

# Application to Provide Services to CCSD

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021 authorized the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund to provide substantial relief to students and educators who have been profoundly affected by COVID-19.

From the ESSER Fund, the US Department of Education (US ED) issued \$2,112,051,487 to the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) to support schools in safely reopening and sustaining safe operations of schools while meeting the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of students resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. These funds will enable the SCDE and school districts to support students who have been most severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and are likely to have suffered the most because of longstanding inequities in our communities that have been exacerbated by the pandemic.

CCSD will receive \$163,231,134 through September 2024 for activities under ESSER III. Surveys and stakeholder outreach indicated that the top 6 priorities for activities should address:

1. Needs of low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care
2. Learning loss
3. Summer learning and afterschool programs
4. Mental health services and support for students
5. Educational technology for students
6. Improve indoor air quality in schools

High quality, evidence based activities provided to the school district by established Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) is both an allowable and recommended use of these funds. CCSD intends to contract with CBOs to support students in our school district. Interested CBOs may submit a proposal detailing services they propose to provide to CCSD. Proposals should a) reflect a detailed funding request, b) exclusively support CCSD students and their families, c) address priority #1 above and at least of one the other top 6 priorities, d) identify measures of success and, e) reflect a strategy of enduring impact beyond the term of the ESSER III program.

The deadline for proposal submission is October 11, 2021. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this form, please contact us at [partnerships@charleston.k12.sc.us](mailto:partnerships@charleston.k12.sc.us).

Your Organization

Please indicate which best describes your organization:

- I am an existing partner with CCSD.
- My organization would like to become a CCSD partner.
- Other: .....

Type of Organization

- Nonprofit (501c3 status)
- College/University
- Governmental Agency
- For-Profit Business
- Other: .....

Name of Program (if applicable)

If your organization provides a specific program, write the program name here. Otherwise, write N/A.

Pet Buddies Club .....

Point-of-Contact in Your Organization

Individual whom we can contact for clarification or additional information.

De Daltorio .....

Point-of-Contact Job Title

Chief Education Officer

Point-of-Contact Email Address

ddaltorio@charlestonanimalsociety.org

Point-of-Contact Telephone Number

843-329-1548

Program Information

Please describe how you offer the program/service to students.

Vision: State your intended outcome of the partnership for the future

Our vision is to continue our socio-emotional/behavioral partnership with CCSD and to support both teachers and students in the promotion of social emotional learning, civic engagement, and mental wellness.

Mission: Describe what you'll do and who you do it for under this partnership

For the past two decades, the mission of Charleston Animal Society's Pet Buddies Club has remained the same: to bring compassion programming into the classroom with the goal of promoting a caring and empathetic environment. Our cumulative lessons, with the unique ability to incorporate animal visitors, allow for the development of kindness, empathy, respect, activism, diversity, inclusion, and responsibility. With our highly in-demand school programming, our classroom partnerships range from year to year, with an effort to have the largest impact possible focusing primarily on Title 1 schools.

**Impact:** Briefly describe the intended impact your plans for this partnership in meeting the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of students who have been most severely impacted by the pandemic in the Charleston County School District.

Research shows the positive impact SEL has on academic performance. This is why CCSD includes SEL into their classroom curriculum. It is also why additional SEL programming is needed now more than ever, due to the learning gap created by the pandemic. According to CASEL, "When community organizations and schools come together, they create shared goals and language that help maximize high-quality and authentic opportunities for students to engage in SEL." The compassion initiative at Charleston Animal Society seeks to do just this for CCSD.

Our programming is unique in its approach to:

Create a safe space with the aid of animals

Disguise SEL through fun activities

Benefit both teachers and students

Encourage healthy interactions that are transferable to relationships beyond our lessons

Pet Buddies allows our educators to visit the same classrooms each month; building a deeper relationship and establishing rapport with students. The culmination of multiple lessons allows for extended learning opportunities, enhanced knowledge gained, and much-needed respite for classroom teachers navigating pandemic-related stressors.

The curriculum is individually created to meet students where they are (mentally, behaviorally, and socially) through a variety of methods including videos, stories, hands-on exercises, role-playing, and games. Lessons also include extension activities that are designed to complement the Second Step curriculum, providing teachers support in discussing themes of kindness and compassion.

Program effectiveness has been measured through pre and post tests, student journals, and teacher surveys. Results have shown an increase in knowledge, as well positive reviews from teachers highlighting the mental benefits to their students. See a few examples below.

"This lesson fits in perfectly with our Second Step (social-emotional learning) program. We talk about all the same themes of kindness, empathy for others, etc. It's great for the students to see connections outside of school for these topics, so it helps students see connections outside of school for these topics, so it helps students see what we talk about inside the classroom reaches far beyond the walls of schools. Also I love the human impact component of this lesson and the environmental clean up clip. It fits perfectly with one of our 5th grade science standards: How do humans positively and negatively impact the earth?" - Erin Cymrot, 5th grade teacher, Stiles Point Elementary

"Before the program started, I didn't quite see the enormous advantage to the program substituting time away from academics. Now it's an integral part of our learning, especially coupled with our Second Steps lessons that are supplemental to our days of social-emotional focus. CAS obviously Loves (with a capital L) animals and people of all ages and backgrounds. Thank you so much for giving us new experiences and sharing yours with us!" - Tiffany Agee, 3rd grade teacher, Angel Oak Elementary

"This program has been a wonderful learning experience for students at Memminger Elementary. The curriculum supports our school-wide efforts in social/emotional learning. The Pet Buddies program was able to give our students hands-on opportunities to not only learn about animal care, but put into action with

multiple visits from various animals from the Charleston Animal Society. As an educator we don't always get to experience the ripple effect of our teachings, but watching and listening to students month after month interact with animals and tell stories of taking their knowledge back to their families was invaluable.”  
- Heather Anderson, M. Ed., Guidance Counselor, Memminger Elementary

“Before the program started, I thought the kids were just going to learn about pets and how to take care of pets, and it’s really so much more than that. I feel like that part is almost a small part of it because the overarching theme is compassion. And all of the lessons and activities tie back to not just how people should treat animals but how people should treat people.” - Joanna Branham, 3rd grade teacher, St. James-Santee Elementary

### Program Delivery Format

Check all that apply.

- 1-on-1
- Small Group
- Whole Class
- Workshop/Assembly
- Field Experience
- Workplace Student Internship/Apprenticeship
- After-school Programming
- Other: .....

### Program Frequency

How often do you meet with students?

- 1-2 times during the school year
- 1-2 times each semester
- 1-2 times each quarter
- Monthly
- Bi-weekly (every two weeks)
- Weekly
- Daily (or multiple times every week)
- Other: .....

### Program Grade(s)

Check all that apply.

- All Grades
- Pre-K
- Kindergarten
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12

### Program Target Students

Check all that apply.

- All Students
- Males
- Females
- Low-Income or Title I Schools
- Students with Disabilities
- Non-native English Speakers
- High School Students (Grades 9-12)
- Middle School Students (Grades 6-8)
- Elementary School Students (Grades K-5)
- Early Childhood Students (preK)
- Other: .....

## Program Service Type

Select the primary area of impact for your service/program.

- Academic Enrichment or Tutoring (Reading/English, Math, Science, Social Studies)
- Arts & Cultural Enrichment
- Attendance and Truancy
- College & Career Readiness
- Dropout Prevention
- Financial Literacy
- Health/Nutrition/Fitness
- Leadership
- Mental and Behavioral Health
- Mentoring
- STEM
- Other: .....

## CCSD Schools Served

Please select the CCSD schools where you would like to provide your service/program this school year.

- A.C. Corcoran Elementary
- Academic Magnet High
- Angel Oak Elementary
- Ashley River Creative Arts Elementary
- Baptist Hill Middle-High
- Belle Hall Elementary
- Buist Academy
- Burke High
- C.E. Williams Middle School for Creative and Scientific Arts
- Camp Road Middle
- Carolina Park Elementary
- Charles Pinckney Elementary
- Charleston County School of the Arts
- Charleston Progressive Academy
- Chicora Elementary
- Daniel Jenkins Academy
- Deer Park Middle
- Drayton Hall Elementary
- E.B. Ellington Elementary
- Early College High School
- Edith L. Frierson Elementary
- Edmund A. Burns Elementary
- Harbor View Elementary
- Haut Gap Middle
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- Hunley Park Elementary
- James B. Edwards Elementary
- James Island Elementary
- James Simons Montessori
- Jane Edwards Elementary
- Jennie Moore Elementary
- Jerry Zucker Middle School of Science
- Julian Mitchell Elementary
- Ladson Elementary
- Laing Middle
- Lambs Elementary
- Laurel Hill Primary
- Liberty Hill Academy
- Lucy Beckham High
- Malcolm C. Hursey Montessori
- Mamie P. Whitesides Elementary
- Mary Ford Early Learning and Family Center
- Matilda Dunston Elementary
- Meeting Street Elementary at Brentwood
- Meeting Street Elementary at Burns
- Memminger Elementary
- Midland Park Primary
- Military Magnet Academy
- Minnie Hughes Elementary
- Montessori Community School
- Morningside Middle
- Moultrie Middle
-

- Mt. Pleasant Academy
- Mt. Zion Elementary
- Murray LaSaine Montessori
- North Charleston Creative Arts Elementary
- North Charleston Elementary
- North Charleston High
- Northwoods Middle
- Oakland Elementary
- Pepperhill Elementary
- Pinehurst Elementary
- R.B. Stall High
- Sanders-Clyde Elementary
- Septima P. Clark Corporate Academy
- Simmons-Pinckney Middle
- Springfield Elementary
- St. Andrew's School of Math and Science
- St. James-Santee Elementary-Middle
- St. John's High
- Stiles Point Elementary
- Stono Park Elementary
- Sullivan's Island Elementary
- Thomas C. Cario Middle
- Turning Point Academy
- W.B. Goodwin Elementary
- Wando High
- West Ashley High
- Cooper River CAS
-

- East Cooper CAS
- West Ashley CAS
- West Ashley Head Start
- Virtual Academy
- Allegro Charter School for Music
- Carolina Voyager Charter School
- Charleston Charter for Math and Science
- Charleston Development Academy
- East Cooper Montessori Charter School
- Greg Mathis Charter High School
- James Island Charter High School
- Orange Grove Elementary Charter School
- Pattison's Academy for Comprehensive Education

### Students Served

Estimated number of students that this program would like to serve this school year. If none, type "0."

We typically serve nearly 6,000 students per year (with 356 annual classroom visits); however this year's numbers will be greatly determined by funding and pandemic-related factors.

### Program History

How many years has your program been in CCSD schools?

Please only list a number. For example, 5. If less than 1 year or never before, enter 0.

19

### Who is your main point-of-contact at CCSD?

Please indicate the name and department/school of your existing contact.

Different contacts for each individual school. Janet Taylor, St. James-Santee Elementary Sarah Macdonald, Chicora Elementary Emily Eiserhardt, Stiles Point Elementary Erin Cymrot, E.B. Ellington Stephanie Strange, Matilda Dunston Elementary

### Program Need

#### What specific student need(s) does this program/service address?

The Pet Buddies' cumulative SEL lessons are uniquely designed to address a multitude of student needs, such as: Building self esteem and self confidence Developing compassion and empathy Increasing cognitive development Improving relationship-building and social skills Minimizing stress and anxiety

#### How was the need(s) identified?

By the requests of both teachers and guidance counselors, as well as our nearly two decades of partnerships within CCSD. The emergence of research on the benefits of SEL has only increased the number of requests we get for our programming, highlighting how strong the need truly is.

### Program Impact

## Student Impact

What is the impact of your program based on data?

- An independent evaluation (research study) has found our program to have a STRONG impact
- Our organization's data has found our program to have a STRONG impact
- Our organization's data has found our program to have a MODERATE impact
- Our organization does not have data to determine impact
- Other:  
Our organization's data through a hired research consultant has found our program to have a STRONG impact

How will you measure the success of your proposal if implemented?

The programming in each school will be dependent upon the needs of the students. Mixed methods such as teacher surveys, student journals, pre and post tests, extension activities, and qualitative observations will be used to measure the success of the Pet Buddies program in each classroom.

If you would like to share recent outcomes data, please upload a very brief executive summary.

 Program outcom...

## Program Funding

### Program Budget

What is the anticipated cost (your anticipated budget) to operate your program? If there is no cost, please indicate \$0.

\$69,034 per year

### Funding Source(s)

What are the anticipated funding source(s) for your program/service? Check all that apply.

- No Funding
- Grants
- Donations
- Fee-for-Service (families/participants pay)
- Invoicing a Third-Party (e.g., Medicaid)
- Invoicing CCSD
- Other:

Since our grant funding for this program has expired and the pandemic has created a funding shortage, we will be required to charge classrooms moving forward if we do not receive outside funding from sources such as ESSER.

### Funding Request(s)

If you plan to invoice CCSD, how much funding do you anticipate needing?

\$53,400 per year

What is your organization's staffing for the program/service?

- Individuals will volunteer to provide services
- Individuals will be paid to provide services
- Both volunteer and paid
- Other: .....

What CCSD resources (e.g., transportation, facility use, point-of-contact at school) would it take to implement the program?

Please be as specific as possible.

We do not need additional resources outside of funding. We provide our own transportation, classroom materials, extension activities, and educators. We have also already established relationships with many CCSD staff and do not need assistance with scheduling programs.

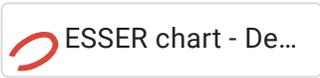
### Funding Plan

Describe your funding needs and the justifications for these resources including supervision, materials, transportation, etc.

Please provide your proposed budget using the format in the sample shown here.

CCSD ARP ESSER III PROGRAM PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL (SAMPLE)  
Organization XYZ

Budget Item/Activity	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year X	Total
Staff Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Overhead costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Transportation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Facilities	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operations	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Marketing and Communications	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Items...	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>



Will your organization be able to comply with CCSD policies and procedures regarding certificate of insurance (COI), legal documents, and clearances?

Yes ▼

### Additional Comments

Is there anything else that you'd like to share?

For 19 years, we have provided programming to CCSD free of charge. We have run at a deficit each year because we recognize the importance of this program. We believe that compassion programming should be an essential part of every child's academic journey. Each classroom lesson costs us approximately \$194 to facilitate.

Unfortunately, with a previous grant ending and the financial strain placed on our non-profit organization due to the pandemic, we are unable to incur the typical deficit caused by this programming. We are able to cover some of the cost (\$15,634), however we are requesting \$53,400 each year (or \$150 per classroom visit) to be able to continue to provide this necessary service.

We have been researching unique opportunities for funding in order to continue to provide these programs. As such, this funding opportunity comes at a very opportune time, and we are hopeful that you will consider our application. We are more than happy to further discuss any of our responses. Feel free to contact our Chief Education Officer, De Daltorio, with any questions at (843) 329-1548 or [ddaltorio@charlestonanimalsociety](mailto:ddaltorio@charlestonanimalsociety).

Thank you for completing the CCSD ESSER III Program Partner Application. Your responses will be reviewed and you will be contacted if the team has questions or would like more information.

If you have any questions, please email [partnerships@charleston.k12.sc.us](mailto:partnerships@charleston.k12.sc.us) or call (843) 937-6303. Thank you!

This form was created inside of Charleston County School District.

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