

How to Help a Peer

Any member of the Loomis Chaffee community who is worried about a student's safety or well-being is strongly encouraged to contact a member of the Counseling Department to discuss their concerns. Any concern that is reported to the counseling staff will be handled with sensitivity but may be investigated in order to determine the appropriate follow-up that needs to occur.

What Should I report? Concerns about a student can include a wide range of issues from a dramatic change in attitude to self-harming behavior, substance abuse, a plan to run away, or thoughts of suicide. Concerns can also include traumatic events that may have occurred, such as a sexual assault, a car accident, a death in the family, etc. Regardless of the concern, we always tell students, family member, faculty and staff to trust their instincts. If you think something is wrong, please don't worry alone. We strongly recommend that you pass the information on to the counseling office or a trusted adult so we can assess the situation and ensure that the student receives appropriate help if needed. If you have a concern after hours/ on a weekend, the **Health Center is open 24-7** and is available as a resource to hear your concerns and can contact the counselor on-call if needed.

Who Should I contact? We recommend that you report your concerns directly to the counseling staff. You can set up an appointment by emailing any of the counselors, or students may stop by any of our offices. If you feel uncomfortable reporting your concerns directly to the counseling staff, please find a trusted adult, or student leader who can pass your concern along to the counseling office. During **evening/ overnight hours**, the health center is the best resource. The health center will contact the on-call counselor to pass on the information.

When Should I Report? Any concern regarding the safety of a student or reference of suicide or harm to others needs to be reported **IMMEDIATELY**. Other traumatic events such as sexual assault, physical/sexual abuse, neglect, should be reported as soon as possible. Counseling staff is on-call 24-7 for urgent matters.

Counseling Contact, Office Locations & Hours:

Mrs. Field's office is located in the lower level of Kravis Dorm; Ms. Barresi, Dr. Haldane & Mr. Green's offices are located in the lower level of Richmond Dorm, adjacent to the HC.

- Mrs. Julie Field: Director of Counseling (Mon-Fri 8am-4pm) 860-687-6234 julie_field@loomis.org
- Ms. Anna Barresi: (Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm) 860-687-6823 (Office # B16)
anna_barresi@loomis.org
- Dr. Eva Haldane: (Mon-Fri 11 am-7 pm) 860-687-6066 (Office # B19) eva_haldane@loomis.org
- Mr. Kenneth Green: Tues -Thurs 4-10pm) 860-687-6138 (Office # B18) kenneth_green@loomis.org
- Health Center - 860-687-6325

What about confidentiality? Confidentiality and student privacy will be upheld unless we have information that indicates that someone is at risk of harming themselves, threatening to harm another person, has been harmed, or abuse/ neglect are suspected. We will not disclose the identity of the person reporting a concern about a peer, unless the student reporter grants us permission to do so.