



Partnership with NJ4S Delivers Mental Health Services to Students

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PRINCETON, NJ – In an effort to improve students’ mental health and raise awareness of behavioral health issues, the NJ Student Support Services (NJ4S) Mercer Hub has been working with Princeton Public School administrators, counselors, teachers and staff, to present an array of wellness services.

“Our clinicians and prevention education consultants are providing additional support within the district to ensure every student has access to mental health services – from foundational skill-building to specialized clinical services,” said Hub Director Michael Lovaglio. “Our evidence-based prevention education programs are presented through engaging, hands-on activities that promote positive mental health and well-being.”

The Mercer Hub follows a three-tiered approach to supporting students. Tier 1 includes universal prevention education in the form of webinars, assemblies, trainings and resources presented to the community at large. Tier 2 provides small group interventions for middle and high school students. Tier 3 services are delivered by clinicians and include professional assessments, screenings, short-term interventions and referrals to long-term resources.

Funded through the NJ Department of Children and Families, NJ4S was created to address the mental health crisis facing children today. The Mercer Hub is a program of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton. Services and resources are available to all students and families throughout the county, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation, and at no cost to their districts.

“These mental health services are free for Mercer County students and will allow us to increase the supports that are available to students in our elementary schools. It is important for people to realize that despite the name Catholic Charities, they are not religious in nature. They are open to all students regardless of their background,” said Princeton Public Schools Board Member, Eleanor Hubbard.

For more information about the services and programs provided by the Mercer Hub, call 609-394-5157 x3601 or x3602 or visit https://www.catholiccharitiestrenton.org/nj4s_mercer_hub/.

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Dedicated to its mission of alleviating human suffering, especially among the most vulnerable, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton serves more than 110,000 individuals each year, regardless of religious affiliation. Operating in Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth and Ocean counties, the agency gives support to individuals and families who need food, clothing, rent or utility assistance, and offers domestic violence services, including counseling and safe havens, to survivors of domestic abuse. Catholic Charities provides services to immigrants, including Department of Justice-accredited legal assistance, ESL classes, citizenship classes and advocacy. If you need services, contact our Access Center at 1-800-360-7711. For more information on all the ways Catholic Charities cares for its neighbors, visit www.catholiccharitiestrenton.org.