

September 8, 2022

## Perception Programs to Open New PATH Counseling Center for Students, Children and Families

Perception Programs, Inc. (PPI) today announced that their Risk Reduction and Outreach, Eastern Region Service Center (ERCS), Alternative in the Community (AIC), Shelter Outreach and Administrative programs will move to 842 Main Street on 10/1/22. All residential programs will remain in their current locations.

"In the over fifty years that PPI has been providing services in the Windham community we have always aimed to ensure our services are aligned with our mission,"," said PPI CEO, Kristie Scott. "The opening of this new site will reduce barriers to care by providing a central point of access to our continuum of services and will increase our capacity to meet the ever-growing needs of students, children and their families in our community."

In January of 2021, the U.S. Surgeon General declared a "national youth mental health crisis," acknowledging the pandemic's toll on children. School systems and emergency rooms nationwide are overburdened and access to mental health care grows increasing difficult with limited provider availability and long wait times.

Perception Programs will open the PATH Counseling Center on 12/1/22 in their new location to augment their current mental health care programs. This will significantly increase the agencies capacity to provide treatment and medication management services to Eastern Connecticut College students and to local children and their families. "As a local community leader in mental health care we are excited to offer expanded capacity to this vulnerable population." Medical Director, Dr. Sarah Calnan.

Perception Programs was founded in 1970 and currently operates seventeen programs addressing the behavioral health care, medication assisted therapy, residential housing, recovery, risk reduction and case management needs of Windham County.

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