

FRED FINCH YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES  
SCHOOL-BASED SERVICES ALAMEDA  
COUNTY

For more information, call (510) 482-2244 or  
visit [fredfinch.org/school-based-services](https://fredfinch.org/school-based-services)



Fred Finch Youth & Family Services is a leading mental health agency that delivers services across systems of care. Our mission is to provide innovative, effective services supporting children, youth, young adults, and families to heal from trauma and lead healthier, productive lives.

At Fred Finch, we welcome and invite people from all backgrounds to address life challenges in a safe and compassionate environment. We commit ourselves to working together with participants to navigate complex challenges that may include traumatic experience, mental health concerns, drug and alcohol use, or other disabilities. We provide innovative, effective services to support participants and their families to reach their goals.



SCHOOL-BASED  
SERVICES ALAMEDA  
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School-Based Services offers school site-based mental health services designed to help youth learn to succeed in school, and improve their grades, attendance, and interpersonal relationships.

## OVERVIEW

The Alameda School-Based Services (SBS) program provides mental health services designed to help youth learn to succeed in school—to improve their grades, attendance, and interpersonal relationships with their peers and families. Staff works closely with teachers, school staff, caregivers, parents, and students to improve students' functioning at school and home. Working with individual students and their families, SBS staff evaluates each youth independently and develops a customized action plan to address each barrier to success. SBS is available to youth who have full-scope Medi-Cal and are enrolled at the elementary, middle, and high schools in Hayward and Oakland listed below.

Staffing includes a Program Director, 2 Clinical Supervisor, and 16 Clinicians. Fred Finch staff participates in school site staff and team meetings, and student-centered school functions. FFYC becomes part of the school site environment to provide school-wide support to students, offering consultation on mental health matters to school personnel and collaborating closely with teachers and administrators.

In 2014, SBS expanded services to the Rising Harte Wellness Center, a primary care clinic offering physical, dental, and behavioral healthcare, to Bret Harte Middle School (Oakland) into its spectrum of resources in Alameda County.

SBS's goals are that students develop meaningful relationships, coping skills, and experiences as a basis for improved learning and personal growth; enhanced self-image, self-worth, and self-direction; and foster safety, respect, and responsibility for themselves, others, and the community.

### ALAMEDA COUNTY SBS SCHOOL SITES - HAYWARD

- ANTHONY OCHOA MIDDLE SCHOOL
- BRENKWITZ HIGH SCHOOL
- BRET HARTE MIDDLE SCHOOL
- EDEN GARDEN ELEMENTARY
- FAIRVIEW ELEMENTARY
- SCHAFFER PARK ELEMENTARY

### ALAMEDA COUNTY SBS SCHOOL SITES - OAKLAND

- BRET HARTE MIDDLE SCHOOL
- EDNA BREWER MIDDLE SCHOOL
- MADISON PARK ACADEMY
- MELROSE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY
- MONTERA MIDDLE SCHOOL
- MANZANITA SEED ELEMENTARY

## SERVICES

School-Based Services include:

- Individual and family therapy
- Group therapy
- Consultation with educational staff
- Reinforcement of and guidance on behavioral interventions
- Crisis support
- Treatment plan collaboration and guidance
- Parent/family support

Each school site has a unique culture and way of effectively meeting students' needs. Our staff becomes a part of each school environment, contributing to the growth and increased potential of every student. The average length of service is about eight to ten months.

## PHILOSOPHY

Our approach and philosophy focus upon building supportive relationships, engaging the whole family (as appropriate) and identifying/creating positive reasons to change students' behavior. Staff strives to help students and families identify their core gifts, and design interventions to engender sustainable behavior changes. This support extends to assisting students and families to recover from trauma they may have experienced and which may be impacting the student's behavior. Staff works to build positive communication and collaboration with schools, families, and others working towards a common goal to create change and help the participant/family live the life they intend to live. Staff works to help students and their families gain the ability to navigate their own way through their environment and community.

## REFERRALS

Youth must be a student at one of the schools listed and be eligible for full-scope Medi-Cal. Referrals are initiated at each school site. For questions about the SBS program, contact [Program Director Nydia Mershani, MFT 510-847-2774](#).