WACO EDUCATION	Application for (Prants							
Assigned Grant P	roposal #: 25							
Project Title:	Project Title: Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Training							
Grade Level(s):	PreK - 12 # of Students DIRECTLY involved: ALL							
Subject Area(s):	Professional Development							
Amount Requeste	d: \$ 3023.46 (3 murses) or \$2595 (2 murses)							

**Grant Focus Area(s):** In order to be considered, Waco Education Foundation Innovation Grant proposals must fall under one or more of the E4 focus areas: early childhood development, enhanced programming for advanced students, extended education for staff, and emphasis on student performance. NOTE: In addition to meeting one of the E4 focus areas above, grant readers are especially interested in creative and innovative grant requests that target fine arts, STEM, literacy, or enrichment.

(check all that apply)

Early Childhood Development
Enhanced Programming for Advanced Students
Fine Arts
Literacy

Extended Education for Staff Emphasis on Student Performance STEM Enrichment

# Grant Proposal: Health Services - Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Training - 3 Nurses - Lodging/Gas/Materials

## Project Title: Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Training

Submitted to: Waco ISD - Education Foundation Submission Date: March 3, 2025 Funding Request Amount: \$3023.46

## **Project Overview:**

In the state of Texas, there is an acute shortage of trained SANE nurses, particularly those specialized in pediatric care. This shortage significantly impacts the ability to provide timely and appropriate care for children who may be victims of sexual assault. The SANE Training, offered at no cost by Children's Health in Dallas, presents a critical opportunity for our nurses to gain the expertise necessary to address this growing need.

The training requires 40 hours of education, including classroom instruction, courtroom observation, and hands-on clinical skills. Upon completion, the nurses will return to Waco ISD equipped with the knowledge and competence to better support and care for students affected by sexual assault. Additionally, they will share their insights with colleagues in the Health Services Department, ensuring that our entire team is better prepared to respond to these sensitive and challenging cases.

#### Rationale:

This project aims to expand the education of nurses, enabling them to serve as valuable resources within the Waco community. By certifying nurses as SANEs, we can provide critical support to Waco ISD students who have experienced sexual abuse. Having a healthcare professional trained in trauma care within the district would be an invaluable asset, offering comprehensive assistance to students in their journey toward healing, both physically and mentally. This support is essential in fostering the overall well-being of Waco ISD students and equipping them with the resources necessary for a successful future.

Currently, there is a shortage of SANE-certified nurses in central Texas. The availability of a locally-based SANE nurse could be life-changing for a child in such a vulnerable state. A nurse from our community would offer the advantage of understanding the district's unique needs and provide continuity of care, ensuring that both the student and their family have access to consistent mental and physical support.

It is important to note that sexual assault exams will not be conducted at any Waco ISD facility. If a Waco ISD nurse performs a SANE exam at a local hospital, they will be acting as an employee of the hospital or the Advocacy Center at the time of the exam.

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:**

The registered nurses (RNs) selected for this training will attend the Pediatric SANE Training program at no cost for the course itself. However, financial assistance is required to cover lodging, travel, and incidental expenses due to the significant distance between Waco and Dallas.

This training will equip our nurses with the following skills and knowledge:

- Effective Assessment and Care: Nurses will learn to assess and provide care for pediatric patients who have been sexually assaulted, ensuring trauma-informed and compassionate care.
- Legal Knowledge: Nurses will gain an understanding of the legal aspects surrounding pediatric sexual assault cases, including the importance of courtroom observation.
- Collaboration with Professionals: Nurses will be trained to collaborate with law enforcement and other professionals involved in sexual assault cases to ensure a coordinated, trauma-informed response.
- Knowledge Transfer: Upon returning to Waco ISD, trained nurses will share their expertise with colleagues, preparing other health professionals within the district to handle these sensitive situations with compassion and expertise.

The successful completion of this training will significantly enhance the capacity of our Health Services Department to provide critical, specialized care to students who may have experienced sexual assault. The knowledge gained will not only improve the care of individual students but will also contribute to a district-wide increase in preparedness, creating a safer and more supportive environment for all Waco ISD students. By training multiple nurses, the program's impact will extend beyond the initial group of attendees, as newly trained nurses will share their skills and knowledge, fostering improved care and understanding across the district.

#### Specific Goals and Outcomes:

- 1. Increase the Number of Trained SANE Nurses in Pediatric Care
  - Goal: To train 2-3 nurses from Waco ISD to become certified Pediatric SANE nurses by attending the 40-hour training program offered at Children's Health in Dallas.
  - Outcome: The number of qualified nurses in the district will increase, improving the ability to provide appropriate care for students affected by sexual assault.
- 2. Improve Quality of Care for Child Victims of Sexual Assault
  - Goal: To ensure that trained nurses are available within Waco ISD to provide prompt and professional care to children who are victims of sexual assault.
  - Outcome: With more trained professionals, children will receive better quality, trauma-informed care, ensuring a comprehensive response to their needs.
- 3. Enhance the Capacity of the Health Services Department to Support Affected Students
  - Goal: To enable nurses who have undergone SANE training to share their knowledge and insights with the broader Health Services Department staff.
    - Outcome: Health Services staff will be better equipped to identify, assess, and respond to students affected by sexual assault in a compassionate, informed, and consistent manner.
- 4. Promote Collaboration with Local Law Enforcement and Advocacy Groups
  - Goal: To strengthen the network between trained SANE nurses, local law enforcement, and advocacy groups to coordinate responses to cases of child sexual assault.
  - Outcome: A collaborative approach will improve the overall system of care, ensuring that students are supported through all stages of the legal and healthcare processes.
- 5. Raise Awareness and Education on Pediatric Sexual Assault

- Goal: To provide ongoing education and awareness within Waco ISD regarding the impact of sexual assault on children and the importance of having trained medical professionals in place.
- Outcome: Increased awareness within the district will foster a culture of support and understanding for students who have experienced trauma.
- 6. Create a Sustainable Model for Ongoing Nurse Training
  - Goal: To establish a sustainable model for ongoing recruitment and training of SANE nurses in Waco ISD and surrounding regions.
  - Outcome: Future cohorts of nurses will continue to be trained, ensuring long-term capacity to address the shortage of trained pediatric SANE nurses.
- 7. Enhance the Professional Development of Nurses in Waco ISD
  - Goal: To invest in the professional development of Waco ISD nurses by providing them with specialized knowledge that strengthens their skills in trauma-informed care.
  - Outcome: Nurses will be more confident and skilled in handling sensitive cases, leading to better outcomes for students and increased job satisfaction among staff.

## PLAN OF OPERATION:

SANE certification for three district nurses would include a 5 night stay in the Dallas area to complete the 40 educational hours and clinical training required. The program through Dallas Children's Hospital includes classroom hours, courtroom observation, and clinical training. This summer, the course is being offered beginning at 8:00 am on 6/9/25 through the evening of 6/13/25. Once certifications are complete, a goal would be to partner with advocacy centers, local hospitals and law enforcement to be able to assist in cases involving WISD students from the first step of interviewing all the way through court testimony, if necessary. Our Waco ISD family would benefit from having trained SANE nurses to provide trauma informed care to sexual assault survivors, increase availability for timely forensic examinations within our community, and improve legal outcomes through comprehensive evidence collection and expert testimony. This would provide a long term impact on survivor healing and community trust.

#### **COMMUNICATION & DISSEMINATION:**

To ensure that all district employees are informed about the training of nurses as SANEs (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners), it is essential to foster communication across departments. SANE nurses can achieve this by delivering presentations at district meetings, conducting educational sessions during professional development days throughout the school year, collaborating with district mental health professionals to create and support crisis response plans, and participating in multidisciplinary team meetings as appropriate.

To engage the Waco Education Foundation in this project, SANE nurses could:

- Invite to Key Events: For significant milestones, such as the completion of the training program, workshops, or community outreach activities, representatives from the Waco Education Foundation could be invited to attend and speak at these events.
- **Co-Author Joint Press Releases**: Collaborating with the Waco Education Foundation to co-author and distribute press releases, especially when notable achievements occur, such as

the successful completion of training or the positive impact of the project on the community. This will highlight their contribution and increase visibility of the partnership.

• **Public Recognition**: During events, presentations, and workshops, the role of the Waco Education Foundation in making this project possible can be publicly acknowledged, reinforcing their invaluable support.

#### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

The RNs selected for this training will attend the Pediatric SANE Training program at no cost for the course itself. However, financial assistance is required to cover the lodging, travel, and incidental expenses due to the significant distance between Waco and Dallas.

This training will provide our nurses with the ability to:

- Effectively assess and care for pediatric patients who have been sexually assaulted.
- Understand the legal aspects surrounding pediatric sexual assault cases, including the courtroom observation.
- Collaborate with law enforcement and other professionals involved in these cases to ensure a coordinated and trauma-informed response.
- Return to Waco ISD with the knowledge to train and prepare other health professionals within the district to handle these sensitive situations with compassion and expertise.

The successful completion of this training will significantly enhance the capacity of our Health Services Department to provide critical, specialized care to students who may have experienced sexual assault. The knowledge gained will not only improve the care of individual students but will also contribute to a district-wide increase in preparedness, making Waco ISD a safer and more supportive environment for all students.

Furthermore, by training multiple nurses, the program's impact will be sustained beyond the initial group of attendees, as the newly trained nurses will share their skills and knowledge with the rest of the department, creating a ripple effect of improved care and understanding across the district.

#### **EVALUATION:**

To assess the effectiveness of SANE-certified nurses within the school system, gathering feedback from impacted students and their families will be essential. Given the sensitive nature of this initiative, all evaluations will be conducted with optional anonymity to ensure privacy and confidentiality. Additionally, input from law enforcement and the analysis of case outcomes will provide valuable insights into the overall success of the program.

#### **KEY PERSONNEL:**

In order to be eligible for SANE certification, the Registered Nurse must have at least 2 years of experience under their license, complete a specialized SANE training course that includes 40 hours of classroom instruction and clinical preceptorship, and then pass a certification exam. This proposal is for 3 district RNs to receive training and certification.

Funding Needs:

The requested funding will cover the following expenses for the three school nurses attending the Pediatric Sexual Assault Training:

- 1. Lodging:
  - Estimated costs for 2-3 nurses (5 nights) at a hotel near the training venue: \$225/night 2 rooms
  - Total for lodging: **\$2250**
- 2. Mileage:
  - Round-trip travel from Waco, Texas to Dallas, Texas
  - Total for mileage: **\$131.46**
- 3. Food/Per Diem:
  - Estimated food expenses per nurse: \$214
  - Total for meals (3 nurses for 5 days): **\$642**

## 4. Training Registration Fees:

- Registration for each nurse to attend the training: **\$0**
- Total for registration: **\$0**

#### Impact:

The knowledge gained by the nurses will directly benefit students who are at risk of sexual assault, providing immediate support when such cases arise. These nurses will become advocates for a trauma-sensitive response within the school system and will create a more comprehensive, compassionate approach to care for students who have been victimized. Moreover, by disseminating this training across the district's health services department, the initiative will improve the overall quality of care provided to all students and reinforce the district's commitment to their safety and well-being.

#### **Conclusion:**

By funding this training, you are helping to ensure that Waco ISD has the trained professionals necessary to address one of the most challenging and sensitive issues facing our children today. This training will not only equip our nurses with the skills to provide immediate care to victims of sexual assault but will also help create a long-lasting culture of preparedness and trauma-informed care within our district.

We respectfully request your support in covering the necessary travel, lodging, and incidental expenses to send these nurses to the Pediatric SANE Training in June 2025. Thank you for considering this important opportunity to enhance the care and safety of students in Waco ISD.

		Assigned Proposal						
Waco Education Fou	#	2	25					
Grant Budget Form			Project Title:		al Assault Nurse ANE) Training			
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