

JUSTICE RESOURCE INSTITUTE, INC.

THE MERRIMACK CENTER

365 East St.

Tewksbury, MA 01876



Parent/Guardian Handbook





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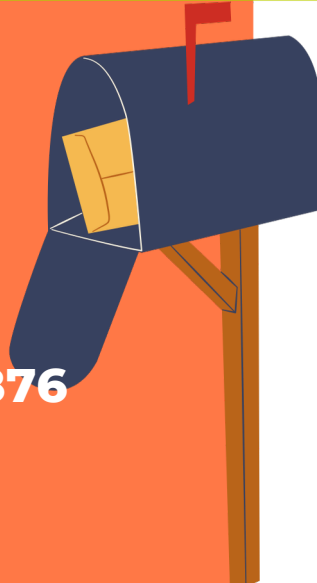
978-851-0790

Fax: 978-851-5218

Mailing Address:

PO Box 1148

Tewksbury, MA 01876



Supervisor Cell Phone
(978) 482-5552

Should you require assistance and your child's clinician is not available, please call the supervisor cell phone and ask to speak to the supervisor in charge

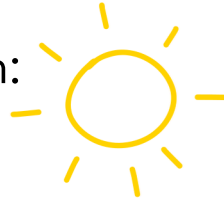


Program Phone Numbers

Dial

978-851-0790

then press extension:



Kafui Agboh Program Director...ext. 38652

Marian Winn Human Resource Representative...ext. 38664

Mike McDonough Administrative Assistant...ext. 38653

Michelle Lee Assistant Program Director...ext. 38669

Jaime Gonzalez, RN Director of Nursing...ext. 38662

Robert Calla Residential Director... ex. 38659

Ryen Rao, LMHC Clinical Director...ext. 38655

Caitlin Kennedy, LCSW Clinician...ext. 38656

Cailey O'Leary, MA Clinician...ext. 38658



Sun Hall...ext. 38651

Moon Hall...ext. 38661

Ad Team



Michelle Lee
ASSISTANT PROGRAM
DIRECTOR



Kafui Agboh
PROGRAM DIRECTOR



Ryen Rao, LMHC
CLINICAL DIRECTOR



Robert Calla
RESIDENTIAL
DIRECTOR



Jaime Gonzalez, RN
DIRECTOR OF NURSING



Crystal Sheeley
ASSISTANT RESIDENTIAL
DIRECTOR

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Ad Team meets once weekly on Thursday's to assess each individual's privileges at the program . Members of Ad Team rotates 24/7 on call responsibilities in case of emergency.

Clinical Department

Your child will be assigned a clinician upon entering the program. Your child's clinician will conduct individual, group, and family therapy, as indicated.

Ryen Rao, LMHC
Clinical Director



Cailey O'Leary, MA
Clinician



The clinical department runs weekly groups at the program. Our BCBA runs Social Thinking Group, our Transition Coordinator runs Transition Skills Group, and our Occupational Therapist runs weekly Occupational Therapy groups. Group therapy is an important part of your child's treatment at the program, so they are expected to attend all groups offered each week.



Caitlin Kennedy, MSW
Clinician



Behterin Renhuma, MEd, LABA
BCBA



Erin Laskin, OTR
Occupational Therapist



Sarah Laganelli
Transition Coordinator



Occupational Therapy

Due to the multitude of needs our population has, we have a full time Occupational Therapist in the building Monday-Friday. Our Occupational Therapist, Erin Laskin, runs weekly groups, activities, and works 1:1 with each resident as needed.



Erin Laskin, OTR: Occupational Therapist

ERIN HELPS OUR YOUTH WORK ON SKILLS SUCH AS:

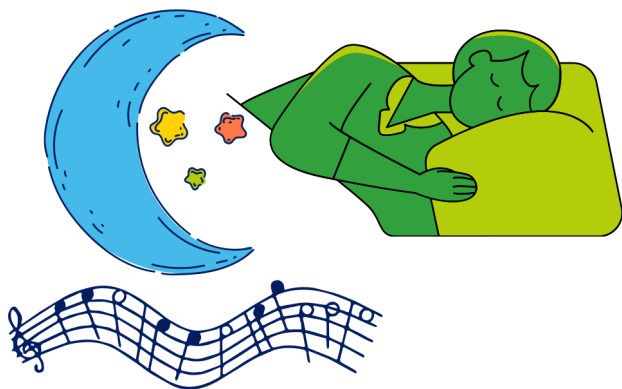
PERSONAL HYGIENE



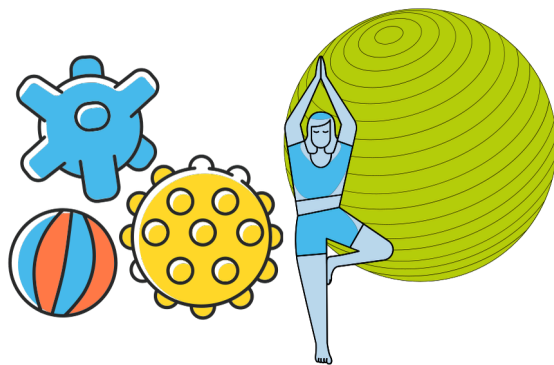
LEISURE ACTIVITIES



SLEEP ROUTINES



SENSORY BASED COPING SKILLS



Psychiatry and Nursing Department

Dr. Faller meets with residents at the program every Tuesday.

Dr. Faller is best reached via email at vfaller@jri.org. Dr. Faller attends all monthly treatment meetings to discuss medication management.



VERONICA FALLER, MD
PSYCHIATRIST



JAIME GONZALEZ, RN
DIRECTOR OF NURSING



While at the program, your child has access to 24 hours of nursing per day. Our nurses provide daily medication administration, in the moment medical care, and coordination of outside medical appointments. ***If you ever have medical related questions, please contact the Nursing Department directly at (978) 851-0790 ex. 38662***

Residential Supervisors



Crystal Sheeley
Assistant Residential Director
Senior Supervisor



Shannon Hill
Senior Supervisor



Randall Keough
Senior Supervisor
Overnight Supervisor



Raymond Umunna
Overnight Supervisor



Tiffany Ferrant
Supervisor



Widner Mezilien
Supervisor

Donise Hassey
Supervisor



Our team of residential supervisors run each shift and are the main point of contact for families during weekends and after 5pm on weekdays.

There is a supervisor on 24/7 to support our youth, staff members, and families in need.

If your child is to have difficulties and require external support for safety, a supervisor will reach out directly to families to report on what occurred.

Our supervisor cell phone number is: (978) 482-5552

Monthly Treatment Meetings



You and your child's treatment team will meet once monthly to discuss updates, treatment, and aftercare planning

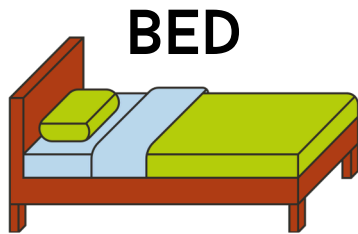
DURING THE MEETING, YOU WILL HEAR UPDATES IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

individual, group, and family therapy
occupational therapy
nursing and medication management
education
residential/milieu

OUTSIDE COLLATERALS SUCH AS DMH, DCF, DDS, AND SCHOOL DISTRICT PERSONNEL ARE INVITED TO ALL MONTHLY TREATMENT TEAM MEETINGS

Your Child's Bedroom

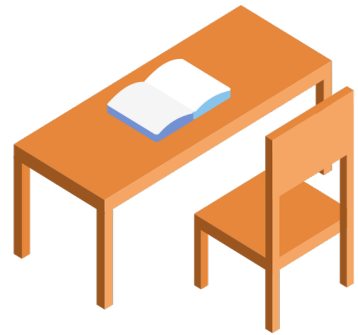
Your child's bedroom at the program will include:



BED



DRESSER



DESK

We encourage pictures and other items from home to include in your child's bedroom to help them feel most comfortable

THINGS YOUR CHILD **CAN** HAVE:

- Your child will be provided an MP3 player from the program with appropriate/ clean version music of their choice
- Your child is allowed their own bedding, sheets, stuffed animals, journals, DVD player, small television, most electronics
- Any questions about items please refer to the clinician to assist you
- We do recommend giving family photos for your child to place on their walls of their bedroom. We can assist you if you need some taken during visits.

THINGS THEY **CANNOT** HAVE:

- Picture frames
- Spiral notebooks
- Anything with sharp metal, we can look at it if you need clarification. Cell phones, Tablets, Tablets, lap tops, Nintendo DS
- Devices with video recording or cameras.
- Items of sentimental value or expensive jewelry.



Daily Routines

YOUR CHILD'S DAILY ROUTINES INCLUDE:

Daily shower

Brush teeth

Comb/brush hair

Use deodorant

Dress appropriately

Clean room

Make bed



YOUR CHILD WILL BE ASSIGNED A LAUNDRY DAY OF THE WEEK AND COACHED BY STAFF ON HOW TO DO THEIR LAUNDRY.



If your child has difficulties with activities of daily living, our residential staff and Occupational Therapist are always here to help!



Visits at the Program

Visits at the program can occur at any time!

HOW TO SCHEDULE VISITS AT THE PROGRAM:

- Contact your child's clinician to set up a day and time for your visits. While we ask that visits take place outside of school, group therapy, and individual therapy hours, we understand our families' and guardians' needs are all different. Your clinician will work with you to find appropriate days/times to visit your child
- Community based and 'off grounds' visits are determined based on your child's eligibility. Eligibility for these visits include amount of time safe in the program, participation in all day-to-day activities, and are based around your child's treatment plan



Phone calls – your child has access to a unit phone during their stay.

If you have any concerns regarding your child's phone usage, please contact your assigned family clinician.

OUR DAILY PROGRAMMING IS BASED IN BASIC ABA AND BEHAVIORISM PRINCIPLES!

Our behavioral incentive system is reinforced by earning a daily on track/ off track coupon.



Your child's eligibility's at the program are deciphered by their 'on/off track status'. Residents 'on track' are demonstrating safe, participatory behaviors throughout the program and can earn things such as off grounds trips and daily incentives.

Daily Incentives

Each day that your child is 'on track' they earn a coupon for a special item! Some items your child may earn during their time include: shopping money to Amazon, small electronics, snacks of choice, order out dinners, and more!



**OUR INCENTIVE BASED PROGRAMMING HELPS OUR YOUTH STAY
MOTIVATED TO ENGAGE IN SAFE BEHAVIORS AND PARTICIPATE IN
ALL ASPECTS OF PROGRAMMING !**

GOOD
JOB!!

School at the MC

The school at the Merrimack Center is run by SEIS (Special Education in Institutional Settings)



well
done!



- Your child will go to school from 9:00 AM to 2:45 PM Monday-Friday
- Our lead teacher is dually-certified in special education and their content area, while the remainder of the teaching team are certified in their content area and receive ongoing professional development on how to best support individuals with disabilities
- Our school coordinates with your child's home school district to ensure they are earning all academic requirements necessary
- During the summer break, we run a modified school program. If your child's IEP has 'extended school year' services indicated, they will participate in the modified summer education programming





Directions to the Merrimack Center

365 East St. Tewksbury Hospital, Special Building

Tewksbury, MA 01876

Main phone number: (978) 851-0790

GPS: The Merrimack Center on Waze or Google Maps

OR: Tewksbury Public Library, 300 Chandler Street

FROM I-93 GOING SOUTH

93 South to Exit 42, Dascomb Road Exit. Left off exit. At end take a right onto Dascomb Rd. Go straight through lights. Dascomb Road becomes East Street once you enter Tewksbury. Travel 2.6 miles on Dascomb Road/East Street. Once you pass Livingston St, take your first left onto Chapel Rd. (Across from the baseball fields)

FROM I-93 GOING NORTH

93 North (from Boston) to Exit 42, Dascomb Road Exit. Left off exit. Go straight through lights. Dascomb Road becomes East Street once you enter Tewksbury. Travel 2.6 miles on Dascomb/East Street. Once you pass Livingston St, take your first left onto Chapel Road. (Across from the baseball fields)

ONCE ON HOSPITAL GROUNDS

Once on grounds of Tewksbury Hospital, follow Chapel Road to the second stop sign and take a right onto Hospital Road, which passes by the main hospital building (there are 3 speed bumps. Take the third right onto Service Road. Merrimack Center is the first building on your right across from the basketball court. Park right in front of the building. Ring buzzer located in front of the building and someone will assist you.

FROM I- 495

From 495 South take Route 38, Exit 38. Left off exit (take a left as well if coming from 495 North.) Continue straight on 38 South. (Main St). Take a hard left at the sixth set of lights (Petroil gas station, Dunkin' Donuts and Tewksbury Public Library on left) onto Chandler St. Take first right onto the hospital grounds. Once on the grounds take you first left onto Service Road and the Merrimack Center is the first building on the right. Park right in front of the building. Ring buzzer located in front of the building.