



TOWN OF LEDYARD CONNECTICUT

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Chairman S. Naomi Rodriguez

August 15, 2024

Chairman Anthony Favry
Ledyard Board of Education
1 Lucienne Way
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Dear Chairman Favry:

Recently the Town Council learned that although the State of Connecticut Child and Family Agency provided funding to support the School Based Health Program, which included Mental Health Services, for the upcoming school year (2024/2025) at the High School, Middle School, and Gallup Hill School, that funding was not provided to continue the same level of mental health services at the Gales Ferry School and Juliet W. Long School.

In light of this disparity, and based on the current caseload and wait list for mental health services at the Gales Ferry School and Juliet W. Long School; along with recognizing that mental health services make a difference in children reaching developmental and emotional milestones, as well as help them learn healthy social skills, the Town Council appropriated \$90,888 to the Child and Family Agency to provide Clinicians at the Gales Ferry School and Juliet W. Long School for one year.

The funding to support mental health services at these two elementary schools was being provided from the General Government's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding that was designated for Youth Mental Health Clinicians. Therefore, this funding source will not be available going forward to support these important services.

The Town Council encourages the Board of Education to work with our State Delegation to secure adequate funding to equally support the School Based Health Program at all of Ledyard Public Schools in the coming years.

Mentally healthy children have a positive quality of life, function well at home, in school, and in their communities.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Town Council if we can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,


S. Naomi Rodriguez
Chairman

cc: Mayor Fred Allyn, III; Superintendent Jason Hartling; Board of Education Members, Finance Director, Treasurer, BOE Director Finance

SNR/rm

Child & Family Agency – Mental Health Clinicians