

The Charles F. Hayden School at Boys & Girls Village



Creating futures as **bright** and **vibrant** as 13-year-old Jordan's rendition of Van Gogh's "Starry Night"

Academic therapeutic day school for special education students with:

- Emotional disorders
- Behavioral disorders
- Learning disabilities

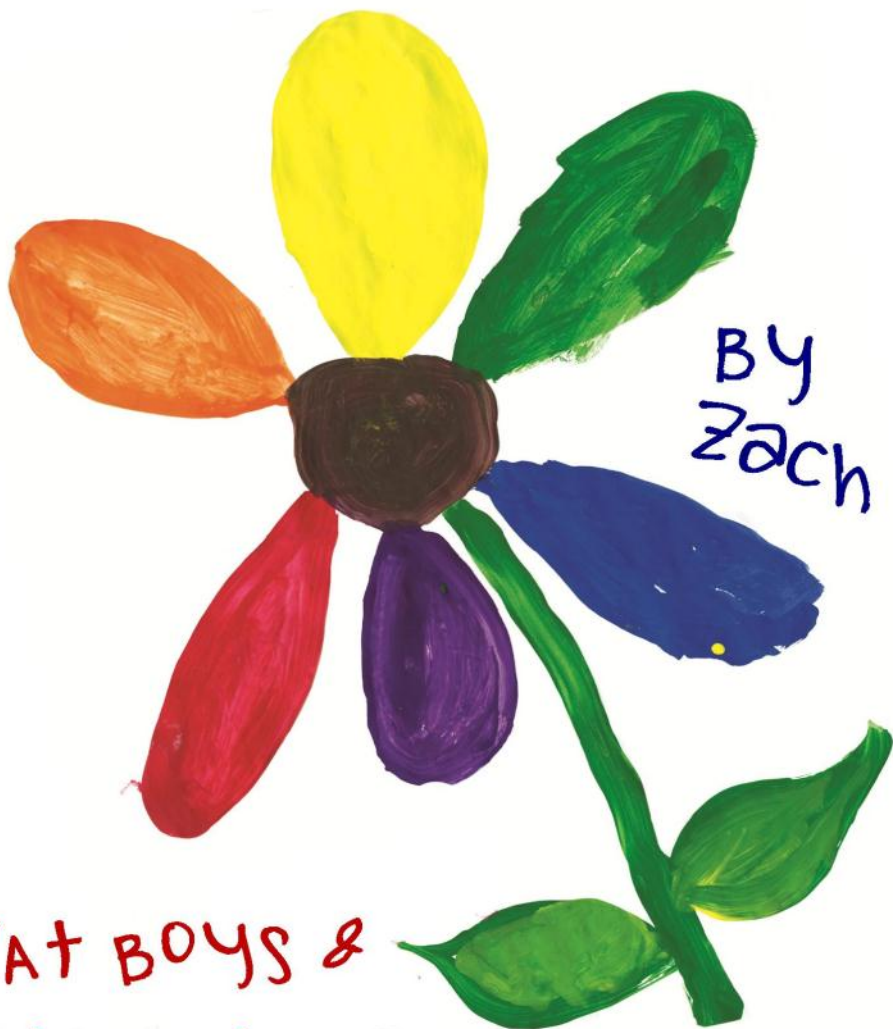
Boys & Girls Village

Helping Connecticut children and families

Heal Learn Grow

www.bgvillage.org





"At BOYS &
Girls Village, I learned
how to make friends, complete my
work and express my feelings.
I'm not always angry anymore."

- Zach, age 8, spent two years at the Charles F. Hayden School, where he received the clinical care and academic support needed for him to return to—and more importantly succeed in—a mainstream school setting. "We are so proud and excited for him!" his mother said.

School at a Glance

- Private special education school located on Boys & Girls Village's Milford campus
- Serves children 6 to 15 years old in grades K-8
- 4:1 student to adult ratio
- Six to 8 students in average class
- Clinical staff includes board-certified child psychiatrists, registered nurse, school-certified social workers and behavioral therapists
- Academic staff headed by certified special education teachers
- Special programs include Project Adventure high ropes, therapeutic gardening, art, summer Adventure Village
- Accredited by the Connecticut Department of Education and Connecticut Department of Children & Families



‘Boys & Girls Village helped me with my problems and taught me how to deal with my frustration in an appropriate way. Now, I’m ready to go back to a public school.’

Malik, 11

Referrals accepted from all area school systems.

Call (203) 877-0300, ext. 135, to schedule a consultation or learn more.

Children who attend The Charles F. Hayden School become part of the broad, diverse and comprehensive continuum of care

that Boys & Girls Village provides. Boys & Girls Village serves children who have significant emotional, behavioral or psychiatric disorders, or who need special education. Programs include:

Therapeutic Foster Care and Adoption Services for children 6 to 17 years old, with families receiving support and guidance from our highly-trained social work team

Kids Intensive Needs Network (INN), which provides intensive care to children with severe psychiatric difficulties

Safe Haven, a home-like setting for children who have been removed from their homes and need immediate shelter

Intensive In-Home Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Services, which provide treatment services in the home to families in crisis

Day Treatment Program, which provides the therapies needed to keep a child in the community, or transition home from residential or foster care

Outpatient Clinical Services, including outpatient psychiatric and behavioral therapies, as well as psychosocial and psychosexual assessments

The Charles F. Hayden School provides comprehensive special education and clinical day treatment services designed to help 6- to 15-year-olds achieve the emotional, behavioral and academic growth needed for them to return to a mainstream school setting.

Using a progressive integrated learning model and multi-disciplinary curriculum approved by the Connecticut Department of Education, core academics take place in small group settings. Classes are no larger than eight and generally led by both a certified teacher and paraprofessional, ensuring that the student-to-staff ratio is never larger than 4:1.

Mental health and behavioral specialists provide individual counseling, group counseling and classroom support.

Indeed, much of the success of our well-respected program comes from the highly-trained staff members who surround and support our students, providing the sophisticated clinical expertise and evidenced-based treatment approaches that best meet students—and in many cases their families’—individual needs.



‘Our son’s social development has been huge. He has become so much more comfortable with himself, and staff has been so supportive of him, accommodating his issues.’

Michael of Monroe

Charles F. Hayden School students are given the opportunity to explore their individual uniqueness while developing self-reliance, problem solving skills, socialization and the ability to manage anger and stress.

Each student is cared for by a multidisciplinary team of mental health and educational professionals who follow the student's growth and progress, as well as interact regularly with parents or other family members. Teams are formed to meet each child's individual needs, but generally include a social worker, consulting psychiatrist, teacher and behavioral therapist.



‘Boys & Girls Village accomplished for our daughter in six months what other programs did not come close to accomplishing in 3½ years.’

Marie of Bridgeport

Because learning continues at home, teachers and staff keep in close contact with parents and guardians, offering regular student progress reports and, when needed, parenting support. Charles F. Hayden School families become part of the comprehensive continuum of care that Boys & Girls



Village provides, receiving seamless access to the broad array of family and mental health services (listed on page 1 of this brochure).

Our staff is specially trained to follow a social skills model that:

- Corrects problem behavior
- Offers effective praise
- Develops self-control
- Uses crisis as a teaching opportunity
- Teaches students how to deal with new or challenging situations

Community involvement

By volunteering several times a month at the Lord Chamberlin Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in Stratford, students take part in service-learning—a teaching strategy that integrates community service projects with classroom learning. Visits take place during the school day and generally consist of students visiting and playing games with the Lord Chamberlin residents. Residents love these visits so much that they cheer and clap when our students arrive—resulting in smiles and a positive experience all around.



An on-site WeatherBug weather station also gives students the opportunity to combine classroom with hands-on learning ... plus keep Boys & Girls Village neighbors and staff updated on the latest weather conditions! Monitoring devices attached to sophisticated sensors and cameras that provide accurate, real-time temperature, wind and humidity conditions allow students to use the math, science, geography and technology skills they've learned to become junior meteorologists. A partnership with WTNH News Channel 8 allows students to have the added excitement of seeing data from the Boys & Girls Village Weather-Bug site reported live on the air, as well as receive visits from News Channel 8 weather staff.



Learning from (and loving) the arts

At Boys & Girls Village, a robust art therapy program allows students to express their feelings, participate in new tasks and tap into creativity. These proven benefits—the first signs of which become quickly evident in new students—include:



- Cognitive development
- Improved academic achievement
- A greater ability to focus
- Better gross and fine motor skills
- Enhanced social interaction skills
- Greater self-esteem/belief in abilities



School and community-based art exhibits give students the opportunity to show off, and receive well-deserved congratulations for, their work.

Project Adventure summers

Enhancing the Charles F. Hayden School's school-year curriculum is Adventure Village—a special summer school program Boys & Girls Village runs in conjunction with the Project Adventure, a national leader in creating adventure-based curriculums that use physical exercises to build character, promote team work and encourage responsibility.



Combining physical activities and field trips with counseling and activity-related academics, the program challenges youths to accomplish fun individual and group tasks through planning, analyzing, organizing and learning how to effectively

communicate with each other. Participants' ages, needs and challenges—as well as the cultural diversity of students—help decide what activities students undertake. Based on the Project Adventure learning model, all activities provide:

- A consistently high, but accomplishable, level of expectation
- An atmosphere of mutual support, where cooperation, encouragement, safety and interpersonal concerns are stressed
- An emphasis on group problem-solving, where rewards are given for team effort rather than individual success or competition



Led by specially trained and supportive instructors, activities often include:

- High ropes and climbing challenges
- Rock wall climbing
- Hiking and fishing
- Basketball and other group sports
- Model building, ceramics, drawing and silk screening
- Field trips to area attractions, such as the Beardsley Zoo

'I got to go to the zoo! I can't believe I saw real tigers!'

Jess, 9



Both during the school year and at our summer program, students receive a nutritious lunch designed to keep their bodies and mind sharp, as well as teach them how to make healthy food choices.

Please learn more about Boys & Girls Village's Charles F. Hayden School today. Call (203) 877-0300, ext. 135, to discuss a student, schedule a tour or receive more information.



528 Wheelers Farms Road
Milford, CT 06461
(203) 877-0300
www.bgvillage.org

Helping Connecticut children and families

Heal Learn Grow