Spero is a therapeutic learning program specializing in whole child support for youth in grades 6–12 whose mental health challenges are the primary barrier to their school participation. Students who attend Spero are qualified for and served via an individualized education program (IEP) and recommended for Spero placement by a school district IEP Team.

Spero’s unique combination of academic and mental health supports provide a safe, small, therapeutic educational setting for youth experiencing anxiety disorders, depressive disorders, or other mental health challenges. Spero Center offers a unique option for these students to comfortably return to a group learning environment among their peers.

Spero Center Features:

- **A THERAPEUTIC ENVIRONMENT**, including personalized support plans, daily check-ins and individual, group and family counseling (as needed).
- **FULL-DAY PROGRAMMING** with education and therapeutic treatment activities on site, providing an all-inclusive experience for students and families.
- **WHOLE-FAMILY EDUCATION** with guidance for guardians about teen mental health and how to set healthy boundaries and expectations that support student success.
- **COLLABORATION** with a student’s school of origin, which provides a smooth transition from referral to Spero Center and back to a traditional education setting.

**EDUCATION + THERAPEUTIC SUPPORTS**

At Spero Center students are educated through individualized curriculum tailored to their educational needs. They learn coping skills and strategies with the goal of ultimately successfully transitioning back to their school district of origin.
SPERO CENTER STUDENTS

Each student has unique needs and challenges that are addressed within the context of a safe and supportive academic and therapeutic environment. Spero Center supports students experiencing significant mental health challenges who have struggled to thrive in a traditional public school setting. Students who present as physically aggressive, significantly disruptive, or otherwise deemed to have unsafe behavior towards others are not candidates for Spero Center due to the therapeutic nature of our programming.

IDENTIFYING STUDENTS

Students with the following indicators may be a good fit for Spero Center:

- The student is not attending public school due to mental health challenges, like anxiety and depression.
- The student is currently not thriving, not attending classes regularly, not passing classes or is experiencing a high need for social emotional support in the school setting.
- The student is supported by an active Individualized Education Program (IEP).

REFERRALS

Referrals for students to receive care at Spero Center must be submitted by their school district of origin’s IEP team. Spero Center staff will consult with the student’s IEP team to determine whether the student is likely to benefit from Spero services.

For inquiries or to request referral paperwork please call us at: 360.949.1440 or email: sperocenter@esd112.org

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