

Informed Use of Email

Please be aware that the Secretary of State has determined that e-mail is a public record and thus not confidential.



Additional Questions?

If I have any questions regarding informed consent, mandated reporting or about the services offered by the Social Work Department at the Board of Health, please contact the Board of Health Social Worker, Bethany Hadvab, LICSW, at 978-440-5476.

Sudbury Board of Health Social Work Department

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Informed Consent and Mandated Reporting

SUBURY BOARD OF HEALTH
SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT



Assessing Need for Services

As a resident of the town of Sudbury, Massachusetts, you are eligible to receive a range of services through the Social Work Department at the Board of Health. The type and extent of services that you will receive will be determined following a discussion with the social worker or Master's level social work intern about your current needs. All interns are attending an accredited school of social work and are supervised by a licensed social worker.

Releasing Information

All information shared with the social worker and social work interns at Sudbury Board of Health is confidential and no information will be released outside of the Board of Health multidisciplinary team without consent, or when the social worker is a mandated reported. The only other exception is in the case of a referral, where a Board of Health social worker may inform the referring individual or agency that initial contact was made with the referred individual. In order for social workers to release information outside of the Board of Health, consent to release information is given through written authorization. Verbal consent for limited release of information may be necessary in special circumstances.

Please note that as an employee of the Health Department, information about health and safety concerns that violate health codes will need to be reported to the health director.

Mandated Reporting

As mandated reporters, social workers and social work interns are ethically and legally required to report information to third parties when there are certain specific safety concerns. Therefore, there are specific and limited exceptions to confidentiality which include the following:

- A. When there is risk of imminent danger to you or to another person, the social worker is ethically bound to take necessary steps to prevent such danger.
- B. When there is suspicion that a child, elder, or disabled individual is being neglected or abused (physically, sexually, emotionally, financially) or is at risk of such abuse, the social worker is legally required to take steps to protect the individual, and to inform the proper authorities.
- C. When a valid court order is issued for medical records, the social worker and the agency are bound by law to comply with such requests.