

# St. Croix County Coordinated Family Services (CFS)

## Target Group Served

CFS is an early intervention approach targeted at youth (ages 0-18) and their families who have involvement in multiple direct services (i.e. juvenile justice, AODA services, special education, mental health services, or child protective services) and are a potential risk for placement out of the home.

## Strength-Based Focus

In traditional models, treatment and strategies were planned around the problems-identifying the problem. The strength-based model builds on the family's strengths to achieve positive outcomes while still acknowledging the problem. Looking at the family's past successes and present strengths can help the family and professional see potential solutions to their needs and builds cooperation and encourages trust with families.

## Team Concept

Families involved in the CFS Project work as part of a Family Team. Families may select professionals, friends, experts and support people who will be team members. The team meets as often as necessary to make sure the child and family are getting the help and support they have identified. All decisions are made as a team. No team members can make unilateral decisions for the family. The family must be in support of any decision or plan developed for them.

## Wrap-Around Process

The wrap-around process is used to help communities develop individualized plans of care. The plan is driven by the needs of the child and family rather than service availability or provider driven. The plan typically involves a combination of existing or modified services, newly created services, informal supports and other community resources. Services and supports are community based. Residential placements and hospitalizations are only used for short-term stabilizations and only when necessary and possible.

## Voluntary Participation

Family involvement in the CFS Project is voluntary. Families can choose to discontinue their participation at any time if they feel that the CFS Project is not a good fit for them.

*For more information on Coordinated Family Services (CFS) please contact:  
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