



EAU CLAIRE
AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

August 20, 2025

Eau Claire Public School Foundation
GATEWAYS Fund Proposal

Eau Claire Area School District is committed to providing high-quality education and support to young adult students with disabilities. The special education department is seeking to utilize the GATEWAYS Fund as the request aligns with the initial intent of GATEWAYS fundraised dollars. When the fund was established, it was to be utilized to support ongoing expenses inclusive of supplies, equipment, curricular resources, etc. to support program operation. For this reason, we are seeking to utilize the GATEWAYS Fund rather than the regular special education budget to purchase the Circles Complete, social skills curricular resource.

The Circles program is a color-coded concentric circle method that teaches appropriate behaviors, feelings, and actions based on the level of intimacy. The center circle represents the self, and each outer circle represents different levels of relationships, from family members to acquaintances.

Justification:

1. **Improved Social Skills:** Students will learn about social and relationship boundaries, personal space, touch, and privacy, helping them interact with others respectfully and appropriately.
2. **Enhanced Communication Skills:** The program covers both verbal and nonverbal communication, teaching students how to express themselves clearly, listen actively, and respond appropriately.
3. **Increased Confidence and Self-Esteem:** By promoting self-awareness and self-determination, the program helps students build a positive self-image and feel more confident in their interactions and pursuits.

By using the Circles Complete program, students at GATEWAYS will learn about social distance and understand why it is essential to respect boundaries. They will learn how to appropriately engage with people across settings.

A quote is included in Appendix A. Total cost is quoted at \$1,999.00. This includes the cost for the Circles Complete Program (Elementary, Level 1, Level 2).

Please reach out with any questions,

Whitlee Nicholson
Special Education Coordinator
Eau Claire Area School District
wnicholson@ecasd.us
715.852.5193



#ECASDinspires

500 Main Street, Eau Claire, WI 54701 | (715) 852-3000

The Eau Claire Area School District is committed to non-discrimination and complies with all federal and state anti-discrimination laws for employment and student programs.

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Appendix A

ESTIMATE

**James
Stanfield®**

James Stanfield Company, Inc.
129 S. Quarantina, Santa Barbara, CA 93103
maindesk@stanfield.com; Website:
www.stanfield.com

Estimate No#: 0387
Estimate Date: Jul 10, 2025

\$1,999.00

ESTIMATED AMOUNT

BILL TO
Eau Claire Area School District
Whitlee Nicholson
wnicholson@ecasd.us

#	ITEMS & DESCRIPTION	QTY/HRS	PRICE	AMOUNT(\$)
1	Circles Elementary, Level 1, Level 2	1	\$1,999.00	\$1,999.00
		Subtotal		\$1,999.00
		TOTAL		\$1,999.00 USD

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8/28/2025

Motion-Approval of a grant in the amount of **\$1999.00** to purchase the Circles Complete Program for the GATEWAY Program of the ECASD.

Spendable funds available in the GATEWAY Fund- **\$56,653.22**

See attached for background, rationale and quote

Staff recommendation-Approval