



Tennyson Center for Children ESSER III Use of Funds Plan

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress passed the American Rescue Plan (ARP), adding funds to the Elementary and Secondary Education Relief (ESSER) fund. ESSER III funds must be spent to address the impacts of COVID-19 and schools are required to use at least 20% of the funding to address the impacts of learning from the pandemic. The ESSER III service period ends September 30, 2023, and Tennyson Center for Children's (Tennyson) Education and Day Treatment school received an allocation of \$91,200 to support our program.

Tennyson is refocusing our efforts on all the needs of our students in this "post COVID" time. Based on review of progress data in the IEPs, discussions with parents and guardians, all students have experienced an increased need in mental health services. As some students were remote and in person students were in cohorts, it was difficult to incorporate the non traditional learning tools into the daily education routine. Now that the environment is shifting again, we are refocusing on all the needs. Mental health, social emotional and academic. Many of the programs that stalled during the pandemic included auxiliary programs such as art, music, animal assisted therapies, etc. All of these programs support our kids with trauma remain regulated which leads to more positive academic outcomes. We use a mix of interventions and will have a consultant help fully develop these programs in the next few months. All of our students were impacted during the pandemic regardless of status.

Specifically, we are using the funds:

- To purchase headsets/microphones for text to speech for our students needing additional speech language tools.
- Hiring a consultant to build out art and music therapy curriculum
- Rebuilding the art therapy and music therapy supplies including instruments, paint, easels etc
- Hiring a Yoga contractor and purchasing yoga mats
- Working more closely with our partners that provide animal assisted therapies

We will monitor implementation of these programs through the IEP status updates, progress towards treatment plan goals and various family surveys. The academic impact of regulation will be monitored and seen through improved state testing scores and quarterly grade reports.

Tennyson is committed to the academic and social emotional health of our students and is excited to have these funds available to provide these needed services to support our students in their journeys.