

**CHAPTER B: EARLY PREVENTION**

**Outline**

**Section 1: Overview of Prevention-completed**

- **Intended Audience for Section 1**
- **Definition of Prevention**
- **VDSS Practice Model**
- **Children’s Services Practice Model**
- **Guiding Principles for Prevention**
- **Outline of the Early Prevention Chapter**
- **Legal basis for the Provision of Prevention Services**
- **Definitions**
- **Challenges Still Ahead**
  - ✓ **Results of Nation Center for children on Poverty Report**
  - ✓ **Results of Maternal, Infant & Early Childhood Home Visiting Needs Assessment**
  - ✓ **Results of PSSF Community Assessment Plans**
  - ✓ **Results of Annual CSA Survey**
  - ✓ **Trends in Child Abuse and Neglect**
- **Vision for the future of prevention**
- **Focus of Early Prevention on Best Practice Models**
  - ✓ **Family driven services**
  - ✓ **Engaging families and shift to family based decision making**
  - ✓ **Use of strengthening families perspective**
  - ✓ **Emphasis on trauma informed practice**
  - ✓ **Use of the framework for protective and risk factors**
  - ✓ **Collaboration as a critical component**
  - ✓ **An entrepreneurial approach to program development**
- **Prevention Continuum**
- **Practice and Administrative Standards for Effective Early Prevention Programs**
- **Types of Prevention Services**
  - ✓ **Primary**
  - ✓ **Secondary**
  - ✓ **Tertiary**
- **Administrative Supports Needed for Effective Early Prevention Services**
  - ✓ **Key Tasks**
  - ✓ **Realigning Resources**
  - ✓ **Data management**
  - ✓ **Measuring Program Outcomes**
  - ✓ **Parent Partnerships**
  - ✓ **Community and Systems Integration**

- **Benefits of Embracing a Prevention Perspective across Child Welfare**
- **Appendices**
  - **Appendix A: Resources Used in Developing Guidance**
  - **Appendix B: What the Research Reflects about impact of maltreatment and removal**
  - **Appendix C: Virginia's Prevention Initiatives**
  - **Appendix D: The Prevention Continuum**
  - **Appendix E: Protective Factors**
  - **Appendix F: Risk Factors**
  - **Appendix G: Funding Sources for Early Prevention**
  - **Appendix H: On-Line Resources for Prevention Information and Funding**

**Section 2: Public Education and Awareness Early Prevention Services to the General Public (NOT YET DEVELOPED)**

- **Definition**
- **Intent of this Section**
- **Guiding Principles**
- **Benefits**
- **Challenges**
- **Types of Strategies/Activities**
- **Child Abuse/Neglect Prevention Month**
- **Data Collection for Public Education/Awareness Activities**

**Section 3: Early Prevention Services to High Risk Groups**

- **Definition**
- **Guiding principles**
- **Benefits**
- **Challenges**
- **Identifying At Risk Groups (e.g. teens, incarcerated fathers, parents who were child victims of abuse, single parents, etc.)**
- **Types of Strategies/Activities**
- **Evidence based model for group services**
- **Collaboration with Community Partners to Serve High Risk Groups**

**Section 4: Early Prevention Services to At Risk Families-completed**

- **Intended audience for this section**
- **Definition of Early Prevention Services to At Risk Families**
- **Referral Sources**
- **The Concepts of Family and Child Well Being**
- **Engaging the Family in Voluntary Services**
  - **Cultural competence**
  - **Connecting and reconnecting Fathers and Other Adults through engagement**

OUTLINE OF EARLY PREVENTION CHAPTER B, CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES MANUAL  
September 24, 2012

- Resources for Involving Fathers
- Strengthening Martial and Parental Relationships
- **Intake/Short Term Assessment**
  - Intake: The Initial Contact
  - Consideration of Risk Factors at Intake
  - Short –term Assessment/Crisis Intervention
  - Screening for Trauma
  - Workers’ and Parents’ Role
  - Decisions made at the completion of the short term assessment
  - Outcomes Expected
- **Opening a case**
  - Application for services
  - OASIS Case types
    - ✓ Early Prev/Family Support: no court (*Currently Prev/Support: Stabilization/Support*)
    - ✓ Early Prev/Family Support: court order(*currently Prev. Sup: Home Study/Court Order*)
    - ✓ Early Prev/Family Preservation: (*currently Prevention/Support: Prevention of Abuse/Neglect*)
    - ✓ Early Prev/Int. Fam Preserv: high risk of FC (*currently Prev/Sup: Placement Prevention*)
    - ✓ Prevention/low or moderate risk: after CPS (*currently either CPS ongoing or Prevention/Support: Prevention of abuse/neglect*)
- **Comprehensive Assessment of the family’s needs**
  - Step 1: Engaging the Family
  - Step 2: Conducting the Comprehensive Family Assessment
    - ✓ Protective and Risk Factors as Framework for Assessment
    - ✓ Questions to Raise to Assess Protective Factors
    - ✓ Preliminary Assessment of Trauma
  - Step 3: Analyzing their information gathered
    - ✓ Mutual Agreement on Issues/Concerns
    - ✓ Prioritizing the Issues
    - ✓ Managing concerns
    - ✓ Assessing the family’s perception of the problem and willingness to change
- **Tools and Strategies that could be utilized in the Assessment Process**
- **Valid and Reliable Instruments**
- **Service planning**
  - Stages of change
  - Components of an Effective Service Plan
  - Funding the Service Plan
- **Service delivery**
  - Goal of Supportive Services

OUTLINE OF EARLY PREVENTION CHAPTER B, CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES MANUAL  
September 24, 2012

- Definition of Strength Based Practice
- Role of the Worker
- Trauma Informed Case Management
- Intensive In-Home Services
- Use of Short-term Respite
- Frequency of Contacts
- Foster Care Division in Early Prevention
  - ✓ When to explore alternate living arrangements with families
  - ✓ Authority of LDSS
  - ✓ Role of the Agency in Diversion
  - ✓ Service Objectives for Early Prevention Diversion cases
  - ✓ Special Considerations in Diversion
  - ✓ Assisting Families with a Written Agreement
  - ✓ Types of Services Provided in Diversion Cases
  - ✓ What requires the Original Family's Consent
  - ✓ Considerations When Making the Decision to Support a Diversion Family Made by the Original Family
  - ✓ What to do when the family has placed a child in an informal arrangement before they are known to LDSS
  - ✓ Helping the family determine if the family they have chosen can be a permanent placement for their child
- **Appeals and Fair Hearings**
- **Reassessment and Service Plan Adjustment**
  - Tools to assess progress and/or change in families
- **Goal Achievement and Case Closure**
- **Guidelines for Supervision**
  - **Modeling Strength Based Practice**
  - **Supporting Peer Supervision and Teamwork**
  - **Engaging Staff in Decision Making**
  - **Reducing Barriers within the System**
  - **Managing Secondary Trauma**
- **Benefits of Early Prevention Services to Families**
- **Appendices**
  - ✓ **Appendix A: The Family's Story-the first step in engagement**
  - ✓ **Appendix B: Father Friendly Environmental Assessment Tool**
  - ✓ **Appendix C: Questions to Ask Mental Health Providers**
  - ✓ **Appendix D: Assessing Parent's Motivation for Change**
  - ✓ **Appendix E: VDSS Sample Parent Survey**
  - ✓ **Appendix G: Service Plan**
  - ✓ **Appendix H: On-line Resources**

**Section 5: Building the Agency's Capacity to Provide Early Prevention Service through Collaboration  
(IN PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT)**

- **Intended audience and purpose of this section**
- **Definitions**
- **Guiding principles**
- **Building organizational capacity**
  - **Questions to be Answered as a Result of the Review Process**
  - **Timeline for capacity building**
  - **Step 1: Identify the prevention capacity building review team**
  - **Step 2: Define the capacity building process**
  - **Step 3: Clarify organizational values**
  - **Step 4: Review the information available**
  - **Step 5: Identify current practices and procedures**
  - **Step 6: Assess agency environment and organizational culture**
  - **Step 7: Develop and distribute a self-assessment survey**
  - **Step 8: Conduct a community needs assessment**
  - **Step 9: Analyze the information gathered-agency strengths and needs**
- **Outreach to the community**
- **Creating a prevention team**
- **Engaging the partners**
- **The MOA process and its role in collaboration**
- **Measuring the success of collaborative efforts**
- **Appendices**
  - **Appendix A: Organizational Effectiveness**
  - **Appendix B: Models and tools for building Organizational Capacity**
  - **Appendix C: Values Clarification Exercise**
  - **Appendix D: Program Self Assessment Tool for Prevention**
  - **Appendix E: Birth Parent Engagement Assessment Tool**
  - **Appendix F: Additional assessment tools**
  - **Appendix G: Checklist for Successful Coalitions**
  - **Appendix H: Model Early Prevention Programs**