

# Weekly Dem Radio Address: Sen. Bewley says Gov. Evers' Get Kids Ahead Initiative addresses our children's mental health

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Over the past two years, we've seen just how important it is to take care of both our physical and mental health. This is especially true when it comes to our children.

The pandemic has greatly exacerbated the need for additional and improved student mental health services. Governor Evers recognizes how crucial mental health is to children's success in school. This week he announced that nearly every school district across the state will be awarded funds through his Get Kids Ahead Initiative. This initiative will provide \$15 million in funding to support mental health services.

We should be doing more. Unfortunately, the Republicans cut over \$34 million in school mental health aid from Governor Evers' 2021-2023 budget proposal. And they continue to try and divide us by using children and schools as pawns in their quest for political gain.

We all can acknowledge that the pandemic and health precautions enacted at the local level were difficult for our children. And now, thanks to Governor Evers' Get Kids Ahead Initiative, schools in every part of the state will have additional resources to ensure our children's mental health needs are being taken care of.