

School-Based Child and Family Support Teams (CFST)

A Joint Project of the NC Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

And the NC Department of Public Instruction (DPI)

DHHS currently provides funding for CFST in approximately twenty-one (21) local education agencies across the state. As team members, School Social Workers work with School Nurses to screen and identify children who are potentially at risk of academic failure or out-of-home placement due to physical, social, legal, emotional, or developmental factors. The School-Based Child and Family Support Team Program is designed to achieve the following outcomes:

- CFSTs have the potential to address barriers to school achievement and to improve relations within the school and between the home and school.
- CFSTs were originally developed as a part of wrap-around services delivery program. This approach helps children with serious emotional and behavioral problems stay in the community, stabilize their living arrangements, decrease delinquent acts, and adjust better to school.
- CFSTs increase referrals for services and follow-through on the actual provision of services.
- CFSTs assess reasons for excessive student absences and design a team approach for intervention.

[\(\[www.ncdhhs.gov/childandfamilyteams\]\(http://www.ncdhhs.gov/childandfamilyteams\)\)](http://www.ncdhhs.gov/childandfamilyteams)