



School-Focused Behaviorist

Mobile Crisis Services

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Northern Rivers' Mobile Crisis Services team offers telephone support for children, families, and adults experiencing emotional and/or behavioral crisis and for professionals working with these individuals. Serving Albany (children only), Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren, and Washington counties, teams are available to respond Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. For general information, contact 518.952.9032.

These services are provided by Northern Rivers Family of Services and member agencies.

As a member of the Mobile Crisis Services team, Northern Rivers' school-focused behaviorist works with schools and other educational settings by providing support to students with autism spectrum disorders and developmental disabilities. To be eligible, a student must be eligible and receiving services from the New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD). This service is a short-term service that last approximately 15 hours in total. Our behaviorist is available Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and provides services in Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren, and Washington counties for students ages 4–21 who are experiencing repetitive behavioral and/or emotional episodes in the school setting.

Services Provided

Consultation and information: Telephone consultation and information is available to parents and school personnel working with children and adolescents who may be experiencing behavioral and/or emotional challenges in the school setting. The focus of the consultation can include clarifying the nature of the challenging behavior, identifying options for responding, providing recommendations for intervention, identifying community resources, making a referral to a service agency, and/or developing a prevention plan.

Assessment and intervention: The school-focused behaviorist can conduct formal and informal assessments as needed and develop intervention plans, as well as add strategies and supports to an existing plan. Our behaviorist can also provide recommendations based on classroom observations and input from the student's educational team

Collaboration and postintervention: The school-focused behaviorist works collaboratively with students, school personnel, families, and service providers to identify behaviors that impede academic achievement and to develop strategies and positive supports that promote success in the school setting. Our behaviorist is available to participate in planning meetings as well as provide information and follow up support as needed.

Contact Information

Parents, providers, or school professionals are all able to access these voluntary services. Our school-focused behaviorist will work with parents and school officials to obtain information and permission prior to observing a student. For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact:

Shannon Boreali
School-Focused Behaviorist
518.952.9032, ext. 1102

For emergency situations,
please contact the Mobile Crisis Services team immediately
518.292.5499