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MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: Jacob Oliva

DATE: September 14, 2021

SUBJECT: Funding Opportunity - New Hope Ambassadors Clubs

Contact Information

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The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) supports bringing together a community of students dedicated to developing leadership skills while discovering the power of service, kindness and compassion through the development and expansion of Hope Ambassadors Clubs in their local schools. This initiative will empower students in middle and high school to display strong leadership skills that promote and reinforce simple acts of kindness in support of their fellow peers while also contributing positively to their entire school community.

In a pilot program which began in 2020, 25 schools across Florida started a Hope Ambassadors Club with more than 300 students collectively joining in this mission of service. As we expand this initiative, FDOE, in partnership with the Florida Education Foundation and Volunteer Florida, is pleased to provide an opportunity for an additional 100 public schools and public charter schools to apply for a \$500 grant to establish and launch their own HOPE Ambassadors Club. The funds may be used to support volunteer activities, club events and related activities.

Schools are encouraged to apply for this one-time funding opportunity, not only to establish a club but also to create a setting where students may participate in activities that help foster kindness and compassion through volunteerism, mentoring, leadership and resiliency-building activities.

To be considered for funding, schools must designate a school-based sponsor and complete the [Hope Ambassadors Grant Opportunity](#) application no later than **Friday, September 24, 2021**. In support of this expansion initiative, FDOE will host a webinar on **Thursday, September 16, 2021**, at 11:00 a.m. EDT to provide more details on the mission and goals of the Hope Ambassadors Club as well as provide an overview of the brief grant application. Additional details regarding this webinar will be sent later this week so that interested schools and districts may participate to learn more.

Thank you for your continued support of fostering service and positive climates in Florida's schools. For more information on Hope Ambassadors Clubs please visit the [Hope Ambassadors](#) website.

JO/bh

cc: School Principals
School District Student Services Directors

JACOB OLIVA
CHANCELLOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS