



Dear Parents, Caregivers, and Families

The Diocese of Fall River has been committed to providing social and emotional learning support to all of its students. I have been blessed to support the schools of the Diocese for four years now and I am thrilled to announce that this year we will be introducing a new school counselor to our three New Bedford Schools to provide various levels of support to students, families, teachers, and administrators. We hope that you will view Lesley as the invaluable resource that she is. Lesley has an immense passion for supporting children and families and brings with her a wealth of resources and a profound love for Catholic Education. You can read more about Lesley below. I hope that you will join me in welcoming Lesley to the team and feel empowered to reach out to her with any questions or concerns!

In addition to your warm welcome to Lesley, we request that you help us to collect some information on the social and emotional learning needs of our students. We recognize that these unprecedented times have had an impact on all of us, and we want to be sure we understand these impacts on your child so that we can give them the exact kind of nurturing and support that they need to thrive and be great!

Thank you and have a blessed day!

Dahyana Schlosser RN, M.ED

Mental Health Consultant

Diocese of Fall River



My name is Lesley Da Ponte and I am the new School Counselor for The Fall River Catholic Dioceses. I am an Alumni of four Catholic Schools: St. Mary's Primary School of Taunton, Taunton Catholic middle school (TCMS) Coyle & Cassidy High School, Emmanuel College. I completed my bachelor's degree in Psychology at Emmanuel College in Boston. I obtained my Master of Education specialized in Mental Health Counseling from Bridgewater State University in 2014.

I have over ten years of experience of providing mental & behavioral health services to children and families in their homes, schools and clinic-based settings. I utilize Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Person Centered, Play Therapy, Behavioral therapy and other evidenced based practices to support my clients and students.

I am looking forward to providing social and emotional support to students and families of Fall River Catholic Diocese Schools in New Bedford. My goal is to support all students and their families to create a happy and healthy school experience for all. I will be developing and running several lunch bunch groups throughout the year. I look forward to meeting all of you.