



## What is School Social Work?


School Social Work is a specialized area of practice within the broad field of social work.

School Social Workers are licensed through the South Carolina Board of Social Work Examiners and hold a minimum of a master's degree in education.

School Social Work practice includes: homevisits, assessment, group and individual counseling, program development, conflict resolution, crisis intervention, consultation, and coordination of school and community services.

## What makes School Social Workers Unique?

They provide intervention within the home, community and school to remove barriers to student achievement.



## Should I contact a School Social Worker to discuss my situation?

Any School District 5 of Lexington and Richland Counties student, parent, or staff can contact their School Social Worker regarding any issue that interferes with student learning, including:

- Financial instability
- A family's involvement with the Department of Social Services
- Conflict at home
- Homelessness
- Truancy
- Family structure changes
- Help finding a doctor or dentist

**For more information please contact your School Social Worker:**



# School Social Work Services



*“Bridging the gap between school, home, and community.”*

Some students have difficulty achieving success due to social, emotional, and behavioral problems impacting school performance. **School Social Workers** help these students through early identification, prevention, intervention, counseling, and support.

### School Social Work Involves:

- Addressing student and family needs.
- Promoting communication between school, home and community agencies.
- Collaborating with supporting school staff.
- Assisting teachers to access resources.
- Establishing partnerships and community resources. Implementing prevention programs.
- Providing crisis intervention.

### Helping STUDENTS:

- Obtain academic, social, and emotional support.
- Become resilient, successful learners
- Cope in times of crisis.
- Gain personal and social competencies.

### Helping SCHOOLS:

- Meet educational goals of students from diverse backgrounds.
- Understand how students are impacted by cultural, economic, and other factors.
- Identify students' unmet needs.
- Work effectively with parents.
- Implement policies to address: school safety, attendance, crisis response, and child abuse and neglect.

### Helping the COMMUNITY:

- Coordinate the delivery of educational, socioeconomic, and health services.
- Identify and develop appropriate resources to adequately meet the needs of students and families.

### Helping FAMILIES:

- Participate effectively in their child(ren)'s education.
- Understand educational and developmental needs of the child.
- Access school and community resources.
- Strengthen parenting skills.
- Understand federal, state, and district policies.

### SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS: *THE VITAL LINK*

