

# WHAT THE SCHOOLS ARE SAYING

"Our district, like every district, is filled with individuals who live out the mission of providing the best education possible. Yet, we know that we can't possibly meet the needs of all students simply because our training, experiences, and knowledge often falls short of what is needed. That is where the PATH program has filled such a huge gap in our ability to counsel, nurture, and support our students. The impact that the PATH program has had at the Oostburg School District is not just with individual students. Rather, our administrators, teachers, support staff, and other students have also benefited from the positive changes in the students who participate in PATH. In addition, we are reminded every day when a student goes to see their counselor, that this is only possible because of how it is structured. Students can quickly go from attending class, to working with their counselor, and back to class within an hour - that is not possible in any other situation. Everyone benefits from this program and we are determined to advocate and support this approach in whatever it takes."



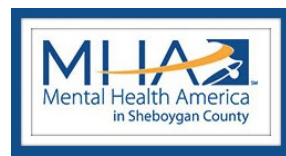
Bryce DeRoos,  
Director of  
Special  
Education &  
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Services -  
Oostburg  
School  
District

## CONTACT DETAILS

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### PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS:

- Cedar Grove - Belgium School District
- Elkhart Lake - Glenbeulah School District
- Howards Grove School District
- Kohler School District
- Oostburg School District
- Plymouth School District
- Random Lake School District
- Sheboygan Area School District
- Sheboygan County Head Start
- Sheboygan Falls School District



# PATH

## PROVIDING ACCESS TO HEALING

### A SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM



# PATH – WHAT IS IT?

- PATH is a United Way of Sheboygan County initiative that helps provide confidential licensed mental health therapy in participating school districts throughout Sheboygan County.
- PATH is a school-based mental health program that helps create increased access to services for youth by removing financial and geographical barriers.

# STUDENTS EXPERIENCE:

- Improved academic performance and social functioning
- Reduced suspensions, detentions, unexcused absences, and symptoms
- Significant progress towards treatment goals

# WHY SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH?

- Eliminates transportation costs
- Services are delivered regardless of ability to pay
- On-site therapy reduces missed appointments & classroom time
- On-site therapy provides greater opportunity for care coordination & case management
- On-site therapy encourages self-referrals and referrals by peers

# WHAT THE STUDENTS ARE SAYING...

"Since I started talking to someone on a weekly basis I have been able to see the changes in my daily life. For example, sometimes when situations get out of hand I tend to say what I'm thinking and always get defensive. But now that I have an outlet for my thoughts and feelings I don't have big burst of emotions like I used to in hard situations. There also has been good changes at home... I am more inclined to do things around the house without needing to be told and arguments are easier to avoid because of having a clear mind."

- High School Student,  
Oostburg School District

# OUTCOMES

PATH of Sheboygan County: Designed to Improve Children's Mental Health

**100+** students have been served by United Way's PATH for Students Program since 2015.

<b>97%</b> Would refer a family member to counseling.	<b>97%</b> Felt better understood.
<b>83%</b> Reported feeling better about life.	<b>54%</b> Showed improved academic performance.
<b>95%</b> Reported progress toward treatment goals.	<b>62%</b> Showed improved school behaviors.
<b>78%</b> Reported improved relationships.	<b>92%</b> Would return to therapy if needed.

**\$50,000**

The average benefit to a community per PATH student based on two cost benefit analyses conducted by the La Follette School of Public Affairs at the University of Wisconsin - Madison for the PATH Program in the Fox Valley. \*\*\*\*