

SCHOOL ALLOCATION MEMORANDUM NO. 59, FY 2017

DATE: August 17, 2016

TO: Community Superintendents
High School Superintendents
Field Support Center Teams
School Principals

FROM: Raymond J. Orlando, Chief Financial Officer

SUBJECT: Bridging the Gap School Social Workers

This memorandum allocates tax levy funding to hire thirty-three school social workers under the *Bridging the Gap Initiative* to support Students in Temporary Housing (STH). The goal of the funding is to ensure that schools with the largest number of homeless students residing in shelters have at least one school social worker on staff. Services for STH are administered through the Office of Safety and Youth Development (OSYD), and provided at both schools and shelters. This budget allocation fully covers these positions for FY 2017 only. After FY 2017, funding is subject to availability.

In order to meet the school-specific needs of schools that have a large STH population residing in shelters, the Mayor's Office has allocated funding in FY 2017 specifically to support the social and emotional needs of STH and their parents/guardians. Bridging the Gap social workers should play a different role than other school-based social workers or guidance counselors.

The specific responsibilities of Bridging the Gap staff should include:

- Provide individual, group, and family counseling with a majority of their caseload (min. two-thirds of caseload) comprised of students in shelter;
- Deliver counseling with an emphasis on trauma-focused practice;
- Conduct parent workshops;
- Make needed referrals for professional services;
- Provide support to other staff members and teachers to educate them on the issues facing students in shelter and the social-emotional needs of this population;
- Communicate and coordinate with other adults who may be supporting a family in shelter; and
- Coordinate with the school-based STH liaison to ensure the basic needs of students in shelter are met; this individual could serve as the school-based STH liaison, a position that is designated in the Consolidated Youth Plan.

A more detailed set of expectations for this role will be distributed to schools to inform the hiring and supervision of these individuals.

The schools selected to receive social workers are all either elementary or K-8 schools that did not have a school social worker during SY 2014-2015. These schools either had at least 50 students residing in shelter or 25-50 students residing in shelter in SY 2014-2015 with a guidance counselor-to-student ratio exceeding 500:1.

One of the 33 Bridging the Gap social workers will be assigned centrally to guide the 32 school-based social workers through the following functions:

- Coordinate services to students including with CBO's, city agencies, NYCDOE department teams, and OSYD STH Content Experts;
- Ensure that students who transition from one shelter to another, or into permanent housing are provided with support; and
- Provide professional development to the social workers assigned to this initiative.

Bridging the Gap social workers will report directly to the School Principal with oversight from the Office of Safety and Youth Development (OSYD) borough STH liaisons (Content Experts). STH social workers are expected to participate in OSYD scheduled professional development including monthly meetings and other mandated trainings. The social workers work in the school but may also provide assistance at the zoned shelters in providing services mandated under the federal McKinney-Vento Act.

These positions are scheduled on the assigned school's table of organization. Timekeeping records are maintained at the assigned school. While principals have discretion in hiring for this position, recommended candidate qualifications and a list of pre-screened candidates, where applicable, will be provided to support and expedite the process.

Funds will be allocated in the **TL Bridging the Gap** allocation category.

Location	Allocation
Schools	\$2,919,968
Central (60G111)	\$114,033
Total	\$3,034,001

[Click here to download a copy of the School Allocation Memorandum.](#)

Attachment:

Table 1 – School Allocation Summary ([click here for a downloadable Excel file](#))

RJO:df

C: Lois Herrera

Katherine Marshall-Polite

Jaye Murray

Robert J. Weiner

Emmy Liss

School Allocation Memorandum No. 59, FY 2017
Bridging the Gap School Social Workers
Table 1: Schools Allocation Summary

FSC	FSC Team	Location	Location Name	Total
94MFSC	94MR05	03M076	P.S. 076 A. PHILIP RANDOLPH	91,249
94MFSC	94MR05	05M129	P.S. 129 JOHN H. FINLEY	91,249
94MFSC	94MR06	05M197	P.S. 197 JOHN B. RUSSWURM	91,249
94XFSC	94XR07	08X138	P.S. 138 SAMUEL RANDALL	85,126
94XFSC	94XR08	09X035	P.S. 035 FRANZ SIEGEL	91,249
94XFSC	94XR08	09X114	P.S. X114 - Luis Llorens Torres Schools	91,249
94XFSC	94XR08	09X199	P.S. 199X - The Shakespeare School	91,249
94XFSC	94XR10	09X204	P.S. 204 MORRIS HEIGHTS	91,249
94XFSC	94XR10	09X274	The New American Academy at Roberto Clemente State Park	91,249
94XFSC	94XR08	09X294	The Walton Avenue School	91,249
94XFSC	94XR03	10X023	P.S. 023 THE NEW CHILDREN'S SCHOOL	91,249
94XFSC	94XR03	10X205	P.S. 205 FIORELLO LAGUARDIA	91,249
94XFSC	94XR04	10X291	P.S. 291	91,249
94XFSC	94XR03	10X340	P.S. 340	91,249
94XFSC	94XR09	11X041	P.S. 041 GUN HILL ROAD	91,249
94XFSC	94XR05	12X044	P.S. 044 DAVID C. FARRAGUT	91,249
94XFSC	94XR05	12X196	P.S. 196	91,249
94KFSN	94KR03	13K256	P.S. 256 BENJAMIN BANNEKER	91,249
94KFSN	94KR06	16K627	BRIGHTER CHOICE COMMUNITY SCHOOL	91,249
94KFSS	94KU02	17K006	Norma Adams Clemons Academy	91,249
94KFSS	94KU02	17K394	M.S. K394	91,249
94KFSS	94KU02	17K397	P.S. 397 FOSTER-LAURIE	91,249
94KFSS	94KU02	17K399	P.S. 399 STANLEY EUGENE CLARK	91,249
94KFSN	94KR06	19K013	P.S. 013 ROBERTO CLEMENTE	91,249
94KFSN	94KR06	19K149	P.S. 149 DANNY KAYE	91,249
94KFSN	94KR07	19K345	P.S. 345 Patrolman Robert Bolden	91,249
94KFSS	94KU06	22K052	P.S. 052 SHEEPSHEAD BAY	91,249
94KFSN	94KR07	23K155	P.S./ I.S. 155 Nicholas Herkimer	91,249
94QFSN	94QR04	24Q102	P.S. 102 BAYVIEW	91,249
94QFSN	94QR05	30Q084	P.S. 084 STEINWAY	91,249
94RFSC	94RR02	31R016	P.S. 016 JOHN J. DRISCOLL	91,249
94KFSN	94KR03	32K299	P.S. 299 THOMAS WARREN FIELD	91,249
Total				2,913,845