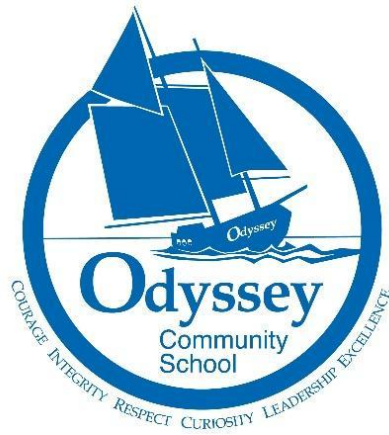




Odyssey Community School Preschool Family Handbook

Revised June 2026

Vision

The vision of Odyssey Community School is to be a thriving educational environment where students learn to demonstrate strong character, embrace differences, and strive to achieve personal success. With the support of a strong community of staff and families, Odyssey students are challenged to master rigorous academic standards in order to become analytic and creative thinkers, communicate effectively, and demonstrate a lifelong love of learning.

Mission

Odyssey Community School strives to support the development of our students into successful, well-respected members of their community by promoting academic excellence, self-confidence, and the internalization of our core values: Courage, Integrity, Respect, Curiosity, Leadership, and Excellence.

Non-Discrimination and Confidentiality Statements

It is the policy of Odyssey Community School that any form of discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, age, gender identity or expression, marital status, sexual orientation, sex, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, alienage, veteran status, or any other basis prohibited by state or federal law is prohibited, whether by students, school employees, or third parties subject to the control of the school. All information about a student is considered confidential and is to be released only to authorized personnel.

Preschool Hours

Regular school days	8:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.	Students can be dropped off beginning at 7:30 a.m.
Early Dismissal Fridays	8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Every Friday is an early dismissal
Emergency Early Dismissal	8:00 a.m. – 11:15 p.m.	
2 hour delay opening start time	10:00 a.m.	
3 hour delay opening start time	11:00 a.m.	
Emergency school closings, delayed openings and early dismissal information will be announced on the local news channels or on the front page of the website. Please look for decisions made by Manchester Public Schools.		

Staff Contact Information

Name	Position	Phone Extension 860-645-1234
Dastoli, Sally	Executive Director Title I Coordinator	x 156
Swann, Jessica	Co- Principal/ Grades PK-3 School Climate Specialist	x147
Bashaw, Michelle	Co-Principal/ Grades 4-8 Title IX Coordinator	x 165
Kimyachi, Lisa	Director of Student Services	x172
Shirley, Jennah	School Nurse	x157
Levinson, Jenny	Preschool Teacher	x140
Ryan, Haley	Preschool Teacher	x135
Wells, Ilyse	Preschool Teacher	x122
Williams, Shardae	Preschool Teacher	x132
Main Office		860-645-1234 860-533-0324 fax

****The best way to reach any staff member is through ParentSquare, our primary communication platform.**

Program Enrollment Information

Odyssey Community School's preschool program is designed to provide a quality preschool experience for children. Odyssey has four, mixed age preschool classrooms with 18 students in each class (nine 3 year olds and nine 4 year olds). In order to enroll, students must be a Connecticut resident and must turn three years old or four years old by September 1st. Families interested in enrolling their child at Odyssey Community School need to participate in the lottery process. Applications for the lottery are available beginning in February and the lottery is drawn in April. The preschool program follows the whole school calendar; however, preschool students do begin the school year on a staggered schedule, the first few days, to acclimate students to the classroom in a smaller setting.

Families who wish to withdraw their child from Odyssey must complete a withdrawal form from the main office. Returning students must complete the "Intent to Return" form each year by the deadline in order to secure a spot for the upcoming school year. If the Intent to Return form is not completed, students will need to re-enter the lottery.

Staffing & Supervision

Each classroom is staffed with two adults at all times maintaining a 1:9 adult to student ratio. Teachers certified in early childhood and special education design and implement curriculum

and are supported by additional paraeducators. Students are with adults who have been certified in pediatric CPR and First Aid. Students enrolled in preschool will be under adult supervision by sight and sound at all times. Supervision of students by sound only is permissible for short periods of time, for example when a student is in the bathroom. Staff are expected to move throughout the occupied space (classroom, playground, etc.) with regularity to monitor students, especially in areas that may have an obstructed view.

Clothing

Daily: Children are engaged in various activities during the day; some of these activities can be messy, and/or athletic in nature. Due to these activities, children should be dressed in appropriate, comfortable, and washable clothing. Parents are requested to dress children in clothing that can be independently changed when needed. Clothing items that are difficult for children to manage independently include overalls, onesies, belts, high-top sneakers, and clothing with difficult closures. Children are not permitted to wear open toed, and/or open backed shoes. No sandals, please. The most appropriate type of shoes for participation in school activities are rubber-soled, sneakers/tennis shoes. Children are discouraged from wearing jewelry of any kind. It is a safety hazard for your child as well as the other children in the class.

Outdoor Attire: Outdoor learning time is an important part of our daily schedule and we go outside nearly every day of the school year, when the temperature and the feels like temperature are 20 degrees and above provided there is no severe weather such as heavy precipitation, lightning, extreme wind chill and so on. When rain is forecasted, please provide raincoats/ponchos and rain boots. In the winter months, please provide coats, hats, mittens, snow pants, and snow boots. Please label all outdoor clothing items with the child's name. Students can only remain inside during recess if they have a documented medical need on file. This must be submitted to the school nurse or administration.

Extra Clothing: Children should have two seasonably and size appropriate complete change of clothing at school at all times. A complete change of clothing includes, shirt, pants, underwear, and socks. All clothing items must be clearly labeled with the child's name.

Breakfast and Lunch

Manchester Public Schools Food Service Department offers breakfast and lunch to Odyssey students every day or students may bring a lunch from home. Students approved for free or reduced price lunch, can receive free breakfast and lunch. Please note that all free/reduced applications must be submitted online using **EZMealApp.com**. If you are unable to fill out an online application, paper applications will be available in Odyssey's main office. If you wish for your child to purchase a school lunch please visit **EZSchoolPay.com** to add money to your child's account. Cash or checks can also be accepted in school.

Meals brought from home should be packed in a labeled container with the child's name and should include a freezer pack to prevent spoiling. We do not have the capacity to heat up lunches from home. We suggest packing warm food items in a Thermos container. **Please**

note: Certain hard foods can be a choking hazard for young children and cannot be given to children under four years old according to the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Accreditation Standard. These foods include: hot dogs, whole or sliced into rounds; whole grapes; nuts; popcorn; raw peas; hard pretzels; spoonfuls of peanut butter; or chunks of raw carrots or meat larger than can be swallowed whole.

Snack

Each month a snack list will be emailed and families may choose to sign up to bring a snack in for the class. Children will not be bringing in their own snack from home each day, as we will all be enjoying the same snack together. Some examples of snacks you will see on our list include: Fruits, vegetables, graham crackers, Goldfish crackers, string cheese, applesauce. (Please let your child's teacher know if your child has food restrictions, and/or allergies, and we can make other snack arrangements for that day.) None of the snacks will have peanuts or peanut butter in them and all snacks will follow NAEYC food guidelines.

Feeding and Swallowing Policy (Includes allergies, health concerns, medical conditions)

Odyssey Community School follows the CT State Department of Education Guidelines for Feeding and Swallowing Programs in Schools. Staff will utilize the suggested state forms provided within the Guidelines document, when appropriate, to develop an individual feeding plan. As part of the individual feeding plan for the student, the school based team must identify methods for:

- Documenting the type of food and quantity the child consumes
- Providing this information to the child's family

Nap/Rest

Children will have a rest period in the afternoon. Children are assigned a rest mat/cot for the school year. Families send in a small blanket each Monday, along with an optional special stuffed animal. Please note, all nap items stay at school for the entire week and will be sent home each Friday to be washed. Please do not send in any items that need to go home on a daily basis.

Toilet Training

Preschool children are **strongly encouraged** to become toilet trained before entering school in September. If children are in the process of completing their training, a plan that will be consistent and manageable for home and school will be discussed and agreed upon by the child's family and their teacher.

Developing independence with toileting is an important part of school readiness and helps children participate fully in classroom routines and learning experiences. When staff members need to provide frequent toileting assistance, it can require them to step away from supervising and supporting the rest of the class, which may impact instruction and overall classroom

routines. We encourage families to work on toileting skills at home, including recognizing the need to use the bathroom, communicating that need, managing clothing independently, and completing handwashing routines.

Special Education Services Provided

Special Education services are available to those students who qualify. Special education teachers are on staff and any other service providers are contracted to work with Odyssey from the student's sending district. A referral to special education can be made if a child's guardian, teacher, or pediatrician has raised concerns about one of more of the following areas, including, but not limited to:

- Speech/language development
- Attention, focus, self-help skills
- Cognitive development
- Fine/gross/sensorimotor skills

Planning and Placement Team meetings are held at Odyssey or virtually, with representatives from the sending school district in attendance.

Guidance and Discipline

Classroom behavioral expectations are intentionally taught on an ongoing basis. We believe predictable classroom structures and routines support an atmosphere that reduces opportunities for negative interaction. Teachers use positive, but firm guidance to help children respect the rights and feelings of others in the classroom by the use of modeling strategies. Specific feedback is used when guiding children's behavior. Children learn to resolve conflicts by using their words and by teachers supporting children to self-regulate, wait their turn, and share. If a child displays ongoing challenging behavior, a parent/teacher conference may be scheduled to collaboratively develop strategies.

The following steps will be taken:

- Assess the function of the behavior
- Work with families and professionals to develop an individualized plan to address the behavior.
- Include positive behavior support strategies as part of the plan.

Attendance

It is the shared responsibility of school and home to teach students the critical habits of being on time and maintaining excellent attendance. While it is occasionally unavoidable to schedule doctor appointments during the school day, please make every effort to schedule appointments after school or on weekends. If your child is going to be absent from school, message "Main Office" through ParentSquare no later than 7:30 am on the day of the absence.

Extended Vacation Policy

Odyssey Community School will not accommodate families who voluntarily take students out of school for more than nine days in any school year. We urge families to plan their vacations and travel during our scheduled school breaks. While we understand that there can be an

educational and cultural benefit to extended travel, we do not think the benefit outweighs the detriment to the student and school community. The education we provide at OCS includes more than academic learning. We strive to build character in our students, foster relationships within the classroom, encourage teamwork within the school and promote outreach to the larger community. This is disrupted when students are absent for extended periods of time. When planning summer vacations anticipate at least 5 days past the scheduled last day of school to make up for snow days. **Any preschool student that misses 20 consecutive days of school, will be withdrawn from Odyssey.**

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures

All preschool students must be dropped off and picked up each day. There is no bus transportation for preschool students at this time.

School staff and administrators establish drop-off and pick-up procedures to protect the safety of all students.

Please plan to bring your child to school no later than 7:55 AM. In order for your child to gain the most from their experience at OCS, we ask that you respect our start time to the best of your ability. The teachers have carefully planned the flow of the day, and your child will miss key learning opportunities if they are consistently late.

- Drop off times will be 7:30-7:55 am through the back lot.
- Preschool pickup will begin at 2:15 (M-TH) and 12:30 on Fridays. Students will be dismissed with the oldest sibling in their family.
- To expedite the dismissal process, please ensure that your family number (given at the beginning of each school year) is displayed on your vehicle.

School doors remain locked at all times. All visitors to the building must check in at the school office. During arrival and dismissal times, staff members on duty monitor entrances and exits. Students being picked up early or dropped off late need to go through the main office. Drop off and pick up times can be busy and parents are encouraged to set up a meeting time for any issues that require more than a brief exchange.

The parent or guardian of each child must designate other adults as an “emergency contact” in the event that a parent or guardian cannot be reached. On the occasion in which someone other than the parent/guardian or emergency contact is picking up a student, the parent/guardian must provide written permission. Court documents must be provided to the administration in the event of custody disputes or restraining orders.

Curriculum

Odyssey’s preschool classrooms use *The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool*, a research-based program that supports growth in all areas: social-emotional, physical, cognitive, and language. We believe that play is the most powerful way young children learn.

At Odyssey, we are committed to playful learning. Through play, children build creativity, confidence, and important executive function skills such as focus, self-control, memory, and flexible thinking. These skills are the foundation for lifelong learning and help children manage emotions, solve problems, and work well with others. Our classrooms are designed to make learning joyful and meaningful. Each day includes time for free play, where children explore and imagine independently, and guided play, where teachers join in to extend learning through conversation, modeling, and thoughtful questioning. Teachers carefully observe children's interests and design experiences that invite curiosity, cooperation, and discovery.

Assessment Plan

Assessment in the early childhood classroom is an ongoing process. Preschool Classrooms will use *Teaching Strategies GOLD®*, an authentic observation-based assessment system for children. The primary purpose of this assessment system is to document children's learning over time and inform instruction. Using this information, teachers intentionally create environments and developmentally appropriate learning experiences for their students. The child's classroom teacher will provide formal documentation in a report card to families three times a year, in addition to conferences twice a year.

Families play an important role in helping us understand each child's development. At the beginning of the year and during conference times, families are invited to share their goals for their child and any strengths or important things to know. This information helps teachers plan learning experiences that build on each child's unique needs and interests. Conferences provide an opportunity for parents/guardians to raise questions and engage in meaningful dialogue with teachers about their child's development and how our assessment practices meet the unique needs of their child. Families of students with IEPs meet for PPT meetings at least annually. At any time, a parent or guardian can request a conference. Teachers maintain state teaching certification specific to teaching and assessing young children.

Home-School Support and Communication

Home & School Partnership

Relationships with our families are a priority. We use many ways to keep communication open and ongoing between home and school. We have frequent conversations with family through many formats, including but not limited to: pick up times, newsletter (both classroom and school-wide), school website and social media pages, school-wide events, Back to School Night, New Student Orientation, parent conferences, phone calls, and emails. Odyssey does use the Parent Square platform to communicate whole school and classroom specific messages.

Family Communication and Feedback

At Odyssey Community School, we recognize families as essential partners in their children's education. We are committed to maintaining open, respectful, and responsive communication

between families and our preschool team. To support this partnership, our family handbook outlines clear steps that families can take to ask questions, raise concerns, or provide feedback at any time throughout the school year.

For question and concerns, families may:

- Send a message via ParentSquare (our communication app) to your child's teacher or administrator
- Speak directly to your child's teacher or administrator by scheduling a time for a meeting or phone call.

If a family has a concern regarding classroom practices, staff interactions, curriculum, or any aspect of the preschool program:

1. Step 1: Speak with the Classroom Teacher
Most concerns can be addressed by having a respectful, direct conversation with the teacher involved.
2. Step 2: Contact an Administrator
If the concern remains unresolved or involves broader school issues, families may contact the Elementary Principal (Jessica Swann)

We welcome family feedback as a vital part of our continuous improvement process.

Opportunities to provide input include:

- Annual feedback through our Fall & Spring School Climate surveys which will be sent out digitally twice each year.
- Parent-teacher conferences
- Circle of Odyssey Parents (COOP) meetings

Our goal is to foster a community where families feel heard, valued, and empowered to support their child's development and our shared educational goals.

Parent Visits

Families are always welcome to visit classrooms and, if desired, arrange a time with classroom teachers to plan/share a special interest or talent. During classroom visits, families might read to the class or support one of the many activities in the classroom. During this time, parents/guardians should not expect to have extended conversations about their child with teachers/staff.

Birthday Celebrations

If your child would like to celebrate his/her birthday at school, please connect with your child's teacher about the following options:

- Birthday book/Guest reader: You can donate a new book to your child's classroom on their birthday. Perhaps it is a special title that your child really

enjoys. Your child's teacher will read the book to the class or you can come in to be a guest reader. If interested, please contact your child's teacher prior to your

- child's birthday to set up an appropriate time to come in and read.
- Healthy snack: If you choose to celebrate your child's birthday by providing an edible classroom snack, please remember to follow the preschool food guidelines. A few healthy snack choices are fresh fruit, yogurt, muffins, or crackers. Please contact your child's teacher to discuss food options prior to your child's birthday.

Parent Conferences

Parents and teachers will have the opportunity to share and discuss information about a child's adjustment, development, and activities at school twice a year. In the fall and spring, formal conferences will be held. If the need should arise, a parent or teacher may request a conference any time during the school year.

"Beginning of Our Odyssey" Day, New Student Orientation, and Back to School Night

In order to acclimate students and families to Odyssey, 3 events take place to meet the teachers, see the classrooms, and learn about the curriculum. The "Beginning of Our Odyssey" Day occurs in the middle of June for those students accepted through the lottery in April. This is an opportunity for staff to get to know students to plan class lists and accommodations accordingly and for students and families to see the school and ask any questions. The day before school starts, Odyssey hosts a New Student Orientation Day in which new students will meet their teachers, see their classrooms, and bring in any needed supplies for the year. In mid-late September, Back to School Night for all grades will take place, for an opportunity to learn more about the curriculum and what your child will be learning during the year.

Circle of Odyssey Parents (COOP)

Families are encouraged to participate in "Circle of Odyssey Parents" (COOP). The purpose of COOP, which is organized by parents/guardians and school staff, is to support the education of children by fostering relationships within the school community, plan events, and fundraise for additional resources for the school. Parents have the opportunity to elect officers each year for the following positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Fundraising Chair, and Events Chair.

Professional Development

The key to each child's success is the quality of instruction at the classroom level. Odyssey's Professional Development plan is based on a model of continuous improvement and lifelong learning for staff. Therefore, the primary purpose of the professional development plan is to enhance the skills of the staff so that they can effectively meet the educational needs of all students. Every Friday afternoon is devoted to staff development in addition to four full days throughout the school year.

Child Abuse

All school staff is obligated by law to report suspected child abuse, neglect, or if child is placed in imminent danger of serious harm to the Connecticut Department of Children and Families Services (DCF). Specific procedures governing the reporting of abuse and neglect are in effect, and staff receive yearly training around these. Reporting of child abuse and neglect is a responsibility which is taken seriously. If there is any doubt about reporting, a report will be made. The school will work with the families and appropriate agencies in all cases. Any accusations of abuse or neglect against school staff members will result in an immediate report to DCF and a full investigation by administration.

Kindergarten Transition Plan

Preschool and kindergarten staff collaborate to plan children in appropriate classrooms. Preschool teachers share information about a child's strengths and areas of growth with kindergarten teachers during transition meetings at the end of each school year. In the spring prior to kindergarten entrance, students completing Prek4, will participate in a visiting day during which they meet the kindergarten teachers.

Confidentiality

We believe that trust and respect are the foundation of our partnership with families. Protecting the privacy of every child and family is essential to maintaining a safe and supportive learning community. All personal, developmental, medical, and family information shared with staff is kept confidential and used only to support your child's growth and well-being. Staff discuss information about children only with other team members who are directly involved in their care. Information is never shared outside the professional team unless legally required or with written family consent.

Observations and assessments are shared only with that child's family and any photos shared through class/school wide newsletters or social media are based on family consent. Families do have the option to opt out of having their child's photo shared. Families are also asked to respect the privacy of others by refraining from discussing other children or families.

Student records and electronic communications are stored securely, and access is limited to authorized personnel. If you have questions or need to update your preferences, please contact the main office or log into your PowerSchool parent portal.

Health and Safety

Medical

All children must have a current physical examination before starting school. The State of Connecticut requires that we have an updated medical form on file at all times. All medical

forms expire one year from the date of the last physical exam. If the medical form is not up to date, a child will not be able to attend school. All medical files are securely locked. All preschool students must get their flu shot by January 1 and a record must be sent to the school nurse.

Children should not attend school when they are sick. If families have any questions about their child's health, they should check with their healthcare provider.

Students are not permitted to attend school if they are exhibiting any of the following symptoms:

- Fever (100.0 or higher) or chills
- Persistent Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Excessive congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Undiagnosed rash
- ANY infection being treated with antibiotics for at least the first 24-48 hours.
- ANY communicable illnesses until your student has returned to base-line health without the use of medications.

Your student should not return to school until he/she is showing significant improvement in any of their symptoms. Your student must also be fever-free for 24 hours WITHOUT fever reducing medication. In the case of vomiting and/or diarrhea, your student must remain home until they have gone 24 hours without an episode and are back to baseline eating and toileting.

★ Please remember that our protocols are in place for the health and safety of all our students and staff. It is expected that you or an emergency contact will be able to pick your child up from school within a half hour of being called by the nurse.

Medications and Sunscreen at School

If your child takes medication, you must have a signed doctor's form that authorizes the school to give him or her that medication during the school day. You may obtain these forms in the health office or from your healthcare provider. Prescription medications must be brought to school with the pharmacy prescription label on the container and will be stored in a locked cabinet. Permission forms for Tylenol and Ibuprofen will be sent home for parent signature, allowing administration at school. **Do not send either prescription or over-the-counter medication to school with your child. A parent or guardian must deliver medications to the school nurse.** Families are asked to apply sunscreen

prior to the school day if needed. Written documentation from a doctor must be provided for the school nurse to provide subsequent applications.

Accidents/Injuries

In the event a minor accident or injury should occur, first aid supplies are available from the school nurse. In addition to having a licensed nurse on staff, a team of teachers and staff have been trained in CPR/First Aid and emergency procedures. All accidents and illnesses are documented by the school nurse and kept on file. A call to the parent/guardian will be made home to inform them of any injury. It is very important that families update emergency contact information when changes occur so a child's parent/guardian can be contacted in a timely manner.

Vision & Hearing Screenings

Vision and hearing screenings are done annually by the child's pediatrician. The school nurse is available to provide additional screenings for all children in the school. The school nurse will be in contact with families if a screening warrants an additional consultation by a doctor.

Evacuation Drill/Lockdown Drill

Connecticut law requires that each school hold at least one evacuation drill per month. Procedures are reviewed with staff annually to ensure children are quickly and safely evacuated in the event of a fire or emergency situation.

Per state law, a lockdown drill shall be substituted for an evacuation drill once every three months. The intent of these drills is to practice keeping students safe in the event of a situation that may potentially put students and staff at risk.

School Closing Announcements

In the event of inclement weather that may necessitate a delayed opening, early closure, or cancellation of school, Odyssey will follow the Manchester Public Schools announcement. Families should look for Manchester Public Schools on all news outlets; however, families will be notified by Odyssey through the ParentSquare notification system, our website, and social media. When school is closed early, all afternoon and evening activities are canceled. The emergency closing time for Odyssey is 11:45 am.

****Please see the whole school student handbook for additional information not mentioned. ****

Appendix A
Family Resources

Local Mental Health Resources:

CHR: Community Health Resources

Appointments can be made by calling 1-877-884-3571-locations in Manchester, Bloomfield, Hartford, Mansfield, Middletown, Windsor, Willimantic and others---> to access CHR services, you can call the Assessment Center @ 1-877-884-3571.

Community Child Guidance Clinic

Located at 317 North Main Street in Manchester, CT. Open Mondays and Wednesday 8:00am-6:00pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:00am -8:00pm and Fridays 7:00am -5:00pm. 860-643-2101.

Urgent Crisis Center at The Village for Families and Children

Located at **1680 Albany Avenue, Hartford** Phone: (860) 297-0520

Hours: Monday – Friday, 7:00am – 11:00pm. Saturday and Sunday, 10:00am – 6:00pm

No appointment or referral necessary- Walk-in Urgent Crisis Center (UCC) provides outpatient services for children and teens who are experiencing an urgent mental or behavioral health crisis, including:

- Thoughts of suicide or self-injury
- Feelings of depression, anxiety or hopelessness
- Out-of-control behaviors
- Substance misuse
- Any mental health crisis

While at the UCC, trained staff will:

- Provide crisis stabilization support
- Complete a comprehensive mental health assessment
- Work with your family to develop a safety plan
- Connect your child directly to additional services

This program is not an Emergency Department. If a youth needs immediate medical attention, call 9-1-1 or go to the nearest hospital.

Community Food/Emergency Item Pantries

Various Locations:

- [Foodshare mobile pantry](#)

Manchester:

- **CHR: The Hub Food Pantry** for Clients & individuals in the community located at 520 Center Street. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9am-12pm & 1pm-3pm
860-730-8780
- **Dignity Grows-** Feminine hygiene products: help@dignitygrows.org Distributed in Manchester at:

Health Collective East	64 Church st	Kay Munoz, Barry Walters	Director of HIV Services	kaym@healthcollective.org barryw@healthcollective.org
Manchester High School	134 Middle Tpke E.	Lynn Wabble	Student Activities Coordinator	b211coll2mpspride.org
Second Congregational Church	385 N. Main st	Dana McCarthy	Food Pantry Volunteer	gltns522@cox.net
CHR, The HUB	520 Center st.	Megan Greenleaf	Rehab Coordinator	mgreenleaf@chrhealth.org

- **Gentle Love Connections-** for info go to gentlelove.org , to request diapers go to meccdiaperpantry@gmail.com You can also get a supplemental supply once a month at Second Congregational Church on Fridays located at 385 N Main (860) 649-2863
- **Health Collective Food Pantry** located at 64 Church Street (house parsonage to Emanuel Lutheran Church) : Wednesdays at 9:00am-12noon and 1:00pm-5:30pm. (860) 930-5958 64

- **Hartford Bags of Love-** FREE Little Panties that residents have installed in their yards. Take what you need.
- 13 Cottage\Street, 80 Garden Street, 159 Henry Street, 501 Porter Street, 453 Summit Street, 88 Homestead Street, 186 East Center Street
- **MACC Community Kitchen** located at 466 Main Street. Offers hot meal to go or bag lunch free of charge Monday–Saturday 11:30am - 12:45pm. (860) 647-8003 x121
- **MACC Food Pantry** located at 460 Main Street ***By Appointment Only*** Please call (860) 647- 8003 x114 ahead. Serving Manchester & Bolton: bring picture ID, proof of residency/ Bags or Boxes.
- **New Horizons Baptist Church Food Pantry** & Clothing Bank is located at 40 Pitkin Street (in the rear of bldg.) Sundays 2:15pm – 3:00pm. (860) 726-9282
- **New River Feeding Ministries Food Pantry** is located at 314 Woodbridge st. Church food pantry distributes nonperishable food items to Manchester residents in need every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9am-3pm. Call first to set up an appointment. 860-648-2970
- **Rosal Cares-** Groceries, hygiene & baby supplies. Located at 430 Center Street. Monday -Saturday 9am-5pm. (860) 890-9948 rosalcares@gmail.com
- **Salvation Army** located at 661 Main Street. Dine in Meal on Sundays @ 12:30pm – 1:30pm Pizza & Praise, Evening Meal @ 5:30pm Sundays. (860) 649-7787.
- **Second Congregational Church** located at 385 N Main St. Open on Fridays 10 am – 11:45am. (860) 649-2863
- **Squire Village Food Pantry** (for Squire residents only) 860-646-1280

East Hartford:

- **Charity Food Pantry** is located at Seventh Day Adventist Church at 1535 Forbes Street. Church food pantry distributes food to anyone in need every other Thursday from 10:30-12:30. 860-568-5866.

- **Crossroads Food Pantry** is located at 1492 Silver Lane, East Hartford. Church food pantry distributes food to Greater Hartford Residents in need on specific Wednesdays of the month from 9am-noon. Call or visit the website to be aware of the Wednesday delivery of the month. 860-895-1231
- **Ghanaian Catholic Parish Food Pantry** is located at One Community Church East Hartford. Church based food pantry that serves Greater Hartford area residents in need of food. Food pantry is open every other Wednesday: 4:30-5:30. Appointments appreciated but walk-ins are accepted. 860-290-1880
- **Saint Rose Church Food Pantry** is located at 33 Church Street East Hartford. Church based food pantry serves Greater Hartford area residents in need of food. Food pantry is open the 1st and 3rd Wednesday from 11:30-12:30pm. 860-289-7916.
- **The Town of East Hartford Food Pantry** is located in the lower level of the Community Center located at 50 Chapman Place, East Hartford, CT 06108. The East Hartford food pantry is open three days a month; the 2nd and 4th Thursday from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., and the 3rd Monday of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Vernon/ Rockville:

- **Family Essentials Food Pantry** is located at 428 Hartford Turnpike- Suite 113 in Vernon. Pantry is open Monday through Friday from 8:00am-8:00 pm & Saturday 8:00am-5:00pm. 860-924-0796
- **HVCC Food Pantry** is located at 29 Naek Road Suite 5A in Vernon. Pantry is open for Connecticut residents in need on Mondays 2-5pm, Wednesdays 12-5pm, Thursdays 9am-1pm and Fridays 9am -noon. 860-872-7727.
- [The Cornerstone](#)- Community kitchen, food pantry, clothing bank and shelter 860-871-1823 info@cornerstone-cares.org

Hartford

- [Community Renewal Team](#)- (860) 560-5600
- [Hands on Hartford](#)- (860) 728-3201 info@handsonhartford.org

****For Essential Health and Human services contact 211***

211 can connect you to services for basic needs, food, children and families,
crises, housing and health care

Additional Community Resources

Manchester Youth Service Bureau

Teen Drop-In Center

For students ages 12-18, after school program with interactive and social activities for teens.

You can contact the Youth Service Coordinator @ 860-647-5223 or pbrillant@manchesterct.gov for more information.

Support and Intervention Programs: Registration is required @

<http://ysb1.townofmanchester.org/index.cfm/support-and-intervention-programs/>

-> Girls Circle- for girls ages 10-16

-> Mother/Daughter Circle- For mothers/guardians and daughters ages 11-16

-> Boys Council- Ages

PFLAG : Parents, Families, Friends and Allies united with the LGBTQ community

Meetings are on the first Tuesday of every month with activities for non gender conforming children (ages 6-12)

,LGBTQ youth group (ages 12-18) and a parent/ally support group. For more information or to register, call :

860-647-5213