



CREATING CONNECTIONS TO SUPPORT OUR REGIONS YOUTH

Heywood Healthcare (Athol Hospital / Heywood Hospital) – Handle with Care North Central / North Quabbin region has assisted in identifying over 400+ children with need for trauma-informed care between first responder police departments and school districts. Recently the Handle with Care North Central / North Quabbin initiative has expanded its first responder circle to include Heywood Healthcare’s Emergency Departments in Athol and Gardner.

How It Works: A parent or caregiver of school age youth, ages 3 years to 18 years, receives this informational sheet after registering their child as a patient; below is the caregiver form. The caregiver form is a self-referral tool, to refer your child to his/her school nurse, as deemed appropriate; asking to please “handle your child with care”. Trauma responsive trained school staff are alerted to help the child struggling through observation and support; they are not aware of the incident that caused your child to seek medical care at the Emergency Department; but instead provide extra support and accommodations as needed. For additional information about the initiative, please visit <https://www.heywood.org/about-us/philanthropy-programs/handle-with-care-collaborative-of-the-north-central-and-north-quabbin-region>

Resources:

- Please click [HERE](#), to learn more about or make a referral to school based behavioral health services being offered at: Athol/Royalston, Ashburnham/Westminster, Gardner, Narragansett and Winchendon school districts.
- For any behavioral health/substance use needs outside the districts listed above, please contact the Behavioral and Substance Use Healthline: 833-773-2445.

NOTE: For children not of school age or home schooled, this form can also be shared with your child’s daycare provider and/or primary care provider to provide “HANDLE WITH CARE” trauma informed care support for your child’s wellbeing.

Detach below and return to school nurse / daycare provider / primary care physician

* HANDLE WITH CARE * CAREGIVER FORM

Heywood Healthcare
Emergency Departments: Athol & Gardner

My child is going to school after a difficult night, morning, or weekend. Heywood Healthcare wants school to be a safe and comforting place for them. I am requesting this note be turned in to the school nurse to signify an emergency issue occurred and my child may have been impacted, please “HANDLE WITH CARE”. Thank you.

Child’s first name, last initial:

Child’s grade:

Parent’s first name, last initial:

NOTE: For additional information about the initiative, please visit Heywood’s Handle With Care website.



Heywood Healthcare - School Based Services

Heywood's school based programs offer youth support with mental health needs, medical needs, substance abuse treatment, youth mentoring and community resources. Even though our program is school based, we do offer services year round. Our school based Community Health Workers are available to assist with community resources and answer any questions you may have regarding our services.

We are based in several local school districts:

- Athol-Royalston School District
- Gardner Public School District
- Narragansett Regional Middle & High School
- RC Mahar Regional School District
- Winchendon Public School District

Services available vary by school. A menu of available services at each site is included in the referral form. Referrals can be made electronically and will be sent directly to our team. Once received, a member of our team will reach out to answer any questions and discuss next steps.

SBS referral form: <https://tinyurl.com/sbsreferralform>

Contact us at:

E: sbtelehealth@heywood.org or sbhc@heywood.org

P: (978) 630-6151

F: (877) 591-1958

For More Information:

www.heywood.org/handlewithcare

