

Northern Rivers Family of Services

60 Academy Road
Albany, NY 12208
518.426.2600

William Gettman Jr.

Chief Executive Officer
518.426.2600
William.Gettman@nrfs.org

Matthew Crave

Chief Officer
Crisis Response Services
518.982.2152, ext. 1323
Matthew.Crave@nrfs.org

Kim Cummins

Chief Officer
Foster Care & Residential Services
518.426.2725
Kim.Cummins@nrfs.org

Amy DiRamio

Chief Officer
Behavioral Health Services
518.431.1650, ext. 1659
Amy.DiRamio@nrfs.org

Lori Favata

Chief Officer
Community Services
518.527.4447
Lori.Favata@nrfs.org

Kris Youmans

Chief Education Officer & Superintendent
518.369.6913
Kris.Youmans@nrfs.org

Quick Facts

- ✓ 1,400 employees
- ✓ 25+ offices
- ✓ Covering 40+NYS counties
- ✓ Serving 18,000 children, adults, and families
- ✓ 60+ programs serving those struggling with:
 - abuse and neglect
 - trauma
 - mental health challenges
 - educational needs
 - service navigation
- ✓ Training more than 6,000 professionals statewide annually

Northern Rivers is a family of human services agencies that work together and are committed to helping children, adults, and families. Formed in 2012, Northern Rivers is the parent organization to Northeast Parent & Child Society (founded in 1888 in Schenectady), Parsons Child & Family Center (founded in 1829 in Albany), and Unlimited Potential (founded in Saratoga Springs in 1979). Together we serve more than 18,000 children, adults, and families in more than 40 counties in New York state who struggle with abuse, neglect, trauma, mental health challenges, educational difficulties, career training and employment, and service navigation through an innovative continuum of home-, clinic-, school-, and community-based services, vocational rehabilitation, supported employment, and senior-supporting programs that provide person-centered, trauma-informed innovative solutions to ensure clients live their best lives. With a 1,400-strong workforce and informed by our nearly 200-year heritage, our quality of care, depth of programs, combined size, and passion for the mission make us a leading human services provider.

Challenges Our Children Face

The children in our care face challenges in four main risk factors: trauma, developmental disabilities, mental health, and juvenile justice. Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) have been shown to increase risks for disease, disability, and early mortality; 97 percent of the children in our care have suffered at least one ACE; 80 percent have experienced four or more.

ACEs include sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse/neglect, medical trauma, domestic violence, parental incarceration, criminal activity in the home, disruption in caregiving, and abuse due to sexual orientation/gender expression. Many of these issues repeat generation after generation—parents who have experienced ACEs in their youth have a much higher tendency to expose their own children to ACEs.

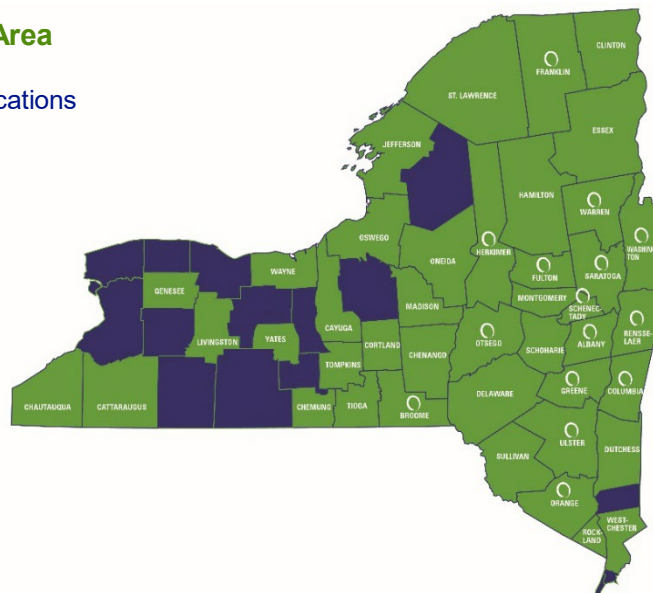
In fact, nearly 65 percent of caregivers have experienced at least one of the following traumatic events: sexual abuse, physical abuse, medical trauma, natural disasters, family violence, criminal acts, neglect, or attachment losses. Almost half of caregivers have experienced two or more.

Our challenge is to help those in our care develop resilience by understanding their challenges, creating environments where they feel physically and emotionally safe, and helping them develop supports and connections in the community.

Our Service Area



Office locations





Behavioral Health Services

A community-based network of outpatient mental health services in school and community settings designed to support the diverse range of needs for children, adults, and families.

- Behavioral health counseling
- OnTrackNY
- School-based behavioral health clinics in 40+ public schools



Crisis Response Services

A community-based system of social work, psychiatric, and supportive services for children, adults, and families experiencing mental health crises to solve immediate challenges and build pathways to long-term success.

- Assertive Community Treatment (ACT)
- Home-based crisis intervention
- Mobile crisis
- Short-term crisis stabilization
- Youth ACT



Foster Care & Residential Services

A continuum of safe and therapeutic home- and facility-based residential environments with comprehensive services for children and the families who support them.

- Foster care
- Family finding
- Kinship care
- Residential treatment facility
- Group homes
- Community residences
- Respite and crisis stabilization
- Post-adoption support
- Independent living



Sidney Albert Training & Research Institute

The SATRI team collaborates with businesses, human services agencies, school districts, and institutes of higher learning to provide training opportunities to professionals, community members, children, adults, and families.

- Customized training workshops tailored to specific interests or challenges of any agency, contractor, or school district
- Curriculum and training material development tailored to any specification
- NYSED-approved for continuing education (CE) hours toward LMSW, LCSW, and LMHC recertification
- Trainings including Mental Health First Aid (MHFA), Dignity for All Students Act (DASA), Red Cross First Aid/CPR, Crisis Intervention/Therapeutic Response, Wellness and Self-Care for workers and caregivers
- Management and oversight of grants
- Coordination and development of conferences



Educational Services

Educational, career development, and clinical services for children and young adults with special needs related to social-emotional functioning, academics, and life planning that ensures sustainability and future student success.

- Northern Rivers has two diploma-granting special ed (853) facilities:
- **Neil Hellman School**, serving grades K–12
60 Academy Road, Albany
 - **The School at Northeast**, serving grades 6–12
1821 Hamburg Street, Schenectady
- And a center for infants and toddlers:
- **Early Learning Center**, serving Early Head Start, pre-K, and day care
125 Bigelow Avenue, Schenectady



Community Services

A care management and clinical services system designed to support children in meeting their individual needs and providing families with skills, resources, and services that increase their ability to support children in their development.

- Prevention and family preservation
- Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS)
- Mental health case management
- Peer services
- Health home care management



Unlimited Potential

Unlimited Potential increases the opportunities of individuals with mental illness by providing vocational rehabilitation and employment services.

- One-on-one employment services to determine job preparedness, develop job search strategies, provide on-site job training, support and advocacy
- Support in all aspects of vocational services
- Transition services to support as they move from high school to the world of work and adult life
- Individual testing programs to help find what types of careers work best for each individual while considering personality, capabilities, aptitudes and education
- A social model day program serving eligible individuals age 50 and older to reduce isolation and increase social interaction through a variety of social, physical, and educational activities
- Peer support services emphasize independence and self-reliance and develops the skills needed to function in the community outside of the mental health system