



Manhasset Public Schools

Joy-Anne D'Anca, Ed.D.: Director of School Counseling Services

Elementary Wellness Team

Shelter Rock Elementary School:

Jenny Chen, School Counselor

Jennifer Barbieri-Smith, Social Worker

Munsey Park Elementary School:

Amanda Gimondo, School Counselor

Lori Pietrafesa, Social Worker

March 20, 2020

Dear Shelter Rock and Munsey Park Elementary Families:

As Director of School Counseling Services, I write to you echoing not only my own sentiments but also that of the *Elementary Wellness Team* comprised of our school counselors and social workers in hoping that you are all well and embracing this new and hopefully temporary “normal” of virtual communication. **As we navigate this learning curve, I want to ensure you that our team is fully committed to supporting you and your child academically, socially and emotionally in every way possible.** May you always know that we are accessible to you for whatever you may need.

Please allow me to share the steps we are taking to foster communication with our students and families in hopes of making the navigation process easier for you in deciphering the most direct contacts for your needs:

1. Our wellness team is fully accessible through email for any questions or concerns that you may have as voicemail poses difficulty since they are not in the building. Please feel free to email them at the addresses provided below and they will respond accordingly.

Mrs. Chen, School Counselor

Shelter Rock

jenny_chen@manhassetsschools.org

Mrs. Barbieri-Smith, Social Worker

jennifer_barbieri-smith@manhassetsschools.org

Mrs. Gimondo, School Counselor

Munsey Park

Amanda_gimondo@manhassetsschools.org

Mrs. Pietrafesa, Social Worker

lori_pietrafesa@manhassetsschools.org

2. **Any member of our team is accessible to you and your child for any concern or question.** The school counselors have been addressing small groups and conducting classroom-based lessons on topics such as mindful study skills, positive decision making, socialization, and self-esteem. They will send out materials on such topics for you and your child to do electronically to continue to reinforce such skills. In addition, they will reach out to parents and, in turn, students who they see weekly for mandated services and RTI counseling.

Our social workers also reinforce small group discussions with certain students on the above stated topics while additionally assisting in navigating the availability of community, financial and medical/mental health resources outside the district. They will also reach out to parents and students who they see for mandated counseling services.

3. Whether or not your child receives consistent services from any member of the elementary wellness team, I urge you to reach out to us with any questions or concerns that may arise. This support is also offered to **you** as parents. We recognize that you too may be working from home or deciphering finances because you are unable to work as many hours as before. Please know that the team is ready and willing to fully support you.

4. Also included with this letter is a list of community resources at you and your and child's fingertips. We provide this as yet another opportunity to meet your needs collectively and will be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding these resources.

The current state of our nation and world is less than ideal and, quite frankly, scary for us as educators, you as parents and your children. We acknowledge the uncertainty and anxiety associated with this and want you to know that we are behind you in person upon our return to school as well as at home. No matter what, we are in this together. As the saying goes: *"Individually we are one drop. Together, we are an ocean."*

I wish you safety and peace always. Please know that I, too, am accessible to whatever you may need. I can be reached at jdanca@manhassetchools.org.

Warm regards,



Dr. Joy-Anne D'Anca

Community Resources

For resources listed below, please contact the agency directly in order to obtain hours of operation as they may be subject to change.

American Red Cross Long Island

195 Willis Avenue
Mineola, NY 11501
www.Redcross.org
516-747-3500

Catholic Charities (Referrals and FEMA)

516-733-7000
www.catholiccharitiesusa.org

Department of Social Services

www.nassaucountyny.org
516-227-8395
60 Charles Lindbergh Blvd
Uniondale, NY 11553

Long Island Crisis Center

www.longislandcrisiscenter.org
516-679-1111

Office of Mental Health

National Suicide Prevention Hotline

1-800-273-8255
*LGBTQ students can utilize this hotline as well

NY State Domestic Violence Hotline

1-800-942-6906

Crisis Text Line

Text “got5” to 741741

Resource for Emergency Food

Long Island Cares
21 East Sunrise Hwy
Freeport, NY 11520
631-582-food
www.licares.org

Whyhunger.org

Go to the Resources tab and click on Find Food and enter your information

In the event of an emergency please contact 911 or go to your local emergency room.

Recursos en la Comunidad

Para obtener los recursos que se enumeran a continuacion, comuniquese directamente con la agencia para obtener horas de operacion, ya que pueden estar sujetos a cambios.

American Redcross Long Island (la cruz roja)

195 Willis Avenue
Mineola, NY 11501
www.Redcross.org
516-747-3500

Catholic Charities (Referrals and FEMA)

516-733-7000
www.catholiccharitiesusa.org

Department of Social Services

www.nassaucountyny.org
516-227-8395
60 Charles Lindbergh Blvd
Uniondale, NY 11553

Long Island Crisis Center (linea de crisis)

www.longislandcrisiscenter.org
516-679-1111

Office of Mental Health

National Suicide Prevention Hotline (linea directa para suicidio)

1-800-273-8255
*LGBTQ students can utilize this hotline as well

NY State Domestic Violence Hotline (linea directa para violencia domestica)

1-800-942-6906

Crisis Text Line (linea de texto de crisis)

Text "GOT5" to 741741

Resource for Emergency Food (recursos para comida)

Long Island Cares
21 East Sunrise Hwy
Freeport, NY 11520
631-582-food
www.licares.org

Whyhunger.org

Vaya a recursos y haga clic en Buscar comida e ingrese su informacion.

En caso de emergencia, comuniquese con 911 o vaya a la sala de emergencia del hospital mas cercano.

