

Agency Summary: Giles County DSS

Region: Western

Class Size:

Director: Sherri Nipper

Early Prevention Contact Person: Sherri Nipper (sherri.nipper@dss.virginia.gov)

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

Giles County Department of Social Services provides a system of services to the general public and individual families. Giles County does not utilize volunteers to provide prevention services. However, 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

Giles County Department of Social Services does not have specific staff devoted primarily to prevention. Nevertheless, they provide public education and awareness activities on prevention to the general public and early prevention services to individual families.

Specific information about Giles 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:
 - Parent education and/or child development information and/or information on services available to the general public
 - Public speaking at community events or to groups within the community
 - Community collaboration with organizations re: issues related to prevention
- Funding Sources for Early Prevention Public Education and Awareness:
 - Community resources (e.g. churches, Salvation Army, etc.)
- Staff that provide Early Prevention Public Awareness Activities:
 - Intake worker
 - CPS investigative worker
 - CPS family assessment worker
 - CPS on-going services worker
 - Foster care worker
 - Adoption worker
 - Social Work Supervisor
 - Agency Director

- Volunteers used: None
- Material printed in Spanish: Yes

2. Early Prevention Services to High Risk Groups

None

3. Early Prevention Services to Individual Families

- Early Prevention Services Provided to Individual Families:
 - Information and referral
 - LDSS funded respite care
 - LDSS funded home repair
 - Services provided to children to increase protective factors
 - Developmental screening for children
 - Advocacy on behalf of the family within the community to secure services and support
 - Financial assistance to individual families used for prevention
 - LDSS funded child care
- 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:
 - Intake worker
 - 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

- Head Start (3 to 5 years old)
- Virginia Cooperative Extension Programs (including 4-H)
- Parent Support group providers
 - New River Valley Community Services
- Workshops and trainings provided by community groups to specific targeted groups, including:
 - General public
 - Foster families
- Intensive in-home service providers

- Public health providers
- Private health providers
- Public mental health providers (e.g., community service boards)
- Respite care providers
- Schools
- Domestic violence prevention providers
- Child Advocacy Centers