The goal of the mental health equity summit is to bring the New Jersey community together with Rutgers faculty and clinicians to develop partnerships that will improve youth mental health equity and outcomes. To facilitate the development and implementation of innovative new ideas, CYSEW is offering a total of $12,000 in grant funding to groups who meet at the summit and want to establish a partnership. CYSEW will work with groups who receive funding to write larger grant proposals to sustain their efforts.

Eligibility Criteria:
• Must include at least one faculty or clinician from Rutgers.
• Must include at least two different community organizations. The term “community organization” is meant to be inclusive of schools, mental health agencies, hospitals, advocacy groups, youth development programs, and the state-wide organizations attending the summit.

What should the proposal focus on?
• At the summit, we will identify barriers and potential solutions associated with youth mental health prevention and treatment in New Jersey. The proposal should focus on planning for, and/or implementing, an approach or potential solution to overcoming the barriers identified.
• For example, a community mental health organization may partner with a school to develop a contract for new services, including a Rutgers faculty member to evaluate those services. Another example is a state-wide organization partnering with a community agency and Rutgers faculty to develop a social media campaign designed to overcome stigma and encourage help seeking.

What should the proposal include?
• The proposal should be no longer than two single space pages. This is inclusive of: a) a list of the organizations/people involved, b) the problem the proposal seeks to address, c) a rationale supporting the idea you want to implement d) a tentative timeline, and e) budget.
• The proposal must list specific tasks/goals to be accomplished and provide a timeline showing how they will be completed within 1 year following receipt of funding. Provide a rough budget, showing how the money will be spent. Each application can request up to $3,500.

How can the funds be used?
• Use of this grant funding is flexible. As examples, funds could be used to pay participants to complete focus groups, for the cost of measures, for videos to be filmed, for space and food for a series of meetings to work out a contract, or to support a formal evaluation of services.

How and when are proposals submitted?
• Proposals are due on June 30th, 2023, but may be submitted earlier. Questions and the proposal can be emailed to the CYSEW Director at – jl3079@gsapp.rutgers.edu

When will I learn about funding decisions?
• Applicants will be notified of the funding decision by August 1, 2023. The grant period will be from September 2023 – September 2024. The application will be evaluated by a panel of students, community members, and faculty attending the summit who are not submitting proposals.