

How to make a referral

If you are working with a family who would benefit from support from the Focus Family Team then please email focus.family@cumbria.gov.uk
Please gain the families' consent prior to sharing their information.

You can also contact the following Focus Family Community Navigators in your area for more information with queries.

Ann Crook - Carlisle and Eden
ann.crook@cumbria.gov.uk

Tracy Mullen - Barrow and Copeland
tracy.mullen@cumbria.gov.uk

Caroline Taylor - South Lakeland and Allerdale
caroline.taylor@cumbria.gov.uk



In Cumbria County Council's Focus Family Team, we are strengthening how we work with families who need extra help because we want Cumbria to be a great place for children and young people to grow up in. We do this by working closely in partnership with other services and agencies and jointly tackling all the different needs that are faced by the family as a whole and we call this the Think Family approach.

As part of the Think Family approach, Focus Family can offer support in signposting professionals and families to other local service providers who would be able to offer them additional support.



How we can help?

- DWP Employment Advisors who offer a full welfare benefit health check to ensure that the families are receiving all benefits that they are entitled to as well as other services (further information is available upon request).
 - The Employment Advisors also attend TAFs
 - They carry out home visits alongside other professionals
 - They are based within local community settings, reducing the need for families to visit the job centre
- Signposting to community food hubs / pantries and locally accessible grants and funding
- Project Linus – providing quilts for children and young people in need of comfort
- Families in need (including Domestic Abuse, Poverty, SEND etc) – signposting to services
- Welfare assistance and guidance for professionals to share with service users
- Assist in getting white goods for households in need

We welcome referrals from all agencies working with children and families such as Early Years settings, Schools, Health Visitors, Children's Centres, GP surgeries etc

Families may also self-refer.

