

INSPIRATION



A patient is examined at Wood River Health. PROVIDED BY WOOD RIVER HEALTH



Online

Scan for the full interview with Alison L. Croke.

Volunteer Opportunities

Providence Student Union, which empowers youths to become advocates for their own education, is looking for volunteers to help students prepare for a successful school year by organizing school supplies, stuffing backpacks and getting their after-school space ready. This work has already begun with the start of the school year right around the corner. If you'd like to lend a hand, contact Merrill Schmidt at 720-662-2819, or email admin@pvdstudentunion.org.

The Empowerment Factory in Pawtucket seeks volunteers to support its mission by helping update and maintain their WordPress website. They are a nonprofit that helps students build confidence and skills through social-emotional learning, creativity and civic pride. This is an opportunity for individuals with web design and maintenance experience to help

Wood River Health delivers quality care for southern Rhode Islanders

Will Richmond Providence Journal | USA TODAY NETWORK

The Providence Journal and United Way of Rhode Island have partnered to highlight the state's nonprofits. Each week, a nonprofit identified by United Way will be spotlighted in the Providence Sunday Journal, and the United Way will share how it supports that organization.

This week, we feature Wood River Health, which has delivered compassionate, high-quality health care and support services to the community for 50 years.

We asked President and CEO Alison L. Croke to tell us more about the organization.

What is your mission and vision?

At Wood River Health, our mission is to provide high-quality and affordable health care through a compassionate, team-based approach. Our vision is for every member of our community to experience physical, emotional and social well-being.

For 50 years, we have served the residents of Washington County and southeastern Connecticut with comprehensive medical, dental and behavioral health services, along with community-based support.

As a Federally Qualified Health Center, we care for individuals and families who face barriers to access, including those in rural and underserved communities. We focus on the whole person, recognizing that health is shaped by more than medical care alone.

Our work is grounded in respect, compassion and health equity as we strive to build a community where every person has the opportunity to live well.

How do you measure success?

As a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), we track clinical quality through national benchmarks defined by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), ensuring accountability and consistent performance across our programs. We measure success through improved health outcomes, increased access to care and outreach to underserved populations. We submit our data to the federal government on an annual basis, using a standardized data system established for all FQHCs by HRSA.

It's also important to look beyond the data. Success is helping patients gain the tools and support to manage chronic conditions, or connecting families with the care and resources they need to thrive.

Partnerships are essential to this work. We establish alliances and collaborate with our community partners to provide wraparound support that strengthens our community's health and stability. We are grateful for the strong support of our state and federal legislators, whose commitment helps sustain access to health care services.

For more information about Wood River Health, visit 823 Main St., Hope Valley, call 401-539-2461 or go online at WoodRiverHealth.org.