



Education Services

The support to help every student achieve.

Kris Youmans

Chief Education Officer &
Superintendent
518.369.6913
Kris.Youmans@nrfs.org

Neil Hellman School

60 Academy Road
Albany, NY 12208
518.426.2766

Jennifer Guernsey

Principal
518.426.2766, ext. 2628
Jennifer.Guernsey@nrfs.org

Christopher Le

Senior Clinical Director
Day Treatment
518.222.4591
Christopher.Le@nrfs.org

School at Northeast

1821 Hamburg Street
Schenectady, NY 12304
518.346.1273

Richard Danson

Principal
518.346.1273, ext. 7371
Richard.Danson@nrfs.org

Rosemary Fera

Program Director
Day Education
518.470.7231, ext. 7391
Rosemary.Fera@nrfs.org

Early Learning Center

125 Bigelow Avenue
Schenectady, NY 12304
518.346.5360

Sharon Hutchinson-Jones

Senior Program Director
Early Head Start
518.292.5510, ext. 5539
Sharon.HutchinsonJones@nrfs.org

Renee Kingsley

Program Director
Neil Hellman Preschool
518.292.5510, ext. 5539
Renee.Kingsley@nrfs.org

*These services are provided by
Northern Rivers Family of Services
and member agencies.*

**NORTHERN
RIVERS**

Northern Rivers Family of Services provides a spectrum of early enrichment, child development, and primary and secondary special educational services to help youth reach their academic potential. Our education programs, located in Albany and Schenectady, serve youth from throughout the region through a nurturing, therapeutic environment, individualized attention, and a vibrant, encouraging atmosphere. Here's how we help:

Early Head Start

This Schenectady school- and home-based federally funded program serves impoverished families who are pregnant or have children from birth to age 3. Our staff helps parents with the changes and needs of their family that come with having a small child, and parents learn ways to help their children meet all milestones, including helping the family ensure the child is healthy, developmentally on target, and ready for the world.

Neil Hellman Preschool

Our Schenectady-based multiservice early childhood center serves children ages 3–5 through preschool special education, early intervention services, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, social work services, preventative childcare with and without social work, psychological services, subsidized day care, and universal prekindergarten.

Neil Hellman School

Our Albany-based NYS Education Department–certified 853 special education school provides students with serious emotional, behavioral, and learning challenges in kindergarten through grade 12 with integrated educational services 46 weeks per year and clinical services 52 weeks per year. Staff members provide therapeutic, educational, and vocational services to empower students to achieve their goals.

Neil Hellman Day Treatment

Our NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH)-licensed integrated year-round clinical and educational program for students in grades 1 through 12 who live within 50 miles of our Albany campus helps students and families address social, emotional, psychological, psychiatric, and educational needs. A dedicated team of more than 100 professionals provide the personal attention each student needs to thrive.

School at Northeast

Our Schenectady-based NYS Education Department–certified 853 special education school serves students in grades 6 through 12 who cope with multiple issues including educational disabilities, family instability, emotional trauma, delinquency, mental illness, truancy, and substance abuse. The school offers a full curriculum in structured and supportive learning environment, providing students with a variety of academic, recreational, and vocational opportunities.

School at Northeast Day Education

Our Schenectady-based NYS Education Department certified 853 special education program helps students in grades 6 through 12 who live within 50 miles of our Schenectady campus overcome academic, behavioral, and social challenges through an integrated of intensive clinical and educational supports.

The Northern Rivers Difference

We work with every youth and family in our care to provide person-centered, client-driven services that helps everyone in our educational programs work toward meaningful goals and achieve success. With small class sizes, a culture based on respect, and our use of hands-on, alternative, and experiential teaching methods in conjunction with traditional traditional instruction, we do everything in our power to ensure student success.

Northern Rivers is guided by a set of universally accepted principles that guide the actions of every member of our family. We organize these values through the acronym **HOPE**.

Honor: To help others is the highest calling; we strive to do what is right for those in our care.

Optimism: We believe things can get better if we work together, aim higher, and set meaningful goals.

Progress: Every day provides an opportunity to improve, and we promise to continue striving.

Excellence: We hold ourselves to the highest standards, because our communities deserve the best from us.

