



## School Response Team (SRT)

The School Response Team (SRT) is a joint initiative by the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) and the NYC Department of Education (DOE) Office of School Health (OSH) which operates under Astor Services for Children & Families to expand mental health awareness in school communities.

SRT, staffed by a supervisor, social worker and parent advocate, collaborates with school leadership, supports academic staff and families and works to decrease the

stigma often associated with mental health conditions and services. Staff provides training for academic staff, consultation, linkages to community-based resources, direct crisis intervention and prevention activities.

These activities allow students with behavioral problems and/or mental health issues to improve on their skills and responses when coping with various personal, academic and family related stressors.

### The School Response Team:

- Provides short-term counseling
- Provides services guided by the needs of the school community, families and students
- Ensures services are child focused and family centered
- Spends one day a week in each school and has the capability to respond to crises, at any school in its cluster
- Conducts psychosocial assessments to evaluate students need for mental health and other services
- Conducts outreach to families engaging the parents/caregivers in identifying the child's needs

- Prevents mental health related crisis by utilizing de-escalation techniques

The School Response Team currently provides services in Bronx-based public middle schools. Due to city funding, The School Response Team services are available at no cost to the school.

### Contact:

For more information, please contact:

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