



CRASEL Project Expansion One-Pager

Project Title: CRASEL (Culturally Responsive and Affirming Social Emotional Leadership (SEL) and Professional Development (PD) Project Expansion.

Background: Senators Schumer and Gillibrand, Representative Espaillat, through the US Department of Education, have awarded Abyssinian Development Corporation a federal grant of \$1M to support two years of the CRASEL project expansion, targeting adults and students in at all 23 schools in Community School District 5 (D5) in Harlem. In addition, West Harlem Development Corporation (WHDC) provided initial funding for the pilot and continues to support the expansion.

Goals: Aligned with D5's mission and vision known as MECCA (mindfulness, excellence, capacity-building, collaboration, and action), the CRASEL Project Expansion will:

- Prepare all members of the school community – leaders, educators, caregivers, students – to support the social, emotional and cultural needs of all students, and
- Protect the rights of all students in District 5 to receive an equitable education.

Objectives: The project provides capacity-building SEL PD and training in a cohort model to:

- School leaders, educators and caregivers focused on the seven domains of the CRASEL framework: Self-Awareness, Self-Care, & Self Management; School & Community Relationship Building; Advocacy; Nurturing Through High Expectations; Culturally Responsive & Sustaining Leadership; Building & Sustaining School Culture; and Maximizing Partnerships.
- Students focused on two domains of the CRASEL framework: Self Awareness, Self-Care, & Self-Management; and Advocacy.

Project Activities: Project activities consist of a series of SEL PD and training that strengthen the social emotional leadership skills and cultural responsiveness of all participants; and foster collaboration, self-growth and knowledge sharing.

CRASEL Partners: Project partners include: Black Education Research Center, Executive Leadership Institute, Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility, Multitasking Yogi, Pure Edge, TechRow, and Yale RULER. These partners will deliver SEL PD and training that cover mindfulness practices, Emotional Intelligence, self-care and self-awareness practices; video production and technology streaming services; and an independent evaluation of the efficacy and progress of the CRASEL Expansion Project.

Expected Outcomes: All participants will incorporate new skills and methodologies into best practices that: 1) Foster self-care and self-awareness; 2) Support students' social emotional needs; and 3) Create a welcoming and more inclusive, culturally responsive school culture that leads to a thriving school community.