

Lisa Driscoll

From: Jim <jmattison@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 5, 2021 10:23 AM
To: Lisa Driscoll
Subject: Mental Health for Schools Funding - PRIORITY

Measure X committee,

I see there is a \$20,000,000 proposed annual budget for the **-Community Crisis Response Initiative.**

I would hope there will be platform to have at least \$5,000,000 of these funds be allocated directly to the school districts to allow them to adequately recognize troubled teens immediately and get the help needed before it becomes a “Crisis Response”. One out of five children have some type of a mental set back and the teachers and parents need to have proper training and the tools to identify and help our kids before they need help from the county. Suicide is the second leading cause of death amongst teens. 4 out of 5 deaths are preventable when the signs are addressed IMMEDIATELY. This is a crisis and getting worse every year. Please set up a sub-committee involving the Contra Costa Superintendent of Schools and other leading advocates and professionals such as Graham Wiseman who has been with NAMI and now has started <http://www.beingwellca.org>

Graham has been helping us at Byron Union School District and has put several programs in place to identify troubled teens ahead of time before it’s to late.

He can be reached at: Graham Wiseman graham@beingwellca.org

Preventing suicide and addressing mental issues way ahead of time will not only save many lives but millions of dollars if addressed at the outset. This sub-committee and funding is a must.

Thanks,

Jim Mattison
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