MISSION STATEMENT

The Richland County School District One School Social Work Program assists the instructional and school staff in making school a successful and relevant experience for all students. As members of the educational team, school social workers collaborate with students, their families, school staff, community agencies and others to assess and intervene with students who are experiencing social, emotional, family, or academic issues. The mission extends to helping students, families, and schools to prevent problems that could interfere with educational and social success.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Social Work Services at Richland County School District One Intervention Services
1225 Oak Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29204
Phone: (803) 231-6757
Fax: (803) 231-6789

IS THIS A NEW SERVICE?

No. In South Carolina school social workers have been a part of schools since the 1940’s when they began as visiting teachers.

PROGRAMS SERVED BY SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS

School social workers are assigned to the school(s) based upon identified needs of the student population and the district’s overall strategic plan. School social workers also serve targeted populations and projects within the district such as:

- Title I
- Child Study Team (Trainable and Profoundly Mentally Disabled Population)
- Preschool Team
- Special Education (High Support Team)
SERVICES PROVIDED BY SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS

SCHOOL FOCUSED INTERVENTIONS

- Serve on IEP, SIT, and other school-teams
- Conduct classroom observations
- Develop positive behavior intervention strategies
- Conduct staff presentations on behavioral, emotional, developmental, environmental issues that impact student learning
- Conduct classroom presentations related to anger management, social work bereavement, positive peer relations, academic preparedness, and positive decision-making, etc.
- Complete psychosocial history
- Complete transition plans
- Participate in intake conferences
- Conduct social-educational skills groups

STUDENT/FAMILY FOCUSED INTERVENTIONS

- Provide case management to students at high risk for dropping out
- Assess and intervene on student attendance and truancy concerns
- Provide direct counseling to students (individual and group)
- Provide direct counseling to families/guardians of students
- Locate resources for students and their families
- Collaborate with agencies for children in alternative living arrangements
- Conduct parent training
- Conduct home visits
- Conduct risk assessments (suicidal and/or homicidal)

COMMUNITY FOCUSED INTERVENTIONS

- Locate available community resources to enable students to receive maximum benefit from the educational program
- Attend or serve on community committees
- Serve as a liaison with community agencies

WHAT IS SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK?

School social work is a specialized service that assists students with academic learning by providing interventions that identify and address the social-emotional-environmental issues that interfere with the educational process. Working with parents/guardians, teachers, school principal/principal’s designee, and community-based resources, the school social worker implements strategies that promote students’ positive school adjustment. School social workers are members of the Department of Intervention Services.

HOW CAN I GET SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK SERVICES?

Anyone can make a referral to school social work services by contacting (803) 231-6757.

WHO PROVIDES SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK SERVICES?

Richland School District One employs licensed Master level social workers from accredited schools of social work education. School social workers have varied backgrounds in Child and Family Welfare, Mental Health, Juvenile Justice and Public Health as well as other areas related to children and families. School social workers are governed by the Social Work Code of Ethics, affiliated with the National Association of Social Workers and regulated by the South Carolina Labor and Licensing Board of Examiners.