

**EARLY WARNING SIGNS OF
ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG USE
AND MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS**

Changes in:

- Academic performance
- Attendance
- Participation in extracurricular activities
- Behavior
- Physical appearance
- Friends or social group
- Family relationships

Expressed feelings of rejection

Alcohol or drug-related clothing,
jewelry, or art

Frequent visits to the school nurse

Uncontrolled anger

Violent and aggressive behaviors

Affiliation with gangs

Fights

Access to or possession of weapons

Intimidating and bullying behaviors

Withdrawal from peers

Bullied

Picked-on or persecuted

Threats of violence

Depressed

Association with drug users

Involvement with the law

**If you notice a student exhibiting
one or more of these signs, contact
Student Assistance for advice.**

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY
RESOURCES**

HELP IS AS NEAR AS THE PHONE...

**MCPS Safe and Drug-Free Schools
301-279-3041**

**MCPS Safe Schools Hotline
301-517-5995**

**Mental Health Association
Crisis Center Hotline
301-738-2255**

**Montgomery County Crisis Center
240-777-4000**

**SASCA (Montgomery County Screening
and Assessment Services for Children
and Adolescents—free assessment for
drug/mental health screening)
240-777-1430**

**Montgomery County Gang Hotline
240-773-GANG**

**Montgomery County Drug Tip Hotline
240-773-DRUG**

**Montgomery County Party Information
Line 301-670-SAFE**

**Operation Runaway
301-217-5400**

**Family Crimes Division
240-773-5424**

**Alcoholics Anonymous
202-966-9115**

**AL-Anon and Alateen
202-635-2023**

**Narcotics Anonymous
202-399-5316**

**YOU HOLD THEIR LIFE IN
YOUR HANDS**



**Student Assistance At
Rockville High School
301-517-5527**

Montgomery County Public Schools
Safe and Drug-Free Schools

*Committed to helping at-risk
students succeed in school by
removing barriers to learning.*

STUDENT ASSISTANCE FAQ'S

What is Student Assistance?

Student Assistance is a school-based substance use and violence intervention program that is part of Safe and Drug-Free Schools of Montgomery County Public Schools. Student Assistance is focused on prevention through intervention. Student Assistance does not provide information for criminal prosecution or school discipline.

What is the goal of Student Assistance?

Most substance use and/or violent behavior takes place off school grounds out of the jurisdiction of school officials, yet many of the effects of this are reflected in students' performance in school. The goal of Student Assistance is to identify and help adolescents whose behavior, attendance, or grades indicate that they may have problems related to alcohol and/or other drug use or violence. Through the different steps that comprise the Student Assistance process, these-at-risk adolescents are referred for a professional assessment and directed to appropriate services.

How Does Student Assistance Work?

CONFIDENTIALLY is the key to the success of Student Assistance. Any school staff member, parent, community member, or student can express concern. Students may refer themselves. The process starts when a Concern Form/Card is submitted to the Student Assistance team leader. Behavioral observations are made to determine if indicators, such as drop in grades, increase in absences, or frequent visits to the nurse, indicate problems. If there are insufficient indicators of a problem, the matter is dropped and all data is destroyed. If, however, the data collected indicates the need for further assessment, the data is shared with the student's parent(s)/guardian who participate in an intervention. The behaviors are shared only with the parent(s)/guardian. Information concerning who made the original referral is strictly confidential. A referral or concern is often submitted without the concerned person's name.

REFERRAL

The Student Assistance team may be comprised of administrators, teachers, counselors, security personnel, paraeducators, building service workers, office personnel, cafeteria workers, the school psychologist, school nurse, attendance secretary, pupil personnel worker, and other trained staff who may be in contact with students.

If you have concerns about a student, please complete a confidential Concern Form/Card and return it to a Student Assistance mailbox.

For More Information...

If you would like further information about Student Assistance, you may contact the team leader at:

301-517-5527



**Rockville High School
Student Assistance**

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Joanne Banda (Nurse) | Thomas Rea (Sp. Education) |
| Carol Crawford (Counseling) | Brad Rohner (Administration) |
| Melanie Goldstein (PPW) | Dolores Reyna (Counseling) |
| Kristen Hornbostel (Autism) | Wendy Roit (Sp. Education) |
| Judy Heier-Hammond (DHOH) | Olga Ryzhikov (ESOL) |
| William Jameson (English) | Carrie Smith (Health) |
| Anne Kelly (Sp. Education) | Paul White (Security) |
| Annette Newell (Sp. Education) | Debra Williams (P.E.) |

Student Assistance in Montgomery County Public Schools is governed by Title IV, Part A, section 4115(b)(2)(D) and section 4115 (b)(2)(E)(x).

Student Assistance Confidential Concern Form

I am concerned about:

Name of Student: _____

Grade: _____

Reason for Concern: (Check all that apply)

- Drop in grades
- Increased absence from school
- Destructive behavior against others or self
- Negative attitudes
- Signs of possible alcohol/other drug use
- Change of friends
- Depression, anxiety, frequent mood swings
- Bullying others
- Victim of Bullying
- Display of violent behavior
- Other concerns/comments:

Signature (optional)

Date

After completing this form, place it in an envelope marked "CONFIDENTIAL" and place it in a designated Student Assistance box in the Rockville High School Counseling Office, Health Room, or Library. You may also submit this form via E-Mail to:

Thomas_A_Rea@MCPSMD.org