

Agency Summary: Halifax County DSS

Region: Piedmont

Class Size:

Director: Kathy E. Andrews

Early Prevention Contact Person: Angela Thomas (angela.thomas@dss.virginia.gov)

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

Halifax County Department of Social Services provides a system of services to the general public and individual families. Halifax County 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

Halifax County Department of Social Services has a specific staff devoted primarily to prevention. These staff members provide public education and awareness activities on prevention to the general public and early prevention services to individual families.

Specific information about Halifax 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
- Funding Sources for Early Prevention Public Education and Awareness:
 - Safe and Stable Families (budget line item 866/Title IVB Subpart 2)
- Staff that provide Early Prevention Public Awareness Activities:
 - Intake worker
 - CPS investigative worker
 - CPS on-going services worker
 - Foster care worker
- 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:
 - Case management/coordination
 - Information and referral
 - LDSS funded respite care
 - Transportation
 - Services provided to children to increase protective factors
 - Finding relatives and other individuals to enhance parent support
 - Advocacy on behalf of the family within the community to secure services and support
 - Mentoring
 - Financial assistance to individual families used for prevention
 - LDSS funded child care
 - Domestic violence prevention programs
- Funding for Services to Individual Families:
 - CSA funds
 - Medicaid
 - Safe and Stable Families (budget line item 866/title IVB Subpart 2)
 - Community resources (e.g., churches, Salvation Army, etc.)
- Staff that Provide Early Prevention Services to Individual Families:
 - Intake worker
 - Family stabilization or other staff devoted primarily to prevention
 - CPS investigative worker
 - CPS family assessment worker
 - CPS on-going services worker
 - Foster care worker
 - Benefit program worker (VIEW, TANF, etc.)
- Volunteers used: None

4. Community based resources to which the agency refers

- Healthy Families Providers
- Home visiting providers
- Parent Support group providers
 - Mental health support groups for the general public and at-risk families
- Workshops and trainings provided by community groups to specific targeted groups, including:
 - General public
 - High-risk
 - Foster families
- Intensive in-home service providers
- Public mental health providers (e.g., community service boards)
- Private mental health providers
- Schools

- Mentoring program providers