

# Mental Health Supports Available in the Great Neck Public Schools

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Board of Education Meeting 3-30-22

# Presenters



**Jennifer Kirby**

GNPS Director of Human Resources



**Alison Brennan, Ph.D.**

GNPS Executive Director of Special Education and Pupil Services



**Vera Feuer, MD**

- AVP - School Mental Health
- Director - Pediatric Emergency Psychiatry and Behavioral Health Urgent Care Cohen Children's Medical Center
- Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Pediatrics and Emergency Medicine - Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell

# ✦ How GNPS Supports Staff

# Your EAP can help with virtually every area of life



TotalCare EAP  
Public Safety EAP  
Educators' EAP  
Higher Ed EAP  
HealthCare EAP  
Union AP



## PERSONAL

Personal Stress  
Anxiety  
Alcohol Abuse  
Drug Addiction  
Depression  
Medical Conditions  
Grief/Bereavement  
Gambling  
Weight Control  
Anger  
Chronic Pain/Illness

Eating Disorders  
Life Transitions  
Pregnancy/Post Partum  
Personal Trauma  
Sexual Concerns  
Domestic Violence  
Learning Disabilities  
Smoking  
Men's/Women's Issues  
Nutrition



## FAMILY & RELATIONSHIPS

Marital  
Parenting  
Caregiving  
Childcare  
Eldercare  
Education Planning  
Adoption  
Family Pets  
Special Needs Child  
Blended Families

Teen Issues  
Domestic Partners  
Physical Abuse  
Family Relocation  
Sandwich Generation  
Military Life/Separation  
Disaster Preparedness  
Communication  
Keeping Children Safe



## FINANCIAL & LEGAL

Debt  
Credit Card Issues  
Financial Loss  
Bankruptcy  
Budgeting  
Retirement Planning  
Wills & Trusts  
Real Estate Law  
Car Buying  
Immigration  
Divorce  
Civil Suits

Criminal Law  
DUI/DWI  
Landlords & Tenants  
Homeowner Concerns  
Taxes  
Insurance  
Consumer Law  
Contracts  
Personal Injury  
Child Custody  
Social Security



## WORK & CAREER

Employee Conflict  
Work Related Stress  
Coaching  
Supervisor Conflict  
Team Development  
Career Planning  
Management Skills  
Supervising Others

Time Management  
Skills Development  
Project Management  
Motivating Self & Others  
Valuing Diversity  
Managing Change

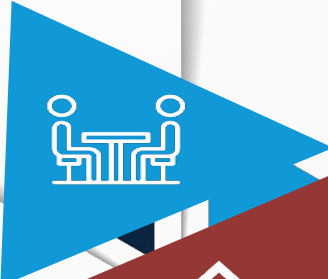
800-252-4555

# Educators' EAP Solutions

Ongoing Telephone Counseling



Face-to-face/Tele-health Counseling



Work-Life Benefits

Legal, Financial/Debt Services, Child and Elder Care Benefits, Personal Assistant, Adoption and Special Needs



Self-Help Resources

- Wellness and Lifestyle Benefits
- Specialized Resource Centers



Personal and Professional Development  
*Online Training Center*

Peak Performance Coaching



# Online Training and Telephone Coaching Services

## 10,000+ Training Center Video Courses:

HR Compliance Courses

Sales/Customer Service Courses

Business Skills Courses

Leadership/Management Courses

Information Technology

Software

Safety

## Telephone Coaching Programs

Personal Finances

Budgeting

Saving & Spending

Home Purchasing

Student Debt

Effective Communication

Basic Supervisory Skills

Workplace Conflict

Work-Life Balance

Resilience

Practical Aspects of Retirement

Yoga and Relaxation for Beginners

Fitness

Nutrition

Weight Loss

Stress

Tobacco Cessation

Drugs and Alcohol Overuse





# COVID-19 Resource Center



In this special resource section, you'll learn about COVID-19, find resources related to the current spread of the illness, and discover the steps you should take to prepare your family for the daily living challenges that may arise as the virus spreads to your local community. From caring for children in isolation and adjusting to remote work from home to how to find remote employment and properly seek medical attention to treat the illness, these resources will help you take charge of your situation.

[View Breaking News >](#)

 <p>COVID-19 Pandemic Resources</p> <p><a href="#">go &gt;</a></p>	 <p>Webinars</p> <p><a href="#">go &gt;</a></p>	 <p>School Staff, Students &amp; Distance Learners</p> <p><a href="#">go &gt;</a></p>	 <p>Support for First Responders</p> <p><a href="#">go &gt;</a></p>
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 <p>Developing Resilience</p> <p><a href="#">go &gt;</a></p>	 <p>Enfermedad del Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19)</p> <p><a href="#">go &gt;</a></p>	 <p>Employees &amp; Managers Working Remotely</p> <p><a href="#">go &gt;</a></p>	 <p>Supporting At-Home Children</p> <p><a href="#">go &gt;</a></p>
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 <p>Financial Stress &amp; Stability</p> <p><a href="#">go &gt;</a></p>	 <p>Addressing Your Emotional Wellbeing</p> <p><a href="#">go &gt;</a></p>	 <p>Older Adults &amp; Caregivers</p> <p><a href="#">go &gt;</a></p>	 <p>Military Personnel &amp; Families</p> <p><a href="#">go &gt;</a></p>
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# *Educators' Specific EAP Resource Centers*

- **RESOURCE CENTERS FOR EDUCATORS:**

- Budget Boosters: Money-Saving Tools & Tips for Schools
- Bullies and Bullying
- Parental Challenges
- Social Networking for Educators
- Cyber-Safety Resource Center
- Managing the Classroom
- Response to Intervention



- Content to help relieve the most common work stressors
- These Resource Centers cover areas ranging from parent and student issues to dealing with budget problems



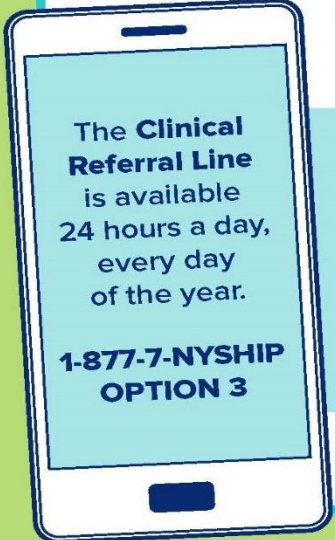
# Empire Plan Clinical Referral Line

## WE CAN HELP YOU GET THE MENTAL HEALTH OR SUBSTANCE USE CARE THAT YOU NEED

Empire Plan, Excelsior Plan and Student Employee Health Plan (SEHP) enrollees and covered dependents who are in need of Mental Health or Substance Use treatment can call Beacon Health Options' **Clinical Referral Line** for assistance with finding a network provider and arranging care. You have guaranteed access to in-network benefits when you call the **Clinical Referral Line**.

The **Clinical Referral Line** is staffed with highly trained and specialized clinicians in the mental health and substance use treatment fields and are there to help you find the best care. The clinicians may also help you make an appointment with a quality provider. In an emergency, they can help you decide where to start receiving care.

If you are enrolled in a NYSHIP HMO, please contact your HMO for information related to receiving Mental Health and Substance Use services.



The **Clinical Referral Line** is available 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

**1-877-7-NYSHIP  
OPTION 3**

You can reach the **Clinical Referral Line** by calling the Empire Plan toll free at **1-877-7-NYSHIP** and choosing **option 3** for the Mental Health and Substance Use Program, then selecting **option 3** from the Mental Health and Substance Use Program menu.



The Empire Plan

# ✦ How GNPS Supports Students and Families

# Mission Statement

The Great Neck Public School District provides an innovative and collaborative educational environment that supports academic excellence **and the social and emotional growth of all students** so that they may become life-long learners and compassionate, productive members of a diverse, global society.

# GNPS Mental Health Staff

## Psychologists and Social Workers

<b>Parkville</b>	<b>EM Baker</b>	<b>JFK</b>	<b>Lakeville</b>	<b>Saddle Rock</b>	<b>SEAL</b>
Dr. Alyson Miller Dr. Craig Gootman Ms. Maria Tsonis	Ms. Cindy Lipper Dr. Maria Hanakis Ms. Julie Goldin	Dr. Agnieszka Dynda Dr. Genevieve Gin Ms. Malka Rahmanan	Ms. Cindy Gross Ms. Emily DiFranco Ms. Malka Rahmanan Ms. Samantha Arroyo	Dr. Anthony Iacovelli Dr. Gabriella Duke Ms. Julie Goldin	Dr. Christine Goldberg
<b>North Middle</b>	<b>North High</b>	<b>South Middle</b>	<b>South High</b>	<b>Village</b>	<b>Private/Parochial/ Districtwide</b>
Dr. Eileen Fusco Dr. Jim Bowman Ms. Wendy Murad	Dr. Anton Berzins Dr. David Cheng Ms. Oana Scholl	Dr. Jeanne Rolih Dr. Sivan Erstein Ms. Samantha Arroyo	Ms. Lauren Ferguson Dr. Jacqueline Scott Ms. Joan Greenberg	Ms. Lisa DiRosa-Coen	Dr. Linda Shum Dr. Maria Hanakis Ms. Sophie Park Dr. Alyson Miller Ms. Amanda Rinehart Ms. Elena Byrne

# GNPS Mental Health Staff

## School Counselors

### North High

Mr. Mike Neary (Dept. Head)  
Ms. Jordana Cohen  
Ms. Kristen Corrigan  
Mr. Peter Hidasi  
Ms. Amanda Reilly  
Ms. Kim Semder  
Ms. Corrine Tortorice

### South High

Dr. Jo-AnnEyre Cruz (Dept. Head)  
Ms. Carly Bank  
Ms. Erica MacDonald  
Ms. Christopher Erickson  
Ms. Allison Gottfried  
Ms. Stacey Rapp  
Dr. Joseph Stopanio

### North Middle

Dr. Tracey Segal (Dept. Head)  
Ms. Heather Blasi  
Ms. Michele Israel

### South Middle

Ms. Jennifer Hill (Dept. Head)  
Ms. Jessica Chase  
Ms. Jecelyn Scauzillo



# Identification of Students Needing Support

A variety of methods are used to identify students who may require additional support from our Mental Health staff.

- Parent referral
- Teacher referral / Instructional Support Team
- Peer or Self referral
- Observation
- DIAL-4 screening upon entry to Pre-Kindergarten and/or Kindergarten

# Counseling and Other Supports

**Mandated counseling** - driven by IEP goals and recommendations

**Non-Mandated or Building Level Counseling/Support** - School-based counseling includes various topics/stressors for students that may be impacting functioning in school (social skills, anxiety, play skills, coping skills).

**Topic Specific Groups** - Adjustment after COVID, Executive functioning groups, Social skills

**Classroom Visits** - sitting in on Responsive Classroom morning meetings or running specific lessons about topics such as coping skills, problem solving, or how to be a good friend.

**Recess and Lunch Support** - Visiting lunch/recess to support kids with socialization

# Programs/Initiatives for Students

**Beautiful Me - Self Esteem Rising** - educational program made available through the Hance Family Foundation.

**Same But Different** - program for 3rd grade students to learn about others who may be different than them related to topics such as Learning Disabilities, Food Allergies, Physical Disabilities or Mobility Differences.

**Peer Mentors/Champions Club/Best Pals**

# Programs/Initiatives for Students

**Social-Emotional Learning Programming**

**Mental Health and Wellness Week**

**Kindness Week/Kindness Campaign** - school wide initiatives to raise awareness about kindness and its impact on others

**Clubs** - Yoga/Mindfulness Club, Psychology Club, Active Minds, SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions), AWARE (All Ways Are Really Exceptional)

**Mindfulness Areas/Rooms/Virtual Calm Room**

# Support for Parents/Guardians

**Parent consultation** - contact the professional in your child's school

**Various workshops available via Northwell Partnership** - Community Education Series and video archive

**Active Parenting Workshops** - Elementary social workers provide this interactive workshop which is open to all Great Neck parents of young children, offering Evidence-Based, skill-focused solutions for effective parenting.

**Q & A with a BCBA**- offered through PPS/Special Education for parents of students with disabilities. Run by one of our behavioral specialists.



# Support for Families

**McKinney Vento Liaison** - Along with the building mental health staff, we identify and support families who may be displaced due to economic hardship, natural disaster, fire, domestic conflicts, eviction etc.... These situations can create an enormous amount of stress on families and we work to keep displaced students in the same school.

**Connecting Families to Community Resources** - Social workers work with local food banks to help families with food insecurity

# Continuing Staff Training

- Northwell Partnership
- Long Island School Practitioner Action Network (LISPAN)
- PPS Mental Health Department Meetings
- BOCES SEL/Mental Health Consortium
- NASP PREPaRE training
- US Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center
- Attendance at various workshops, webinars, conferences chosen by an individual staff member

# School Crisis

**District Crisis Team** - NASP PREPaRE trained staff who can support buildings in situations that require additional mental health staff/support

Mental health staff in each building are trained in threat assessment as well as how to identify students at risk for self harm, can set up safety plans, or refer for further evaluation when needed

**Threat Assessment Protocol** - Problem-solving approach with two goals:

- The safety of the entire school community
- Support of students involved

**Suicide Prevention** - staff are trained in assessment (ASIST, C-SSRS)

# Students in Crisis

There are some situation where students are coping with issues that are outside of school, more serious mental health needs or require a higher level of care due to an urgent mental health crisis.

- Coordination with a family's private mental health provider
- Behavioral Urgent Care
- Emergency Department
- Connection to Care - after a crisis

# Cohen Children's Northwell School Mental Health Partnership Great Neck BOE

**Vera Feuer, MD**

AVP, School Mental Health

Director, Pediatric Emergency Psychiatry and Behavioral Health Urgent Care

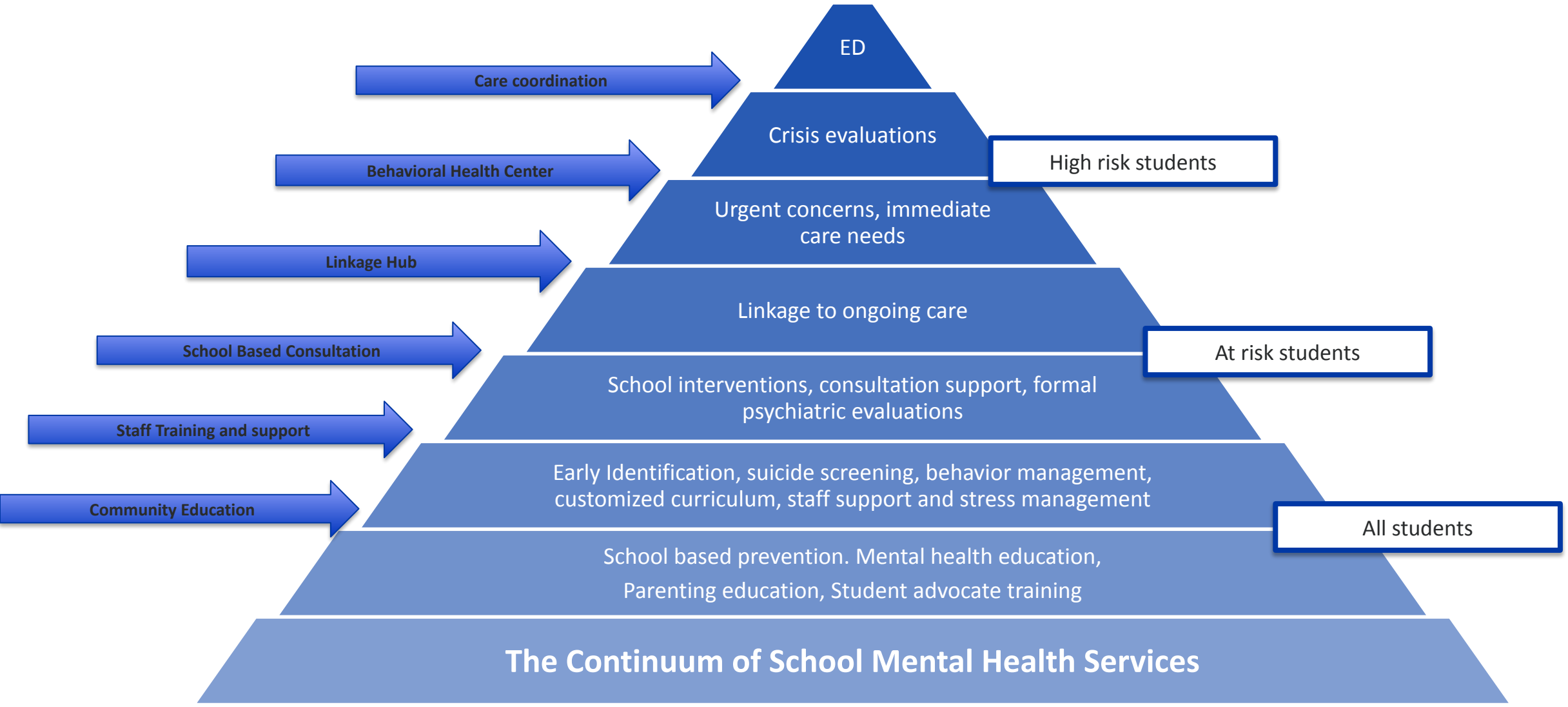
Associate Professor, Zucker SOM at Hofstra/Northwell, Psychiatry, Pediatrics and Emergency Medicine

March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022

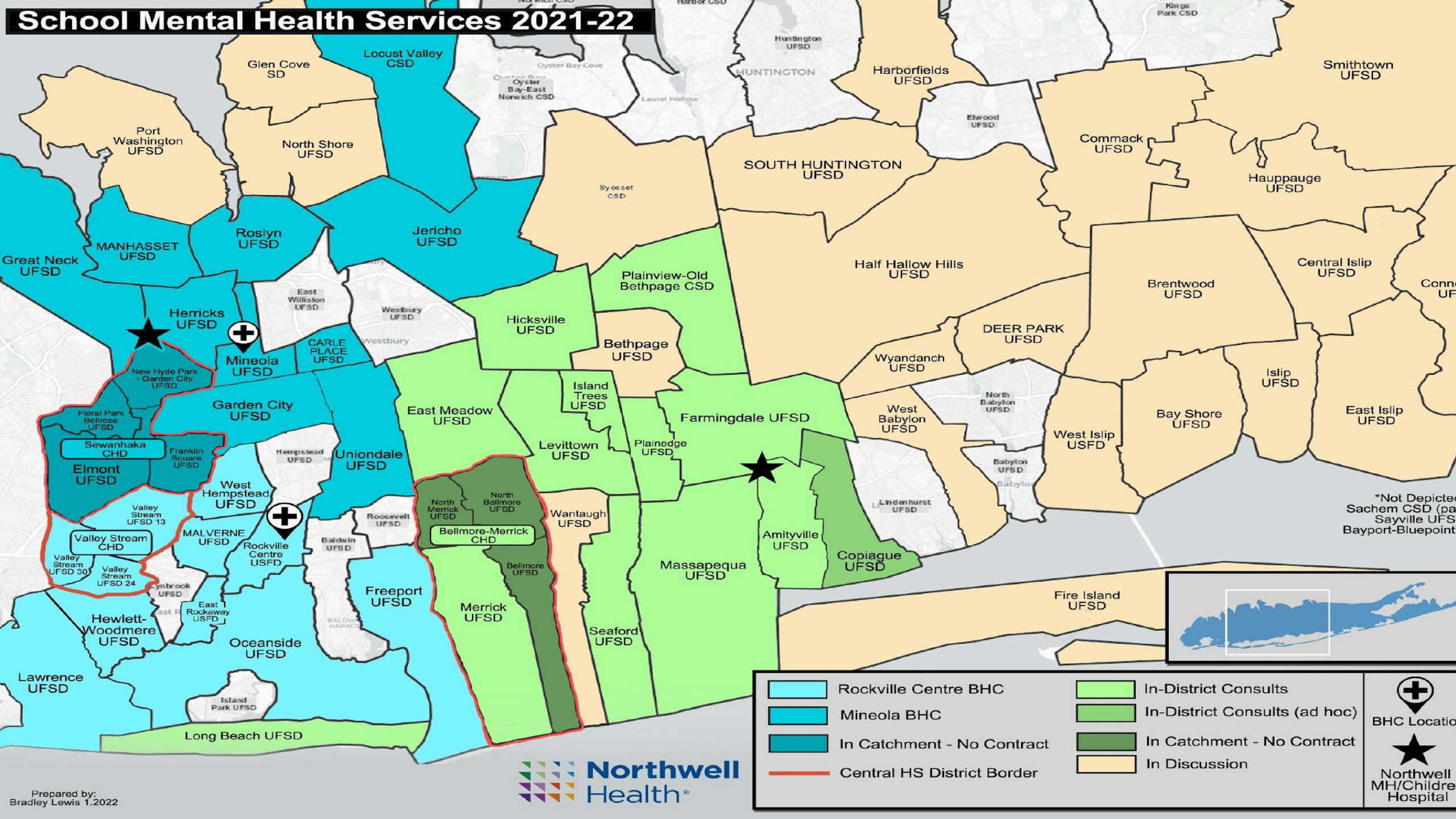


**Cohen Children's Medical Center**  
Northwell Health®





# School Mental Health Services 2021-22



	Rockville Centre BHC		In-District Consults
	Mineola BHC		In-District Consults (ad hoc)
	In Catchment - No Contract		In Catchment - No Contract
	Central HS District Border		In Discussion

BHC Location

Northwell MH/Children's Hospital

\*Not Depicted  
Sachem CSD (part)  
Sayville UFS  
Bayport-Bluepoint

# Results

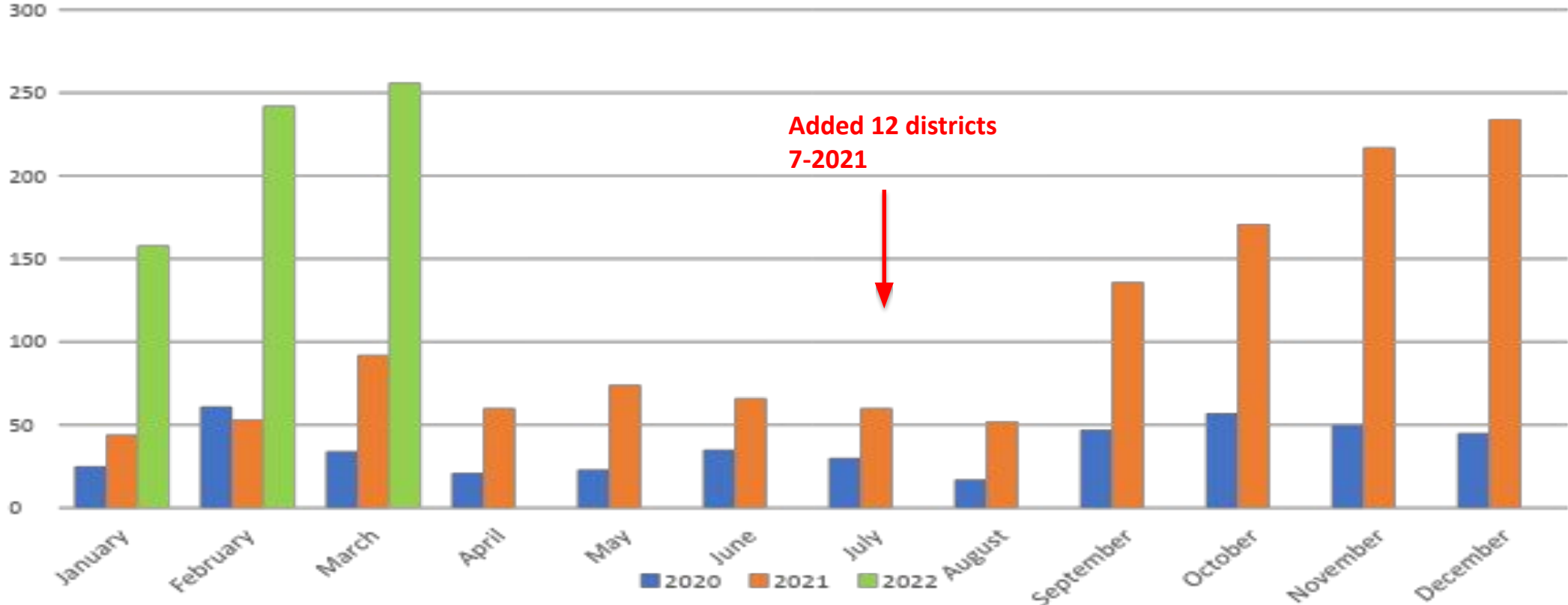


# Overall Volume

**2370 Visits**

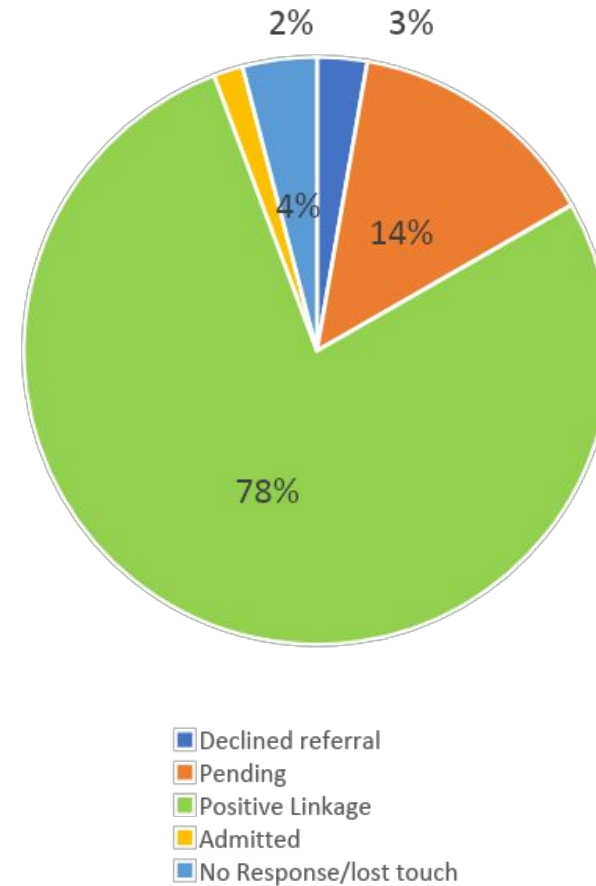
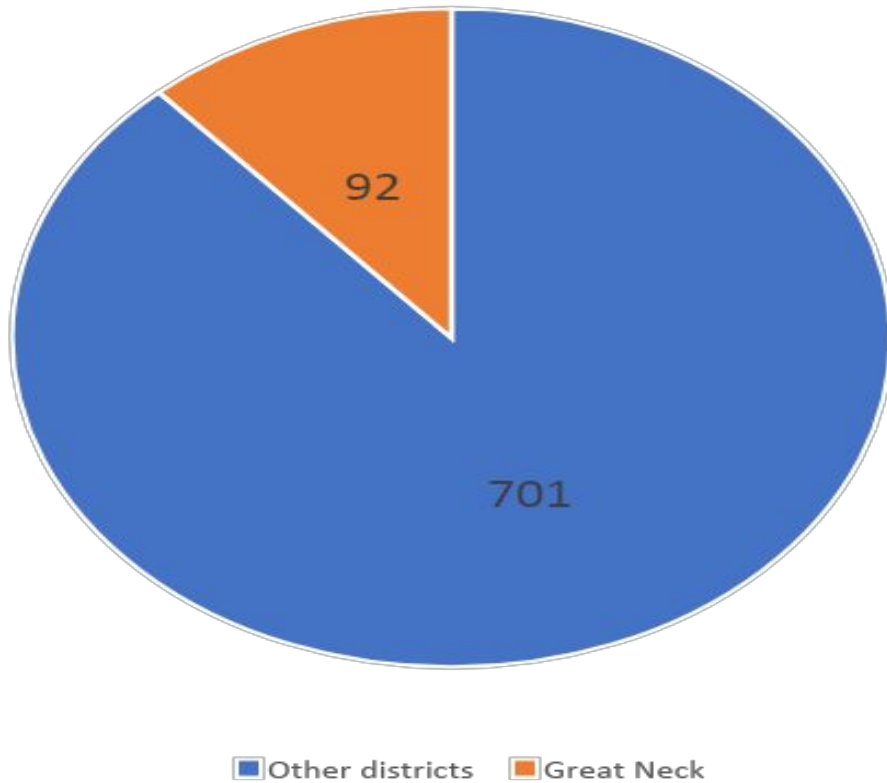
**RVC: 1497 Visits , 65% Initial, 35% Follow Up  
49% School, 42% Self, 9% Peds/ER/Other**

**Mineola: 873 Visits, 74% Initial, 26% Follow Up  
63% School, 27% Self, 9% Peds/ER/Other**



# By District and Linkage

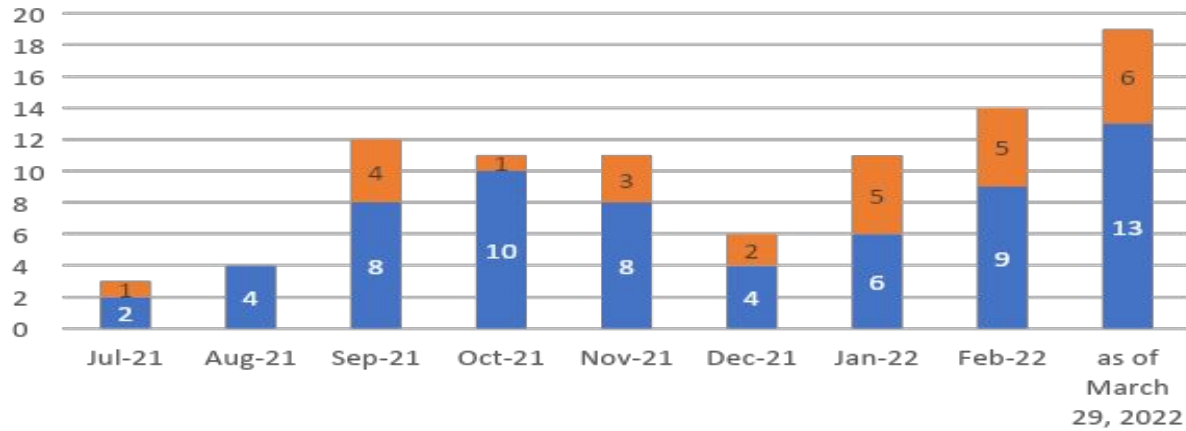
By District



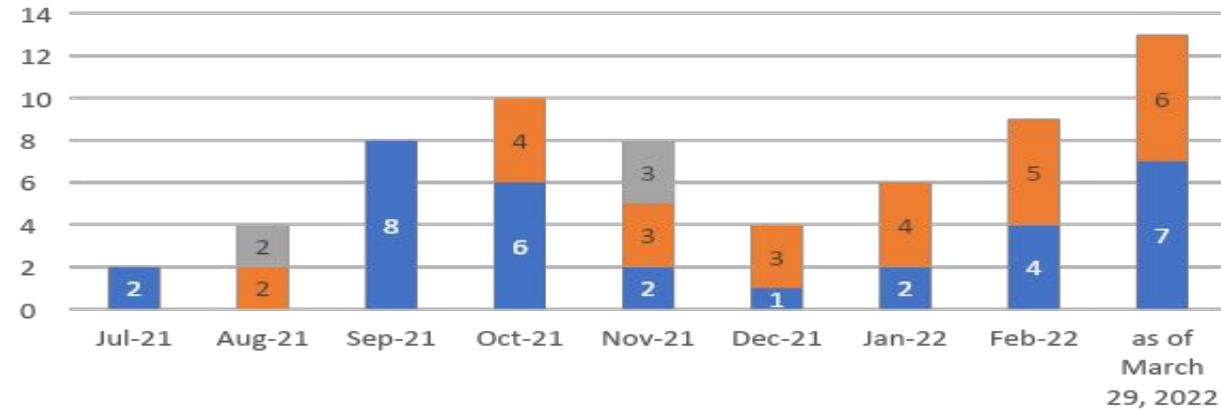


# Great Neck Dashboard

By Visit type



By Referent



■ Initial ■ Follow Up

■ School ■ Family ■ PCP/ED



Total 92 visits



Average age 13



42% boys



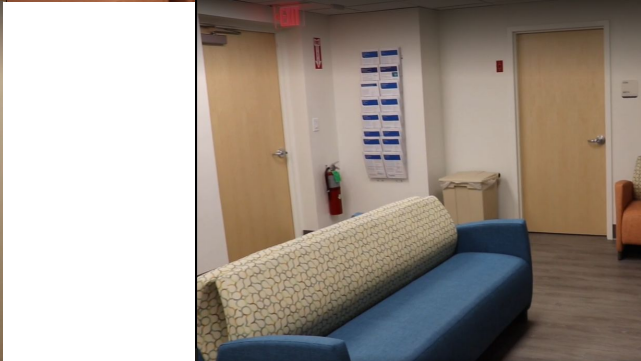
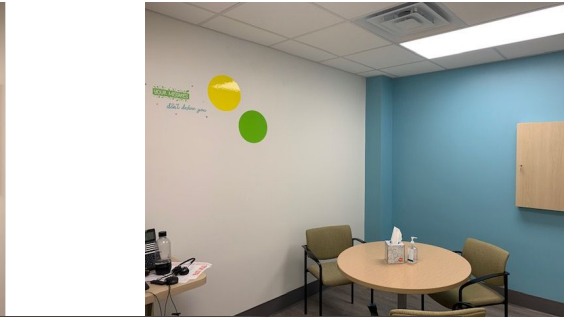
58% girls



81% positive linkage to ongoing care



25 days average time to link



## Location

- 156 First Street in Mineola, NY 11501

## Hours of Operation

- Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri from 8am – 8pm
- Tues 9:30a-5:30p

## Contact Information

- Phone: 516-321-5770
- Fax: 516-321-5779
- Email: [minbh@northwell.edu](mailto:minbh@northwell.edu)

# Collaborative Activities



BIWEEKLY MEETINGS WITH  
PPS STAFF



ADVISORY BOARD  
MEETING EVERY 2  
MONTHS WITH  
SUPERINTENDENTS AND  
PPS DIRECTORS



CONSULTATION ON THE  
PHONE WITH BHC TEAM  
AS NEEDED



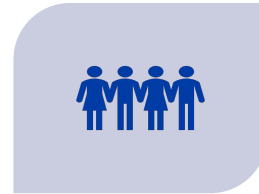
LINKAGE SUPPORT AND  
REFERRAL RESOURCES



PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT



COMMUNITY EDUCATION



MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS



STUDENT ADVOCATE  
PROGRAM

# Community Education

## Virtual series (youtube channel)

8/24/2021	School Mental Health Program: Parent School Refusal Workshop I: School Refusal
8/30/2021	School Mental Health Program: Parent School Refusal Workshop II: Anxiety
9/7/2021	School Mental Health Program: Parent School Refusal Workshop II: Oppositional Behavior
9/23/2021	Back to School in Good Health
9/28/2021	Managing Anxiety in an Anxious World
9/30/2021	Katz Women's Series: A Mother's Resiliency- Supporting the needs of a family
10/26/2021	Healthy Sleep for a Healthy Mind
11/9/2021	COVID Vaccine Update
11/30/2021	Healthy Eating for a Health Mind & Body
12/16/2021	Katz Women's Series: A Mother's Resiliency- Supporting the needs of a family
1/25/2022	Medical and Mental Health Impact of COVID
2/15/2022	Unconscious Bias and its impact on youth
3/22/2022	Stress and Trauma in families

## Collaboration with UPTC Health Committee

Great Neck UPTC Health Committee  
in collaboration with  
Northwell School Mental Health  
presents:



Tuesday March 1st  
7:30-8:30 pm on ZOOM

### Bouncing Forward: Resilient Parenting

**Presenters:**

Dr. Juliet Vogel  
Child Psychologist  
Department of Psychiatry, Zucker Hillside Hospital  
Northwell Health

Dr. Anthony Iacovelli  
School Psychologist  
Saddle Rock Elementary School  
Great Neck

**Moderator:**

Dr. Vera Feuer  
AVP, School Mental Health  
Director, Emergency Psychiatry and Behavioral Health Urgent Care  
Cohen Children's Medical Center, Northwell Health  
Associate Professor, Psychiatry, Pediatrics and Emergency Medicine  
Zucker SOM at Hofstra Northwell Health

To register in advance for this webinar and to submit questions for our presenters:

[https://northwell.zoom.us/join/register/WN\\_fvREC39ATr-AEhIMySmOmw](https://northwell.zoom.us/join/register/WN_fvREC39ATr-AEhIMySmOmw)

\*After registering, participants will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.



# Professional Development and Support

Date of Lecture	Topic Presented		
8/31/2021	Back to School Mental Health Conference	n/a	
9/14/2021	Mindfulness Meditation Session 1	n/a	
9/21/2021	Suicide Risk Assessment & Mitigation	4 participants	
9/23/2021	Mindfulness Meditation Session 2	n/a	
10/14/2021	Suicide Risk Assessment & Mitigation	3 participants	
10/26/2021	Managing Oppositional Behavioral- Secondary Level	3 participants	
11/2/2021	2nd Annual BH Symposium	n/a	
11/9/2021	Health Equity Series: Unconscious Bias	2 participants	
11/17/2021	Managing Oppositional Behavioral- Elementary Level	3 participants	
11/21/2021	Suicide Risk	1 participant	
11/23/2021	Stress First Aid 101	3 participants	
12/6/2021	Stress First Aid 101	2 participants	
12/7/2021	Health Equity Series: Cultural Humility/Allship	2 participants	
12/9/2021	Stress First Aid 101	11 participants	
12/14/2021	Stress First Aid 101	8 participants	
3/4/2022	School Threat Assessment	3 participants	
3/8/2022	Social Determinants of Health	1 participant	CEU
3/17/2022	Mindfulness Meditation Session 1	n/a	
3/22/2022	Trauma Informed Care	1 participant	CEU
3/29/2022	Mindfulness Meditation Session 1	n/a	

Stress First Aid with faculty and building administration

- Parkville Elementary
- Saddle Rock Elementary
- GN South Middle
- GN North Middle
- GN North High
- Village/SEAL

# Questions





# FAQs – Consent and Privacy

Can my child be sent to the Northwell Behavioral Health Center (BHC) without my knowledge?

- No, the care happening at the Behavioral Health Center is fully voluntary and confidential and requires the consent of a parent/guardian for all minors.

Will the school automatically get a report from the visit?

- NO. While school districts get exclusive access to the BHC, the family has full confidentiality rights. In addition to participating in care being voluntary, parents can also decide whether they want the BHC staff to communicate with the school or not. Furthermore, even if they sign a release for the teams to collaborate, the medical record generated during visits, will only be shared with the family and not directly with the district.

Will the school have control over the therapist's activities?

- No, neither school administration nor school clinical staff has control or jurisdiction over the medical and therapeutic recommendations made by the Northwell team.

## FAQs – Privacy and Liability

Does medical documentation from the BHC visit become part of the student's school record?

- Never. Even when we have written consent to share information with the school, only relevant information is shared.
- Medical records are not sent to the school and will only be shared with parents upon their request.

Is the district liable for any adverse outcomes after child is seen at the Northwell BHC?

- No, the school district is not liable for any care given at Northwell.

# FAQs – Care Provided

## What is the care provided?

- Following clinical assessments, our team determines the type of care that would most benefit the student and supports families to connect with the care recommended.
- The team also provides short term crisis medication management when needed and in consultation with parents/guardians and upon their consent, and therapy while families await linkage with community providers.
- The BHC does not provide long term, ongoing care.
- The BHC does not administer any medications, does not have the ability to do bloodwork, physical exam or provide any other medical care (including vaccines).

## Where do you connect families to care?

- We collaborate with community partners, including mental health clinics, group practices, private providers and subspecialty clinics to identify and connect families with the care they need.

## FAQs – Other Benefits

### What are benefits to the school?

- Crisis response
- Consultative support
- Collaboration
- Professional development
- Staff support

### What are benefits to the community?

- Timely access to care
- Ability to avoid hospitals and emergency departments
- Community Education
- Resources

# Thank You

