

## **Family & Caregiver FAQ**

## Legacy by Gersh, Crotched Mountain

## When will the Crotched Mountain closure take place?

The Residential closing date is Friday, Nov. 18, 2022 and the Day School closing date is January 20, 2023

## Why is Crotched Mountain closing?

Gersh Autism prides itself on putting children first and providing our students with the safest level of care. Due to difficulties brought on by the pandemic, we are unable to continue staffing Crotched Mountain at the level needed to ensure the high degree of safety and care that Gersh promises to students and families. As a result, we are forced to close this campus.

## How severe is the staffing shortage?

The staffing shortage is severe enough that we know we won't be able to operate the facility in the coming future at the level of safety and excellence Gersh requires for our students.

### Have you considered other options?

We are deeply saddened to have to close the campus. The pandemic has brought unforeseen staffing challenges for industries across the nation. We explored all possible options before being forced to come to this decision.

# Are all services at Crotched Mountain ending (Residential School, Day School, Recreational Programming)?

Yes, unfortunately we are forced to wind down all services.

## Where will my student go when Crotched Mountain closes?

Your school district will work with you to find the appropriate placement for your child. Gersh will help provide whatever support we can to assist the district and in this effort.

## Who will lead the transition planning for my child?

Transition planning will be led by your school district. Gersh will work alongside the districts to provide support for your student. Please note: all school districts have been notified of the need to transition students by Nov. 18.

## Will Crotched Mountain staff provide assistance in finding a new placement for my student?

While the school district will lead the transition planning for your student, we are here to aid you and the district in finding the best possible placement for your child.

### How will students' records be handled?



Your student's records will be given back to the school district and will travel with your student to their next placement.

## Will any Gersh services be available after the closure?

Yes, ABA therapy is offered at three New Hampshire locations through Gersh's Ready Set Connect Autism Centers. Information is available at ReadySetConnect.org.

## Will Gersh be opening any other residential programs nationally?

There are no plans to open another residential program at this time, but we are always looking at ways to help improve the lives of individuals on the autism spectrum.

#### How will this affect the Crotched Mountain workforce?

We have offered an incentive to all staff to continue working until the campus closes. Given their dedication to the students, we believe they will stay on board during this transition period and will provide the same high-quality services and support you have come to expect. We are looking into transition plans and staffing opportunities for employees affected by the closure and will be addressing their individual needs on a one-to-one basis.

### What is the future plan for this site/facility?

We see the beauty and promise of this location, especially given its long history in the area. We are in early discussions with community partners on potential uses of this facility in the future.

## Will any aspects of the campus be open to families or the community?

There are many public outdoor spaces at Crotched Mountain that can still be enjoyed. None of these spaces will be impacted by this closure.

## Who can I contact with additional questions or concerns?

We understand you may have questions or concerns during this transition. Your Student Services Coordinator or Residential Director is your best point of contact and is prepared to help address your needs.