

## **Agency Summary: Buckingham County DSS**

**Region:** Central

**Class Size:**

**Director:** Braxton Apperson, III

**Early Prevention Contact Person:** Stephanie Coleman (stephanie.coleman@dss.virginia.gov)

### **Description of Early Prevention Services (prior to a current, valid CPS report)**

Buckingham County Department of Social Services provides a system of services to the general public, high risk groups, and individual families. Buckingham does not utilize volunteers to provide prevention services. However, they use Family Partnership meetings (FPMs) in early prevention. The staff facilitates alternate living arrangements with relatives or non-relatives for a child at risk of removal and entering foster care (Foster Care Diversion). They also directly provide services to any of the 'diversion families' and/or birth families involved after they have facilitated an informal out of home alternative living arrangement

Buckingham County Department of Social Services has specific staff devoted primarily to prevention. This staff provides public education and awareness activities on prevention to the general public and early prevention services to individual families.

### **Specific information about Buckingham County Department of Social Services for each type of Early Prevention Services provided**

#### **1. Universal Early Prevention Services (Public Education and Awareness to the General Public)**

- Public Education and Awareness Services Provided:
  - Public speaking at community events or to groups within the community
  - Community collaboration with organizations re: issues related to prevention
  - Attendance at Hugs and Kisses performances
  - Training to community based organizations/providers, (e.g. Boy Scouts, child care providers, school personnel)
  - Child Abuse Prevention Month Activities
- Funding Sources for Early Prevention Public Education and Awareness:
  - 100% Local only funds
- Staff that provide Early Prevention Public Awareness Activities:
  - Intake worker
  - Staff devoted primarily to prevention (Family Stabilization staff, etc.)
  - CPs investigative worker
  - CPS family assessment worker

- CPS on-going services worker
- Foster care worker
- Adoption worker
- Volunteers used: None
- Material printed in Spanish: None

## **2. Early Prevention Services to High Risk Groups**

None

## **3. Early Prevention Services to Individual Families**

- Early Prevention Services Provided to Individual Families:
  - Case management/coordination
  - Information and referral
  - Counseling by LDSS
  - Services provided to children to increase protective factors
  - Developmental screening for children
  - Finding relatives and other individuals to enhance parent support
  - Children's services within domestic violence prevention or treatment programs
  - Advocacy on behalf of the family within the community to secure services and support
  - Mentoring
  - LDSS funded child care
  - Domestic violence prevention programs
  - Translator services
- Funding for Services to Individual Families:
  - CSA funds
  - Medicaid
  - Safe and Stable Families (budget line item 866/title IVB Subpart 2)
  - Budget line item 829-Family Preservation (SSGB)
  - Adoption Assistance
  - Community resources (e.g., churches, Salvation Army, etc.)
- Staff that Provide Early Prevention Services to Individual Families:
  - Family stabilization or other staff devoted primarily to prevention
  - CPS investigative worker
  - CPS family assessment worker
  - CPS on-going services worker
  - Foster care worker
  - Adoption worker
- Volunteers used: None

## **4. Community based resources to which the agency refers**

- Healthy Families Providers

- Part C Early Childhood Intervention
- Early Head Start (birth to 3 years old)
- Head Start (3 to 5 years old)
- Virginia Cooperative Extension Programs (including 4-H)
- Workshops and trainings provided by community groups
- Intensive in-home service providers
- Public health providers
- Public mental health providers (e.g., community service boards)
- Private mental health providers
- Schools
- Churches
- Mentoring program providers
- Domestic violence prevention providers