

*NEKYS has been offering vital supportive services for youth and families since 1975  
In 2019 NEKYS served 454 individuals throughout Caledonia and Essex Counties*

**NEKYS Family Programs Provide:**

- Staff is available 24 hours/7days a week to support youth, families, and individuals.
- Supportive counseling for youth and families, case management, support for youth and families within their schools, and family mediation.
- Outdoor adventure opportunities that include kayaking, canoeing, hiking, swimming, and mountain climbing. The group works on learning coping skills and self-care strategies.
- Adult mentors once a week in the school for at-risk students in the 1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade. Adult mentors establish supportive relationships that result in improved academic performance and positive life choices.
- Summer Central Scholarship program offering scholarships for children to attend summer activities they otherwise could not afford.

**NEKYS Youth Program Include:**

- Staff is available 24 hours/7days a week to support youth, families, and individuals.
- Support to local young people ages 15-22 that are homeless or at risk of homelessness; have current or past involvement with foster care; are pregnant and/or parenting; experiencing mental health issues; struggling with substance abuse; have current or past involvement with the criminal justice system.
- Programs that utilize a positive youth development, trauma-informed approach that is tailored to meet the needs of young people. Encouragement for each young person is to identify their strengths and achieve goals related to housing, education, employment, and life skills.
- Access to short-term and long-term housing support that addresses the complex needs of young adults who are 18-22 years old. Young adults receive support which include in-home case management, rental assistance, landlord mediation, job skill development, and educational advancement support.

**NEKYS Restorative Justice Programs Include:**

- A voluntary and confidential alternative to court proceedings for individuals ages 10 through adult.
- Programs based on restorative justice practices that give the person who violates the law the opportunity to identify and repair the harm done to the victim, the community, and themselves.
- Opportunity for the individual who completes the requirements of the program to have his or her case closed in the legal system.
- Help for individuals to regain their driver's license while they pay off their fines and fees.
- Support for 16 to 21 year old youth who are referred to the program after receiving a notice to report from a police officer for possession and/or consumption of alcohol or marijuana.
- Assistance for youth ages 10 through 22 who have been adjudicated in Family Court, are on probation and require additional support by the Department for Children and Families.
- Pretrial Services – a new program involving risk assessment and needs screening.
- Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) – works with adjudicated youth to reduce/eliminate repeat offenses; works with at-risk youth using prevention techniques to keep them out of the juvenile justice system; truancy work with school systems.

Northeast Kingdom Youth Services is a private, non-profit agency governed by a community-based, volunteer Board of Directors. We rely on grants, contracts, and appropriations from the towns we serve to continue our mission. Thank you for supporting families in our community. Please call our office at 748-8732 if you have any questions or concerns.