

Morton Hospital's Dr. Elias School-Based Health Center

As an effort to improve the health and wellness of children and adolescents in Taunton and its surrounding communities, Morton Hospital, in cooperation with the Taunton Public School System, operates a School-Based Health Center at Benjamin A. Friedman Middle School in Taunton to improve access to health care for all children.

The Dr. Elias School-Based Health Center is designed to help students achieve better health habits and ensure that students are physically and emotionally prepared to learn. The Center works closely with school nurses and area providers to provide ongoing care and seek long-term solutions to student health needs through early intervention, diagnosis and treatment using an evidence-based approach to health promotion and disease prevention. Services involve students as responsible participants in their health care, encourage the role of parents and other family members, and are accessible, confidential, culturally sensitive and developmentally appropriate.

The Center is staffed by a nurse practitioner - a registered nurse with advanced skills, education and training - who works under the supervision of the Centers' Medical Director, as well as a receptionist/medical assistant. The staff at the Dr. Elias School-Based Health Center supports the school, focuses on the student, responds to the community and delivers comprehensive health care.

Services provided by the Center include:

- Sick visits
- Annual physicals
- Immunizations
- Lab work
- Disease prevention
- Health promotion
- Wellness programs
- Diagnostic testing
- Care management
- Mental health referrals and resources
- Confidential visits

Utilization of the Dr. Elias School-Based Health Center has increased tremendously since its inception in 2007, with referrals coming from as far as Franklin and Stoughton, Massachusetts.

Services are provided free of charge to area residents who are uninsured or underinsured. Insurances are accepted, and in some cases, referrals may be needed.

The Center operates Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., and Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Center can be reached by calling (508) 821-5779.

Location:

Dr. Elias School-Based Health Center
Benjamin A. Friedman Middle School
500 Norton Ave.
Taunton, MA 02780

