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**NH System of Care FAST Forward 2020 Grant
White Mountains Regional School District**

White Mountains Regional School District (SAU #36) is a recent recipient of the NH System of Care (SoC) FAST Forward 2020 Grant. This is a four year grant awarded from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) which will support the expansion and sustainability of a state level system of care for children, youth and their families. This grant is administered through the New Hampshire Department of Education by the Office of Student Wellness. This an exciting time for the White Mountains Regional School District community, paving the way towards behavioral health and wellness for all students in the district.

The project is two-fold: 1) provision of high fidelity wraparound services for those students with greatest behavioral health needs and 2) creation of comprehensive and sustainable systems of care requiring stronger working partnerships between community entities and agencies. The systems of care includes a cross section of providers and community partners who have direct impact on children's, youths' and families' behavioral health. These partners may be families, schools, mental health agencies, primary care physicians, Eastern Seals, Department of Health Human Services, social and juvenile services, and others. The acronym 'FAST' in the grant title stands for 'Families and Systems Together.'

Leading the ongoing efforts to improve health and wellness for all students in the White Mountains Regional School District, SAU #36 is proud to announce the launch of the real 'work' of the System of Care NH FAST Forward 2020 Grant beginning this 2017-18 school year.

Meet the Team:

The Grant Project Manager, Kelly Dussault comes to the District with 20 years of experience working with youth, families and local school systems as an Occupational Therapist. Additionally, Kelly is completing her M.Ed in Human Relations at Plymouth State University with a concentration in organizational health and wellness. Kelly has begun the process of growing local Families and Systems Together (FAST) through the development of a Community Management Team (CMT), inviting over 40 local stakeholders to engage in the completion of a local 'environmental scan' that identifies the needs and strengths of children, families and the community. The CMT will steer the work plan for this project over the next four years. Efforts will focus on several areas including early childhood education and behavioral health; social/emotional learning and development; behavioral health promotion and substance abuse prevention; personal and community safety; support and expansion of mental, emotional and behavioral health opportunities; and family and youth engagement.

Wraparound Program Coordinator, Kate Clark, joins the White Mountains School District with 11 years experience as a school counselor and director. Kate's role is to facilitate the 'wrap' portion of the grant using evidence-based frameworks to deliver family supports and services. This work is rooted in a family-driven, youth-guided model that supports culturally and linguistically competent ways to maximize access to community services. The goal of this work is to create sustainable, cohesive plans that yield hope and keep families together.

Data will be collected throughout the project to modify program goals and activities, assure accountability of stakeholders, and measure of program effectiveness on outcomes.

Interested in finding out more? Want to get involved? Have feedback or questions?

You can find more information from Kelly and Kate at SAU #36 school open houses, by visiting the White Mountains Regional School District website (www.sau36.org), or by contacting them directly at 603-837-9393 ext. 112, or via email at: kdussault@sau36.org and kclark@sau36.org. They look forward to hearing from you.