEN** need. Rebecca West, MA,, CEO of WSA made a decision to provide a very specific helpline that was not offered anywhere else. It would employ crisis workers who were trained counselors to answer calls, texts, messages and emails 24 hr/day to make it easier for students, parents, and educators to report a crisis situation. Data continues to be collected and The School Helpline continues to evolve accepting any-type of school/home related situation at this time. Due to the COVID-19 challenges within the school systems in 2020, The School Helpline began accepting reports on food shortages and virtual school shortcomings.

Centers for Disease Control provides the following data facts (2016) about school-related violence in their Understanding School Violence Fact Sheet.
- In 2014, there were about 486,400 nonfatal violent victimizations at school among students 12 to 18 years of age.1
- Approximately 9% of teachers report that they have been threatened with injury by a student from their school; 5% of school teachers reported that they had been physically attacked by a student from their school.
- In 2013, 12% of students ages 12–18 reported that gangs were present at their school during the school year.
- In a 2015 nationally representative sample of youth in grades 9-12.
  - 7.8% reported being in a physical fight on school property in the 12 months before the survey.
  - 5.6% reported that they did not go to school on one or more days in the 30 days before the survey because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to or from school.
  - 4.1% reported carrying a weapon (gun, knife or club) on school property on one or more days in the 30 days before the survey.
  - 6.0% reported being threatened or injured with a weapon on school property one or more times in the 12 months before the survey.
  - 20.2% reported being bullied on school property
  - 15.5% reported being bullied electronically during the 12 months before the survey.

All data gathered from the Centers for Disease Control and the Federal Commission on School Safety continue to align with information being presented to WSA through the student and teacher assessment data, the School Helpline reports, and information gained from school counselors, principals and superintendents.

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