



Soar Above It!



School • Classroom • Teacher • Community

The mission of the Brandon Groveland Youth Assistance (BGYA) is to strengthen youth and families and to reduce the incidence of delinquency, abuse, and neglect through community involvement. BGYA is an outreach program of the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court - Family Division, providing casework services, prevention programs, and resources for at risk students and their families; all geared toward helping families turn their situation around.

In an effort to support the mental health and well-being of students residing in the Brandon School District, BGYA invites Brandon School District educators, employees, coaches and community groups to submit applications for the **Soar Above It** Grant Program. Grant applications are due on April 11, 2025 and are awarded by April 30, 2025.

Eligible Activities: Students face a variety of challenges that can impact their mental health, including academic pressure, social pressures, and concerns at home. The **Soar Above It** Grants awards programs, projects or classroom aids that seek to:

- Engage students in the topic of mental wellness
- Provide a safe and supportive environment
- Offer opportunities for students to engage in activities that can help relieve stress
- Encourage positive peer relationships or mentoring
- Education, prevention, and early intervention efforts
- Promote positive youth development focused on both mental wellness and substance use
- Create a robust public awareness campaign on mental wellness, addiction or opioid risks
- Bring more resources to the Brandon School District community, students, parents and families
- Connect Brandon School District individuals & local families to treatment facilities and other resources

Eligible Grant Applicants: Brandon School District employee, community groups, public safety officials and faith-based community organization serving Brandon School District students and families.

The **Soar Above It** Grants (up to \$1,000) support programs which cannot be funded by the district. That means, BGYA does not fund core-curriculum materials, but new experiences that fall within the stated objectives and guidelines of the grant. Our grant program will provide opportunities to model programs/resources that can have district-wide benefits. Applications could come from a successful idea tried in a classroom or on a smaller scale, from a cohort, a community-wide, district-wide or school-wide initiative in need of funding.

All applications are reviewed by, and award determinations made by representatives of BGYA based on the annual grant budget and application merit. BGYA reserves the right to decline grant applications that are not consistent with the stated objectives and guidelines of the grant, the vision and mission of BGYA or limitation of funds.

The **Soar Above It** Grants are funded by the Opioid Settlements & Remediation Initiative funds, received through Brandon Township. The opioid settlements refer to offers from opioid manufacturers, distributors, and pharmacies to settle various lawsuits against their companies across the US. The money received from these settlements is being distributed to Michigan's state and local governments. Funds received from the opioid settlements are intended for use on education, care, treatment, remediation and abatement programs.