

2019 Inclusion Project Mini-Grant Awardees

Antietam Elementary School | Awarded \$2,000 | 5/24/2019

For this event, students and staff will explore books that both align to grade-level curriculum and also connect to the inclusion of people with differences. During monthly staff meetings, there will be discussions around inclusion. Also, flyers related to disability awareness and inclusion will be sent home to families. The event day will include activities and simulations of what it is like to complete basic or daily life tasks with varying disabilities. T-shirts will be made to help support the event. After the event, there will be a reflection session for students and staff.

Barack Obama Elementary School | Awarded \$2,000 | October 2019

The event will take place throughout the month of October, with the theme: "Twenty-one days, Twenty-one ways to include one another - let's make it a habit." A calendar for October 2019 will be posted in the main hallway and posted on each day. Each post includes a picture of a student or staff member (both with and without a disability) and their idea on "how to include someone different". During the morning announcements, there will also be an inclusion tip of the day. Lastly, Henry Winkler's "Hank Zipzer" book series will be added to the school library each student will receive an individual book.

Bristol City Public School | Awarded \$2,000 | 3/8/2019

"Camp Compassion" will offer three different stations: physical education, art, and music. In PE, students will navigate obstacles while being blindfolded or using a wheelchair. In art, the students will be shown the video, "Mouth and Foot Painting Artists" and will create their own painting by using their mouth, toes, or feet. Lastly, in music, the students will make musical instruments recognizing sensory needs. Following each station, students will reflect on and discuss their experience.

Carrol County High School | Awarded \$2,000 | 3/11 - 3/13/2019

Over three days in the Spring, 2019, students, faculty, and staff will have the opportunity to experience disability simulation stations. Each day will conclude with a panel discussion which will feature people with disabilities from the community discussing their experiences in remaining successfully employed or achieving a goal. Over three days in the Fall, 2019, the event will be expanded by inviting students from other schools and people from the community. The event team plans to take the disability simulation stations to other localities as well.

Dublin Middle School | Awarded \$2,000 | April 2019

During the Inclusion Week celebration in April 2019, students and staff will participate in various activities selected from the Inclusion Project toolkit. Students will also wear specific colors to represent disability awareness throughout the week. On Friday, there will be a school-wide

assembly presented by a local young adult with autism who recently wrote a book about his experience.

Kenmore Middle School | Awarded \$2,000 | April 2019

During Autism Awareness Month and throughout the year, students will run an inclusion campaign with their Best Buddies. Students with their Best Buddies will put up posters throughout the school to bring awareness to students with disabilities. The student body and staff will sign the “R-word” and “Choose to Include” banners. Students will also create a video on the R-word, which will be shown through the school’s Friday morning broadcast. The school will also host a fair to bring awareness to current issues facing students with disabilities. In the classroom, teachers will use selected videos/activities to discuss disability and inclusion. Finally, there will be a school-wide assembly and exhibition basketball game with the Special Olympics Unified team and their best buddies.

Larkspur Middle School | Awarded \$2,000 | Late April 2019

Initially, students will come together at school to engage in icebreaker activities, team building and sharing opportunities throughout the year. The culmination will be an adventure park trip where students will work with their partner to complete a series of supported challenges. The park offers a variety of levels which meets the individual needs of each team. Through this activity, they will rely upon each other to complete each obstacle. It will encourage students to trust each other, communicate and to provide encouragement.

Northumberland Middle School | Awarded \$2,000 | September 6, 2019

After launching the Inclusion Project pilot program in the spring of 2015, Northumberland County Schools has garnered much support from staff, parents, and the community to host another inclusion event. Activities for the event will be selected from the Inclusion Project toolkit. There will also be a slogan contest to select a slogan for tee-shirts. Each middle school student and staff member will receive a t-shirt to serve as a token reminder of the event experiences.

Riverlawn Elementary School | Awarded \$2,000 | April 2019

This event includes a day of class rotations through multiple disability stations and activities. Each station will be facilitated by a special educator who will provide knowledge about each disability and help students during the simulations. Each station will also include a picture of distinguished people through history with disabilities, listing their disability and how they worked towards success. All activities will be open to parents and community members.

Stone Spring / Waterman Elementary Schools | Awarded \$2,000 | October 2019

Each Harrisonburg public city school will have a planning and implementation team which will determine the activities for the inclusion event. Using the guidelines and suggestions provided by youth leaders involved in the Inclusion Project Steering Committee, the plan for activities would include rotations of as many of the following as possible: simulations, a panel of individuals with disabilities, a school-wide mural or project, self-determination/self advocacy, sessions with video examples, sharing of literature, a poster contest, and some type of opening and closing assembly. The goal of the event would also be to share information and include "other" staff who are not in a classroom (office staff, custodians, cafeteria workers, bus drivers).

Wenonah Elementary School | Awarded \$1,366 | October 2019

This Waynesboro public school-wide event is made up of two school-wide assemblies (one to kick off the event and one to conclude the event) and six rotations. The rotations include a disability panel, wheelchair basketball/obstacle course, read alouds, documentaries, learning disability simulations, autism craft and activity, and a school-wide mural. The Charlottesville Cardinals will join the event as guest speakers. The evening event is made up of a community fair where students/ families visit informational sessions from organizations in the community that provide services to students with and without disabilities. The evening event will also include guest speakers musical performance by the students.