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Million Dollar Grant to Help South Chicago Region Middle-school Students

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The Office of Marketing and Communications		Date: February 1, 2005 Contact: Michael Hopkins Phone: (708) 534-7090 Fax: (708) 534-8399 Email: m-hopkins@govst.edu					
Public Affairs Services		For Immediate Release					
Events		<h2>Million dollar grant to help south Chicago region middle-school students</h2>					
Production Procedures		University Park, February 1, 2005 – Governors State University's College of Health Professions announced today that it has received a \$1 million federal grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.					
Image Standards		<p>"The grant is called SKIPP for Saving Kids Through Integrated Prevention Planning," said Michelle Champagne, the college's coordinator for Grants and Project Development.</p>					
Font and Typeface Guidelines		<p>Champagne said the grant will fund prevention services for high-risk middle-school students in the southland region.</p>					
Editorial Style Guide		<p>"Our youth face extreme pressures in school," Champagne said. She added that the middle-school children are particularly vulnerable to influences that are ultimately destructive.</p>					
Downloads		<p>Drugs, sex, gang involvement, violent behavior and all of the attendant risks, including HIV infection, are prevalent in middle-schools attended by underserved populations within the southland region.</p>					
Photography		<p>"This destructiveness doesn't just tear children and families apart," Champagne said. "It increases risks to entire communities and the region at large."</p>					
Recent Press Releases		<p>The grant monies will be administered by Champagne and the college over a four year period. The projects it funds will be comprehensive, starting with programs that deal with fundamental emotional issues and build self-esteem in children before they become vulnerable.</p>					
Archived Press Releases		<p>Projects will also teach parents and children to communicate effectively within family groups, to set goals, and encourage children to achieve academically.</p>					
Contact Us		<p>"Long term, we want to see these kids in college instead of on the streets," Champagne said.</p>					
		<p>The SKIPP grant is part of an overarching strategy the college has for supporting prevention programs within the region.</p>					