

School Social Work services are available to ALL students.

Professional school social workers have a minimum of a master's degree in school social work, meet the state certification/licensure standards, and abide by the laws of the states in which they are employed. They uphold the ethical and professional standards of National Association of Social Workers (NASW). School social workers are instrumental in supporting safe and educationally sound environments for teaching and learning. School social workers collaborate with the home, school, and community to help students and families address any social, behavioral, emotional, learning, cultural, and economic barriers that impact school success.

Professional school social workers provide culturally competent services to students, parents/guardians, school staff and the community in the following areas:

#### Student Support:

1. Provide responsive programs, including short-term individual, group, family and crisis counseling
2. Consultation with parents, teachers and other educators
3. Participation in student support meetings
4. Provide prevention and intervention services related to school attendance
5. Provide services to Special Education students including initial evaluation reports and related services
6. Provide support services to strengthen personal/interpersonal skills (choice, self-acceptance, feelings, beliefs and behaviors, problem-solving, decision-making)
7. Provide referrals for additional specialized support services

#### Collaboration with Staff:

1. consult with school personnel
2. facilitate an understanding of factors in the home and community that affect students' educational experiences
3. consult with school personnel and service agencies regarding attendance, confidentiality, ethnicity, diversity, mental health, behavior management, discipline, crisis intervention and child abuse and neglect
4. help to develop classroom/school supports that enhance the health, social and emotional well being and safety of students
5. help to build effective school-community teams
6. promote positive school climate

#### Home/School/Community Liaison

1. share information related to educational or behavioral concerns
2. Support communication between home and school
3. expand families' knowledge base of community resources and utilization of such resources
4. maintain communication with outside agencies to ensure continuity of assistance
5. remove barriers to the successful implementation of school-family-community partnerships

6. serve as an advocate, leader, facilitator, initiator, evaluator, and collaborator to create, enrich, and evaluate the effect of these partnerships on student success.

### Professional Expectation

1. Perform professional duties in a manner that is consistent with the NASW Code of Ethics & the Supplemental Ethical Standards for School Social Work Practice.
2. Be knowledgeable about Special Education Law and Eligibility Criteria
3. Be knowledgeable about Wisconsin state statutes regarding attendance and truancy, mandated reporting and child welfare law, student discipline, and general understanding of educational law and policy.
4. Support children and families in crisis by advocating and connecting with community resources.
5. Knowledgeable about McKinney-Vento Act and provision of assistance for children and families experiencing homelessness.
6. Maintain confidential student records and be knowledgeable about requirement surrounding student record confidentiality.
7. Participate in opportunities for professional development, based upon an individual assessment of need &/or needs identified within the school setting
8. Maintain professional licenses and certifications in compliance with the Department of Public Instruction.