Using New Federal Funding to Meet Children’s Behavioral Health Needs in School

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The Federal government has allocated substantial funding to schools to address children's mental health needs. However, nearly half of schools report insufficient resources to provide adequate mental health services to students.

To effectively utilize these federal funds, schools are encouraged to develop comprehensive mental health programs that include:

- **Screening and Early Intervention**: Implementing universal behavioral health screenings to identify and address issues promptly.Houston Chronicle
- **Hiring Qualified Staff**: Recruiting and retaining mental health professionals to support students' needs.
- **Fostering Community Partnerships**: Collaborating with local organizations to enhance the range of services available to students.

Additionally, Medicaid offers a sustainable funding source for schools aiming to build comprehensive mental health programs, ensuring long-term support for student well-being.

By strategically investing these resources, schools can create supportive environments that promote the mental health and well-being of their students.

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