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Horizon Behavioral Health Responds to School-Based Behavioral Health Needs in Bedford, Virginia

Bedford, VA – Horizon Behavioral Health has been awarded a school-based mental health grant in the amount of \$1,108,381 to expand capacity of onsite case management and evidence-based outpatient therapy to Bedford County Public Schools with an array of available wrap around services to meet each student's unique needs.

This funding arrives from the Office of Child and Family Services, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services at a time when there is an increased need for integrated school-based services as nationwide rates of depression and anxiety among children are rising, according to the [CDC](#).

The funds are to be used for one licensed clinical coordinator position and 3 additional school-based staff positions to schedule student appointments, provide crisis management, outpatient therapy at least once per week, group and family therapy as needed, coordination of care with other providers, family contact based on student needs, and the immediate ability to consult with school personnel.

"Many students are unable to locate outpatient services, are unsure how to receive outpatient services, as well as unable to access community services due to transportation or other issues." says Darcy Parker, Principal at Staunton River High School, "Having Horizon in our school on a daily basis to support specific mental health needs of students through intentional therapy sessions has made an observable difference in our student's academic and behavioral successes."

Horizon Behavioral Health currently provides behavioral health services in 6 Bedford County Public Schools.

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Horizon Behavioral Health has been the primary public behavioral healthcare provider in the Region 2000 area for more than 50 years. In the last year, Horizon provided services to approximately 16,000 adults and children, addressing problems with mental health, substance use and intellectual disabilities. Horizon is accredited by CARF International. This represents the highest level of accreditation that can be given to a behavioral health organization.