



THE BRIDGE

*Healthy Minds. Healing Hearts.
Peaceful Communities.*

Our Mission Statement

The Bridge is a nonprofit community based organization that provides behavioral health care services which are designed to strengthen and support the family and promote the personal growth of children, adolescents, adults and seniors.



We are a private, nonprofit community organization that has been helping families in the Essex County area since 1971.

Individual, group and family counseling are offered by culturally diverse, skilled professional staff in the areas of mental health and substance abuse.

We are accredited by the New Jersey Department of Human Services to provide drug and alcohol treatment services to adolescents and adults.

Our funding support comes from Federal, State, County and Municipal government sources as well as private philanthropic support from individuals, foundations and corporations.

What Makes The Bridge The Best Choice

- Over forty years of expertise and knowledge serving individuals and families
- Sliding scale fees for individuals and families seeking therapy
- Most insurances accepted including Medicaid
- State-licensed, highly-qualified therapists with multiple professional licenses
- A supportive and comfortable office environment
- A commitment to helping individuals and families on their journeys back to wholeness
- A holistic perspective which is integrated into our clinical work

Louis A Schwarcz, CEO



Every day The Bridge enhances the lives of individuals facing a variety of challenges through individual and group counseling, school based counseling, in-home family preservation services, and family crisis intervention services. Much of our work focuses on children and adolescents facing a myriad of challenges.

We hear over and over again how the counselors at The Bridge have helped and supported clients on their paths towards wholeness, dramatically impacting the course of their lives. Our whole organizational culture is about one thing: making a difference and committing to creating a positive impact on people's lives.

The Bridge is a leader in providing a variety of mental health and addiction support services to all members of our society. From our beginnings in 1971, The Bridge has grown to serve nearly 1,500 individuals on an annual basis at a variety of locations. Our future goal is to focus on empowering clients throughout the community through individually customized support, education, and counseling and we welcome you to become involved and join us in this vital work.

We are a federally recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and are supported through a variety of funding sources including government and private grants and individual donations. Donations are appreciated at all levels, so please consider making a contribution.

**Outpatient Counseling
Headquarters**
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Outpatient Counseling
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Irvington, NJ 07111
Phone: 973.372.2624
Fax: 973.372.0103

**School Based Youth Programs
The Imani Center**
1253 Clinton Avenue
Irvington, NJ 07111
Phone: 973.399.7797
Fax: 973.372.6545

Family Preservation Services
50 Union Avenue
Irvington, NJ 07111
Phone: 973.371.3771
Fax: 973.372.0016

Making Achievement Possible
University Middle School
255 Myrtle Avenue
Irvington, NJ 07111
Phone: 973.372.4962

*"Thank you for your time and being supportive to me and my family."
A grateful client of The Bridge*

THE BRIDGE

Our Services

The Bridge understands the many challenges that today's families often face. We offer a variety of high quality, cost-effective, professional mental health and substance abuse assessment and treatment services to adolescents, adults and families. Individual, group and family counseling services are offered by licensed clinicians, some of whom are bilingual, representing several mental health and substance abuse disciplines.

School-Based Counseling Services

As The Bridge's longest-standing program, our School-Based Counseling arm has provided over four decades of service to the Caldwell-West Caldwell school district. School counselors provide assessments, individual and group counseling, consultation with teachers and other school personnel, crisis intervention and classroom education.

The Peace Model Project

The goal of this three-year innovative project is to create safe spaces within four local elementary schools and to provide children easy access to quality counseling services, exposing them to holistic modalities of self-care through classroom curriculum and individual and group counseling.

Family Crisis Intervention Services

Family Crisis Intervention Services are a very effective tool used at The Bridge to provide short-term crisis intervention to referred juveniles and families. Referrals are made by the local courts, schools and other community organizations.

Outpatient Counseling Services

We offer professional counseling services to adults, adolescents and children. These services help individuals and families with marital problems, parent/child conflicts, grief and loss, depression, anxiety, compulsive behaviors, substance abuse, eating disorders and more. Our two counseling sites are staffed by licensed clinicians, who provide individualized and group assessment and treatment services.

The MAP Program

"Making Achievement Possible" is a school-based program at Irvington Middle School. This program offers students learning support and preventative health services, mental health and substance abuse counseling.

Adolescent Substance Abuse Services

We provide individual and group counseling (outpatient and intensive outpatient) to adolescents struggling with a substance dependency. Our program offers counseling and education on addiction and coping with peer pressure.

Family Preservation Services (FPS)

This longstanding program uses a professional team that coordinates intensive in-home family crisis intervention and education program to families identified by the Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P) as having a child(ren) who is at risk of out-of-home placement in Essex and Union Counties.

Adult Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services

We provide individual and group counseling (outpatient and intensive outpatient) to adults struggling with an alcohol or substance dependency. The Bridge is partnered with the Intoxicated Drivers Resource Center and helps people restore their driving privileges.

Stepping Stones/ Women's Addiction Services

Stepping Stones is a unique women's intensive outpatient service empowering women to take control of their lives and plan for their futures through emotional, spiritual and healthy lifestyle components.

The program is designed for women referred by DCP&P who are in need of addiction counseling and support. Art therapy is often woven into this program as an enhanced service.

School Based Youth Services – The Imani Center

The Imani Center has been working tirelessly with teens at Irvington High School for over two decades. This program strives to help youth stay in school, graduate, continue their education or gain employment with strong skills. Working closely with Irvington High School personnel, Imani staff identifies students who may be at risk for school failure or substance abuse. Imani professionals provide a wide range of services including crisis intervention and referral, educational workshops for students and parents, pregnancy prevention, ELS (English as a Second Language), assessment and referral and daily consultation with teachers. The Imani Center has two bilingual (Creole & Spanish) parent outreach coordinators who connect with and advocate for families who don't speak English.

The Bridge works with individuals and families regardless of their ability to pay. We are very committed to our programs and our services would not be possible without the support of individuals, corporations and foundations who support our mission. If you would like more information about making a donation to our organization please call (973) 228-3000 or visit our website at www.thebridgenj.org.

The Bridge is designated as a 501(c)(3) organization by the Internal Revenue Code, therefore all contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. The Bridge is registered as a public charity with the state Attorney General's Office.