

The Rainbow Project is excited to honor the work of Kyle Webber by presenting him with an Extra Mile Award for his incredible dedication to students and families in rural Dane County. Kyle is a School Counselor in Belleville, and he provides support for two schools in the town. In rural settings, resources are often stretched thin, and it can be a challenge to build trust in the few mental health services offered. You would not know any of this if you watched Kyle work. Kyle uniquely excels at creating deep and meaningful connections quickly with children and families. His strengths of kindness, patience, humor and advocacy shine through in every interaction with families, colleagues and community members.

As part of the Rainbow Project's work in serving children and families who have experienced trauma, we recognize how important the school system is to a child's wellbeing. Kyle creates strong partnerships with children and their families, and he advocates consistently for mental health support and social emotional learning. He provides a supportive environment for children to learn and grow in, and he makes immediate positive relationships with them. His ability to connect so quickly with children in the schools is truly a gift, and his way of being allows children to identify, express and cope with their emotions in a safe place. With his help and support, Kyle facilitates a more positive academic experience for children in this school district. It is a rare skill set to be able to challenge, encourage, support and care for children all at once, and Kyle does just that.

Kyle's colleagues detail the dedication he gives to the children in this community: "Kyle's favorite saying is, 'If it is good for kids, it is good for us.' He does not hesitate to put the needs of students first and be their best advocate...Additionally, Kyle recognizes the value in bringing community and school systems together to better serve our students."

Kyle is a delight to collaborate with, and the Rainbow Project is thankful for his partnership. We invite everyone in our community to join us in honoring and thanking Kyle for the outstanding work he does every single day. All of us at the Rainbow Project are excited to continue to support him through all his efforts.

Congratulations, Kyle!

