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Department of Education Awards \$1.5 Million in Grants to [35 School Districts](#) Affected By Terrorist Attacks on the World Trade Center

Commissioner of Education Vito A. Gagliardi, Sr. announced today that 35 school districts affected by the September 11th attacks on the World Trade Center will be receiving \$1.5 million in federal grants. These funds are from Project SERV (School Emergency Response to Violence) and are intended to provide education-related services to school districts in which the learning environment has been disrupted due to a violent or traumatic crisis. (A complete list of school districts receiving an award and the amount of their award is attached).

"New Jersey's school districts did an extraordinary job in helping their children through a crisis situation," said Commissioner of Education Vito A. Gagliardi, Sr. Their efforts were truly impressive.

"I am pleased that we are able to quickly award these grants to school districts that are in need due to the events of September 11. These grants will allow school districts to recover some of the costs they have incurred since the attacks on the World Trade Center."

Among the activities that may be funded by Project SERV are mental health services, overtime for teachers, counselors, security staff, substitute teachers, emergency transportation, temporary security measures and technical assistance in developing an appropriate response to a crisis. Project SERV funds may not be used for construction or for medical services.

Under Project SERV these approved costs are considered reasonable, necessary, essential and are intended to restore a sense of safety and security, assist the students in understanding their victimization, stabilize the lives of the students, and are activities that assist the school district in managing the practical problems created by the traumatic event that have produced an undue hardship upon the school district.