



# Williamston Sunrise Rotary



## Grant Application

<b>Name of Applicant Organization:</b> Webberville Schools	
<b>Briefly describe your organization's mission or purpose:</b> Webberville Schools is committed to supporting the academic and social well-being of all Preschool through 12 <sup>th</sup> grade students. All staff work to create a safe, positive environment in both of their school buildings allowing all students to feel unique and honored for who they are as individuals. All preschool through 12 <sup>th</sup> grade students and staff are part of our small school family.	
<b>Contact Name:</b> Jeannette Kiernan	<b>Phone Number:</b> 734-904-8470
<b>Grant Contact :</b> Andy Smith	<b>Email Address:</b> jkiernan@webbervilleschools.org
<b>Grant Amount Requested:</b> \$1,000 to 10,000	<b>Mailing Address</b> <b>202 North Main Street</b> <b>Webberville, MI 48892</b>
<b>Projected Start Date :</b> August 2022	
<b>Projected Completion Date:</b> May 2023	
<b>Is applicant a 501C3 Organization?</b> X Yes ____ No	
<b>If yes, Federal Tax ID#:</b> 38-6001613	
<b>Does the project affect any of these Rotary Causes (see guideline definitions)?</b>  ____ Supporting Environment; X Promoting Equity, Inclusion and Diversity;  X Promoting Peace; ____ Fighting Disease; ____ Saving Mothers and Children;  X Supporting Education; ____ Providing Clean Water, Sanitation & Hygiene  ____ Supporting Local Economies; ____ Fighting Hunger; ____ Promoting Arts and Humanities  <b>Briefly describe how the project supports one or more of the above:</b> This project consists of bringing a school therapy dog to the district. Having a school therapy dog will allow all students access to social, cognitive, and health benefits. School therapy dogs help improve students reading and memory skills and increase their problem-solving skills. In	

addition, school therapy dogs increase positive relationships among students and staff, which supports a more inclusive environment for students. School therapy dogs help all students feel connected and part of the school community and reduce stress and anxiety while increasing trust and empathy among all. Finally, school therapy dogs have the potential to reduce stress hormones and decrease depression among students and staff. A school therapy dog helps aid in the overall feeling of peace and inclusion within the district, which supports the positive advancement of students' education.

How many people will this project serve? \_\_\_\_\_ Annually? or 600 Generally?

**Describe the community need(s) or problem(s) this project will address:**

Webberville Schools has seen a significant increase in the number of students who have experienced trauma over the past 2 years. The percentage of students of students who are experiencing anxiety and/or depression has doubled since the pandemic began. Because of this, it is imperative that Webberville Schools support the social emotional health of all students. One way that the school plans to do this is to add a school therapy dog to the district. Webberville Schools consists of two schools on the same campus making this project serviceable to both buildings and all grade levels: preschool through twelfth grade. Adding a school therapy dog to the climate and culture of the district sends a message to all students that their social and mental well-being is important. It allows for many social, cognitive, and health benefits and unites all preschool through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students and staff in "caring" for something that belongs to their school community. Adding a school therapy dog would serve to increase the emotional investment and feelings of peace and inclusion of all students, staff, and community stakeholders.

**Describe the projected benchmarks of success (steps) of this project:**

1. Students, staff, and community stakeholders become aware of the project and support the project. **Success outcome:** Fundraising for the project is complete.
2. Students, staff, and community stakeholders become involved in the raising and training of the School Therapy Dog. **Success Outcome:** Dog can begin coming to school each day.
3. Therapy Dog attends school each day and students in both buildings can interact freely at a variety of times, especially when they need social emotional support. **Success Outcome:** Decrease in percentage of students at risk for suicide and a decrease in percentage of students at risk social-emotionally.

**Provide a timeline of the proposed project:**

August 2022: A Bernedoodle puppy will be selected from a litter at Mindfulness Therapy Dogs. The puppy will be selected based on a series of tests which allows for the best match to be found to support school therapy work.

October 2022-May 2023: A host family will work with Mindfulness Therapy Dogs who will provide training and guidance for getting the pup ready to enter the schools daily.

May 2023: The pup will arrive and begin working at the school each day.

**Explain how Rotary will be recognized for this support:**

The Rotary Club will be listed as a sponsor of the dog. A Rotary Club badge will be created and then permanently attached to the dog's therapy vest.

**Will there be matching funds from other sources? Explain.**

Other businesses will contribute funding and be recognized as sponsors, as well.

**Please submit application in electronic format:**

To the Attention of: WSR President Elect, [williamstonsunriserotary@gmail.com](mailto:williamstonsunriserotary@gmail.com)

**Grant Application Checklist:**

Prior to submitting, the Grant Contact, please review the following checklist:

- Is the Application LEGIBLE?
- Does the Application detail how the Project is aligned to one or more of the Rotary Causes.
- Does the Application provide a detailed Project description & timeline?
- Does the Application provide achievable BENCHMARKS?
- Is the Application SIGNED by Grant Contact?