

Spiritual and/or Religious Opportunities

Research confirms that individuals engaged with spiritual or religious beliefs stabilize more quickly. In support of this, Solnit North has a part-time chaplain and a Spiritual Life Center. Involvement is individualized for each youth and voluntary. Activities include, e.g.: meditation, Bible study, and attendance to houses of worship off campus.



Life After Solnit North

The goal for all youth is continuing gains made at Solnit once back in the community. The Solnit team attempts to link each youth with resources and services that meet his particular interests and/or needs. Clinical services might include: medication management; individual and family therapy; in-home services; clinical day school; NA and other 12-step groups; and more. Rehabilitation resources that youth are linked with include, e.g.: Boys and Girls Clubs; art and music programs; mentors; martial arts or boxing programs; Job Corp; summer employment programs. In order to ease a youth's transition home or to another level of care, clinicians bridge the move through meeting youth, family, and new treaters in the community once or twice after discharge as appropriate.

ALBERT J. SOLNIT CHILDREN'S CENTER NORTH CAMPUS



A Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility
Connecticut Department of Children and Families

Program Philosophy

Caring, Healing, and Teaching

Partnering with children, families, and communities to build hope and create opportunities



Albert J. Solnit Children's Center North (Solnit North), part of the Connecticut Department of Children and Families, is a psychiatric residential treatment facility (PRTF) committed to providing short-term, holistic therapeutic services to boys whose complex psychiatric and behavioral status requires an intensive environment to ensure safety and optimum functioning. Services are provided through a multi-modal, trauma-informed approach, using a variety of verbal and non-verbal therapies that are culturally sensitive and strength based.

The goal is always to re-integrate the youth back to the family or least restrictive level of care. Solnit North celebrates each adolescent's individuality and works in partnership with him and his family, supporting him to become the adult he envisions himself to be. Therapeutic family visits are an essential component of this work.

Education

Solnit North has a fully-accredited school program that serves both special education and regular education youth. Youth have access to traditional classroom teaching as well as virtual (computer-based) instruction.

Because of the low student-to-staff ratio, youth are able to receive individual attention as they continue with their current courses and classes from their previous school. Youth also have opportunities to recover lost credits as well as earn additional credits through the Virtual Academy Program.



Work Experience Program

Youth have the opportunity to learn positive work skills in the campus work employment program where they are paid a "wage" for performing a variety of tasks, first on campus and then at off-campus businesses. They also participate in volunteer activities in the local community, such as at a soup kitchen and a veterinary hospital.

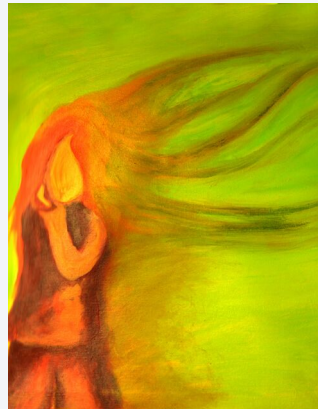
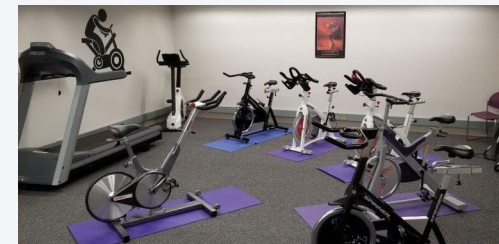
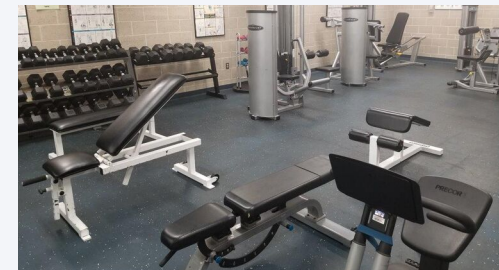
Rehabilitation Therapy

The Solnit North rehabilitation therapy program offers youth the chance to explore and develop their interests and talents, while engaging in activities that they enjoy both during and after their stay.

Music Therapy



Therapeutic Recreation



Art Therapy

Other Program Activities

Occupational Therapy



- Barbershop
- Martial Arts
- Culinary Arts
- Pride Group
- Youth Advisory Board
- Spirituality Opportunities

Residential

Residential staff are responsible for the direct oversight of youth at all times during their stay at Solnit North. Residential staff provide the primary support, relationship building, redirection, and teaching of youth on campus. They also run groups, oversee recreational activities, accompany youth to off-campus locations, and assist with community/activities of daily living such as movies and cultural events, or sports. Solnit North has a strong community of youth and staff, with residential staff and youth at the core.



Medical

The Solnit North medical department provides 24-hour coverage nursing care and a full-time pediatrician. All youth receive comprehensive medical, dental, and vision monitoring. Any youth that requires more extensive medical services is seen by either Connecticut Children's Medical Center or the University of Connecticut Health Center specialties.

Clinical Services

The Solnit North clinical team includes two board certified child psychiatrists and both masters- and doctoral-level licensed clinicians who have extensive training and experience working with adolescents with complex presentations. The clinicians use a variety of strength-based interventions (including Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, Trauma Focused-CBT, and others) to meet the treatment goals and objectives identified with youth and family through both individual and family therapies.



Contact Information

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