

Town of North Kingstown, Rhode Island



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For Immediate Release
Date August 8, 2023

PRESS RELEASE

North Kingstown Receives \$305,000 for Year-Round Student Supports

North Kingstown, RI — The Town of North Kingstown recently received notification of a successful \$305,000 grant award within Governor McKee's Learn365RI initiative for participating Rhode Island municipalities. In June, the State received over \$6 million in funding requests from 24 of 37 participating municipalities; nearly \$3.8 million in funding was available for innovative programs that will improve Rhode Island's attendance rates, FAFSA completion rates, and/or students' academic achievement levels with the goal to meet or exceed levels in Massachusetts.

The Town of North Kingstown's application featured programs designed by a committee of staff members from the Office of the Town Manager, Finance Department, Recreation Department, and the North Kingstown Free Library to include collaborations with the North Kingstown School Department and several Local Education Agencies and Community Based Organizations such as Embodied Living Counseling LLC, University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Oceanography Inner Space Center, KidCove tutoring and mindfulness center, and Rhode Island Computer Museum/RI Museum of Science and Art.

"We are excited for what this program means for our youth," says Town Manager A. Ralph Mollis. "We know that the School Department is well-suited for learning during the school day, and we know municipalities can do more with funding like this to encourage students' year-round learning and wellness outside the classroom." Programs proposed in the North Kingstown grant application for over \$350,000 included mental health counseling, summer learning opportunities, vacation week camps, a technology library, a Middle School Youth Commission, and lunch and transportation for participating students. The committee will meet again to discuss funding allocations and to finalize programming for the 2023-2024 school year, to include summer 2024 opportunities. Final details will be shared once available.

Please contact Kate Glass, Executive Assistant, at kglass@northkingstownri.gov with any questions.

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