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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

To: Local Media and Press Release Subscribers
From: Katrina Harwood, Health Officer
Date: January 10, 2023

Walking School Bus Mini-Grants Available in Rock County

Rock County, WI – Rock County Public Health Department and the [Health Equity Alliance of Rock County \(HEAR\)](#) are excited to announce the availability of mini-grants for schools or other organizations interested in starting a walking school bus program. A walking school bus is a program that allows a group of children to walk with one or more adults to/from school. Each ‘bus’ walks along a set route with trusted volunteers, parents, or a school employee to serve as route leaders and ensure students arrive safely to school.

Awards will be up to \$1,000 and can be used for startup costs such as staff time, supplies, or advertising. It is anticipated that five (5) mini-grants will be awarded. Eligible organizations include schools, community groups, parent-teacher organizations, or other groups with approval from their school principal.

Walking school buses offer many benefits for students and families. Walking with others provides increased safety, physical activity, community engagement, and an environmentally friendly transportation option. Walking relieves stress and helps students arrive at school awake and ready to learn.

A Question and Answer session will be held via Zoom on January 12 from 3 – 4:30 p.m. You can request a meeting invitation and mini-grant application by emailing HearCoordinator@co.rock.wi.us. Applications are due by January 26 and award notices will be sent on February 1.



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Rock County Public Health Department serves Rock County residents by improving population health outcomes and removing barriers through community partnerships to provide everyone the opportunity to reach their full health potential. Visit the Rock County Public Health Department [website](#) and follow them on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Please send all media inquiries to:

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