

COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTER PARTNERS WITH OLIVER WOLCOTT TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL IN SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER

TORRINGTON, CT, September 11 –School is back in session, full swing. And this year, at Oliver Wolcott Technical High School, Torrington, Connecticut, freshman through seniors are eligible to participate in the School-Based Health Center (SBHC), which is offered in partnership with Community Health & Wellness Center (CHWC), Torrington.

SBHCs are in place in nearly 2,000 schools across the county, where they are helping to keep students healthy and ready to achieve. The goal of an SBHC is to provide students with easy access to quality medical care while missing minimal time from class. Positive outcomes of an SBHC include improved access to care, reduced student absences, increased classroom time, improved health and education outcome for children, and decrease in parental/guardian missed work time for transporting children to off-site medical appointments.

CHWC’s nurse practitioner works in collaboration with The Oliver Wolcott Tech School nurse and a child’s pediatrician in order to provide students with the best medical care possible. “An SBHC does not replace a family’s primary care provider or the important role of school nurses,” says Joanne Borduas, CHWC’s CEO. “Rather, an SBHC offers the benefit of comprehensive, complementary adjunct care. Our providers work in collaboration with the student’s primary care providers, nurses, parents, and other disciplines within the school, such as counselors.”

The services the SBHC provides include primary medical care, behavioral care, and nutrition education, and health education. Medical treatments and services include sports physicals, eye exams, immunizations, wound care, in-office nebulizing treatments for asthma and asthma management, sick visits, substance abuse counseling, sexually-transmitted infection counseling, and birth control counseling

The SBHC Behavior Health Services are offered with CHWC Licensed Clinical Social Workers who are certified to work with children and adolescents. Services address depression, anxiety, stress, PTSD, ADHD, eating disorders, family-related issues, self-injurious behaviors, grief and loss, truancy, and more.

Nutrition services are provided by CHWC’s Registered Dietician-Nutritionist, and can help improve and address conditions such as weight management, prediabetes and diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol/triglycerides, polycystic ovary syndrome, asthma, digestive conditions, and food allergies/intolerance.

“We are pleased to offer the 650 students at Oliver Wolcott Tech School access to our health care providers,” says Borduas. “As a partner in the School-Based Health Center, we are taking

another step to fulfill our mission of keeping communities healthy and offering compassionate, high-quality, patient-centered care.”

SBHC hours at Oliver Wolcott Technical High School are: Medical, Tuesdays 8 am – 12 pm; Behavioral Health, by appointment Monday and Thursday, 8 am – 12 pm, and nutrition services by appointment. Children will be able to access care when school is not in session at either of CHWC’s two practice locations: 469 Migeon Avenue, Torrington, and 115 Spencer Street, Winsted.

All Oliver-Wolcott Tech students are eligible for medical services provided by the SBHC by enrollment. For them to be enrolled, parents need to fill out a consent form, a registration form, and provide a copy of their insurance card. Health services are 100% covered for children insured by Husky or Medicaid, based on their eligibility status. CHWC accepts most insurance plans. If a family has no insurance, CHWC will work with them to arrange a payment plan and assist with applying for health insurance. To enroll or for more information, contact Debra Ismail, Oliver-Wolcott Tech School Nurse, email address Debra.Ismail@ct.gov, telephone (860) 496-5300, extension #5355.

ABOUT COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER

The Community Health & Wellness Center of Greater Torrington is committed to keeping communities healthy. The center, its employees, volunteer practitioners, board members, officer, and independent contractors are deemed to be employees of the Federal Public Health and Human Services. In a compassionate, patient-centered environment, CHWC services are accessible and provided without discriminations, with cultural competence, and where all people matter regardless of their ability to pay.

CHWC offers and continues to develop a range of healthcare services for the underserved throughout northwest Connecticut, including medical, dental, chiropractic, and counseling services. It strives to achieve the reputation of “provider of choice” for affordable, high quality services that achieve positive patient outcomes in a welcoming and caring environment.

CHWC collaborates and advocates with other organizations to increase the region’s capacity to meet the communities’ health and wellness needs. It is the only Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) in Connecticut to receive a Health Services and Resource’s Association’s (HRSA) Health Center Program 2017 Quality Leader Award.

CHWC is located at 469 Migeon Avenue, Torrington, CT, and 115 Spencer Street, Winsted, CT, with the following satellite locations: FISH of Torrington, 332 South Main Street, Torrington; Sullivan Senior Center, 88 East Albert Street, Torrington, CT; The Open Door Soup Kitchen, 160

Main Street, Winsted; YMCA Emergency Shelter, 480 Main Street, Winsted; Torrington Soup Kitchen, 220 Prospect Street, Torrington; and Oliver Wolcott Technical School, 75 Oliver Street, Torrington. Telephone 860-489-0931, visit at www.chwctorr.org and on Facebook.

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