



Denville Township Schools

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Emergency Psychiatric Services During the School Health Related Closure

The Denville Township School District continues to collaborate with Saint Clare's Behavioral Health during this time of Distance Learning. We want to provide information to help our students and families in the event a student is making statements or demonstrating behaviors that indicate he or she may be a danger to self or others. This can also be for any student experiencing anxiety or depression as a result of the pandemic. Please read below on a service available to you if you have these concerns for your child.

The Denville Township School District has contracted with Saint Clare's Center for Evaluation and Referrals (CER) to perform emergency behavioral health/psychiatric evaluations for students. Saint Clare's has agreed to schedule students referred from the Denville School District as quickly as possible. **Saint Clare's Behavioral Health is located at 130 Powerville Road Boonton New Jersey.**

To schedule an evaluation for your child, please call 1-888-626-2111. When making the appointment, inform the scheduler that your child is from the Denville Township School District.

If you bring your child to Saint Clare's Center for Evaluation and Referrals (CER), Saint Clare's will first bill your medical insurance company. The Denville Township school district will cover any remaining balance for the CER evaluation. **Please review the attached procedures for inpatient treatment provided by Saint Clare's Behavioral Health.**

Services for a face to face evaluation are available for same day for any student in need. Only one parent may accompany the minor child when entering the building. Upon completion of an evaluation, the CER will provide you with specific recommendations. If your child is ready to resume school, the CER will provide you with a letter to share with your child's school which indicates that your child is ready to resume virtual schooling. This letter is required to be provided to your child's School Principal to resume the Denville Township Schools Distance Learning program.

Please be advised that if, at any time, you have concerns regarding the safety of your child, you should contact Saint Clare's Hospital Psych Emergency Unit at 973-316-1945 or 973-625-6150 or go directly to Saint Clare's Hospital Emergency Room located at 25 Pocono Road Denville, New Jersey.

Saint Clare's Behavioral Health Procedures for Inpatient Treatment

If your child is evaluated by the Behavioral Health Team at Saint Clare's and deemed to be in need of inpatient treatment (hospitalization) – the following will occur:

- 1.) If you are at Saint Clare's Boonton and you have a contracted insurance provider, our team will reach out to the insurer for pre-approval to certify this admission to the hospital. If you wish to have Saint Clare's provide this care, then your child can be hospitalized at our Child & Adolescent Unit in Boonton.
- 2.) If you are at Saint Clare's Boonton and you have a NON-contracted insurance provider, then the CER staff will arrange for your child to be taken by ambulance to the Emergency Department of Saint Clare's Hospital -Denville, in order to process an admission to a contracted facility. The reason for the transport is that the Saint Clare's team has determined that there is a level of risk for safety for the child and it is thus required that transfer be done by secure transport. To refer any individual to another facility requires "medical clearance" and in some cases could require additional tests or lab work prior to acceptance.
- 3.) When the child is medically cleared, you will be referred to the Psychiatric Emergency Service, adjacent to the Emergency Room, and one of the clinicians, in conjunction with their team, will complete the process to obtain hospitalization in a contracted facility of your insurance provider. It is our goal that by following this process, we will not cause any undue financial hardship to the families of our patients. We are well aware that there is already significant stress present for all during such circumstances.

However, if the family prefers to have their child admitted to Saint Clare's and has no insurance, it will be the family's responsibility to pay Saint Clare's in full for the services provided. A deposit may be required based upon the anticipated level of service. Finally, the family will be required to execute a note payable to Saint Clare's evidencing the "promise to pay."

- 4.) Should there be no need for hospitalization for your child, then you will receive a "Back to Virtual School" discharge note from Saint Clare's Team which will also outline any recommendations for outpatient counseling, medical follow-up or any additional recommendations that have been suggested.