ADP Project Justification Template (PJT)

Effective Date 6/8/2020

## **Student Information**

**First Name:**Markeeta **Last Name:**Fleming

**ADP Working Title:**

**Draft Version:** **Date:**02/14/2021

## **RES 8920/8922 Instructor Review**

☐ Approved; may advance to RES 8922

☐ Approved; may advance to ADP coursework following successful completion of RES 8922, ADP Planning II.

☐ Changes requested; must revise and resubmit. Resubmission must include a change matrix that includes the instructor comments and how each comment was addressed in the revision.

Beginning on the following page, please complete the following sections in this template, using black, 12-point font. Please address all required content:

* Justification Statement
* Purpose Statement
* Importance of the Project
* Proposed Project Approach
* Over-arching Study Question(s)/Statement of Project Intent
* References (formatted according to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 7th edition)

## **Justification Statement:**

Provide sufficient background of the topic area and its relationship to the discipline or field of study that supports the need for, or opportunity to, conduct the proposed project. Describe the issue, situation, problem or opportunity that reinforces the need to implement the study, supported by recent citations from the literature. Briefly explain how the intended outcomes of the project could be used to advance knowledge, understanding or practice in the discipline or field of study. (target: 2 to 3 paragraphs)

Title 1 schools are the largest form of educational program that the government funds. There is the provision of supplemental funding to various district-level schools that enable low-income students to meet multiple educational objectives. These are referred to as Title 1 students. A common characteristic of Title 1 schools is the presence of many low-income students who often receive additional funding. Although Title 1 schools receive extra money to aid the students, many do not receive resources like the affluent schools due to the students' demographics and low academic performances (Dynarski & Kainz, 2015). That is one of the biggest problems for teachers. Notably, teaching in such schools is both physically and emotionally demanding. As such, it affects the mental health of a teacher. According to Gorsy, Panwar, & Kumar (2015), teachers' mental health affects the efficiency of service delivery. As such, we shall explore the issue of mental health surrounding Title 1 schools of the teachers.

The suggested approach to the interventions that can effectively deal with the teaching profession can be tested using a quantitative research study approach. The use of a random sampling technique is appropriate. As such, a sample of 100 Title 1 schools will be selected. The range of teachers for the study of the appropriate interventions is 35 to 50 years. The groups will be further sub-divided into gender, bringing an equal of 50 male and 50 female teachers. The teachers that are selected for the testing must have at least five years of work experience and be living with family members.

 The method that will be used is the 38-item Mental Health Indicator that is scored on a point scale of 1 to 6. There is the exception of the items nine to twenty-eight that are scored on a range of 1 to 5. The values are then pre-coded. This study will affect my field in many ways. First, there will be an increase in the teachers' performance levels. Notably, mental health awareness will ensure effective stress reduction strategies that will improve teachers' ability to correctly carry out their mandate (Wilson Medicone, 2017). Secondly, it will lead to a change in the policy that guides how secondary title 1 schools operate. For example, the manner issues of mental health are handled. Lastly, the study will ensure that more resources are dedicated to dealing with mental health issues in secondary title one schools.

## **Purpose Statement:**

Provide a specific, accurate synopsis of the overall purpose of the project. Align the Purpose Statement to the Justification Statement. In one concise paragraph, succinctly describe the focus, project approach, scope, and intended outcomes of the study. (target: 1 paragraph)

The purpose of the study is to explore mental health awareness among secondary title 1 teachers. That is aligned with the justification statement since increasing teachers' effectiveness in a title 1 school requires good mental health. Notably, the study focuses on ensuring that teachers in secondary title 1 schools are aware of the importance of good mental health. In that way, they will be proactive in ascertaining a conducive learning atmosphere for the students. The project approach will be pegged on making the administration aware of the mental awareness amongst teachers who work in the title one school setting. As for the scope, the project will primarily cover the opinions of teachers on mental health issues. Also, what are they doing to promote good mental health? This study's expected outcome is to ensure that teachers are more aware of the need for good mental health, and hence they will develop preventative strategies to tackle this issue (Symons, 2019). That will be associated with improved academic outcomes.

## **Importance of the Project:**

Briefly describe the importance of the proposed project, including how the project represents a unique approach to the topic, how results may contribute to theory, knowledge and/or practice in the discipline, and the implications of the study to scholars and practitioners. Identify any knowledge gaps to be addressed by the proposed project. (target: 2 to 3 paragraphs)

The project is essential in different ways. First, with increased awareness, teachers can get the help they need if they have mental health issues. The study will also help create policies that will help address mental health challenges in educational institutions. In assessing the project, it presents a unique approach to mental health matters. It seeks to solve mental health challenges by creating awareness (Barile, n.d.). In many cases, it is not possible to address an issue if the target population is not aware of it. By creating awareness, it will also eliminate the stigma which is associated with mental illness.

The study will make a significant contribution to theory and practice. That will be achieved by filling gaps in terms of mental health awareness in secondary title 1 schools. That will ensure better policies to improve mental health issues among teachers (Kuller, 2019). Additionally, the study will have a significant implication on the scholars and practitioners. Among scholars, the study will spur the need to look at ways to conduct more research on mental health matters. Among the practitioners, they will be proactive in generating better policies. The study will likely be successful in addressing the occurrence of mental illness in title one schools.

## **Proposed Project Approach:**

Briefly describe the approach for the proposed project, including how the project will be conceptualized, organized and implemented, and discuss how the proposed project will reflect accumulated learning from the student’s academic program. Discuss any proposed data collection methodologies and instrumentation, as well as the study population, as appropriate. Describe how project outcomes will be achieved. (target: 2 to 3 paragraphs)

The project approach will be centered on an in-depth study of how teachers in title 1 school view mental health issues. In terms of conceptualization, the aspect which is being addressed is the level of awareness about mental health issues in secondary title 1 schools. As for the organization, the project will start with data collection, then there will be analysis and the provision of recommendations. After that, it will proceed to the implementation, whereby the relevant stakeholder will be identified (Boaz et al., 2018). When stakeholders are identified, then the resources for the implementation process will be estimated. Finally, the recommendations of the project will be implemented. The project's evaluation using different measurable outcomes will ensure the results align with learnings from the student academic program.

In terms of data collection, the most appropriate method will be the use of questionnaires. There are several advantages associated with choosing questionnaires as a means of data collection. First, it allows for comparability, given that data can be quantified. As well, it ensures there is a collection of actionable data (Debois, 2019). Also, the interviewer can observe and note non-verbal behavior. The study population in this project is secondary title1 school teachers. The project outcomes will be assessed by creating measurable outcomes (Westland, 2015). For example, the number of teachers who have sought help for mental health issues. Also, if there is any change in the performance of students in secondary title one schools.

## **Over-arching Study Question(s)/Statement of Project Intent:**

Present the over-arching study question(s) or statement of project intent to be addressed, consistent with the proposed Purpose Statement and project approach. If hypotheses will be tested, identify the specific quantitative research questions and hypotheses, as well. (target: 1 paragraph)

The overarching study question will be as follows, “how can the level of mental health awareness be improved among secondary title 1 school teachers?” The question is consistent with the project approach, given that it is centered on teachers in secondary title 1 schools. Such schools serve the educational needs of those who are underprivileged (Bachemin, 2020). Additionally, it is aligned to the purpose statement which aims to increase the level of mental health awareness among teachers in the schools mentioned above.

## **References:**

List and cite a minimum of 10 sources that support and reinforce justification of the project. Ensure all references are listed according to guidelines in the *Publication Manual of* the American Psychological Association, 7th edition.

References

Bachemin, M. (2020, February 20). *Experiences in title I vs. non-title I schools*. Graduate Programs for Educators. <https://www.graduateprogram.org/2020/02/experiences-in-title-i-vs-non-title-i-schools/>

Barile, N. (n.d.). *The importance of mental health awareness in schools*. Hey Teach!. <https://www.wgu.edu/heyteach/article/importance-mental-health-awareness-schools1810.html>

Boaz, A., Hanney, S., Borst, R., O’Shea, A., & Kok, M. (2018). How to engage stakeholders in research: Design principles to support improvement. *Health Research Policy and Systems*, *16*(60), 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12961-018-0337-6>

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Gorsy, C., Panwar, N., & Kumar, S. (2015). Mental health among government school teachers. *International Journal of Indian Psychology*, *3*(1), 117-124. <https://doi.org/10.25215/0301.178>

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Symons, R. (2019, November 28). *What do teachers need to support student mental health?* National Elf Service. <https://www.nationalelfservice.net/populations-and-settings/schools/what-do-teachers-need-to-support-student-mental-health/>

Westland, J. (2015, September 28). *5 ways to measure project success*. ProjectManager.com. <https://www.projectmanager.com/blog/5-ways-to-measure-project-success>

Wilson Medicone. (2017, June 29). *The benefits of taking a mental health awareness course*. Health Services - Medical Courses Australia | Wilson Medic One. <https://www.wilsonmedicone.com.au/blog/Pages/The-Benefits-of-Taking-a-Mental-Health-Awareness-Course.aspx>