

2014-2015 Jacqueline Farquhar Endowment for Children's Mental Health

Shelley Hymel

Project Title: Development of an Online Resource for Promoting Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)

Project Abstract:

With growing awareness of the impact of mental health on society, public health care strategies have increasingly emphasized the need for coordinated mental health services, not only in primary care facilities but also in schools. To this end, schools have increasingly focused on educating the heart as well as the mind by promoting social-emotional learning (SEL) as a foundation for positive mental health and the acceptance of all children and youth. Although research has documented the importance of SEL for both academic and life success, youth-serving organizations struggle to find ways to promote and integrate SEL into ongoing practice. This proposal seeks to advance the practice of SEL by creating an online resource that serves as a "one-stop", up-to-date, central hub that mobilizes existing knowledge of SEL in accessible ways, and also serves as a dynamic, interactive arena for the exchange of new and innovative strategies for integrating SEL into educational practice.