

Agency Summary: Norfolk DSS

Region: Eastern

Class Size:

Director: Stephen Hawks

Early Prevention Contact Person: Jill Baker (jill.baker@norfolk.gov)

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

Norfolk Department of Social Services provides a system of services to the general public, high risk groups, and individual families. Norfolk utilizes volunteers to provide some of its prevention services. They also 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

Norfolk 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, early prevention services to high risk groups and to individual families.

Specific information about * 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 service announcements
 - 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
 - Training to community based organizations/providers, (e.g. Boy Scouts, child care providers, school personnel)
 - Child Abuse Prevention Month Activities
 - Providing pamphlets and information re: parenting and services to community centers, churches and libraries
- Funding Sources for Early Prevention Public Education and Awareness:
 - 100% Local only funds
- Staff that provide Early Prevention Public Awareness Activities:
 - Staff devoted primarily to prevention (Family Stabilization staff, etc.)
- Volunteers used: None

- Material printed in Spanish: Yes

2. Early Prevention Services to High Risk Groups

- High Risk Groups Targeted:
 - Fathers
 - Incarcerated parents
- Services Provided to High Risk Groups:
 - Parent education and child development materials to targeted groups
 - Information on available services distributed to targeted groups, not just to the public
 - Parent training for high risk groups
 - Financial assistance
- Funding for Services to High Risk Groups:
 - Safe and Stable Families (budget line item 866/title IVB Subpart 2)
 - Budget line item 829-Family Preservation (SSGB)
 - Community block grants
 - Community resources (e.g., churches, Salvation Army, etc.)
- Staff that Provide Early Prevention to High Risk Groups:
 - Family stabilization or other staff devoted primarily to prevention
 - Homeless Action Response Team Social Workers
- Volunteers used for Early Prevention for High Risk Groups:
 - Answering the Homeless Hotline

3. Early Prevention Services to Individual Families

- Early Prevention Services Provided to Individual Families:
 - Case management/coordination
 - Information and referral
 - Transportation
 - Counseling by LDSS
 - 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
 - Financial assistance to individual families used for prevention
 - LDSS funded child care
 - Domestic violence prevention programs
- Funding for Services to Individual Families:
 - Medicaid
 - Safe and Stable Families (budget line item 866/title IVB Subpart 2)
 - Budget line item 829-Family Preservation (SSGB)
 - Community block grants
 - Community resources (e.g., churches, Salvation Army, etc.)
 - TANF/VIEW

- Staff that Provide Early Prevention Services to Individual Families:
 - Intake worker
 - Family stabilization or other staff devoted primarily to prevention
 - Prisoner Re-entry program Social Worker
- Volunteers used:
 - Answering phones, filing, records management

4. Community based resources to which the agency refers

- Healthy Families Providers
- Home visiting providers
- Part C Early Childhood Intervention
- Head Start (3 to 5 years old)
- Parent Support group providers
 - Parent support groups to general public and at-risk families
 - Mental health based support groups for any parent and at-risk parents
- Workshops and trainings provided by community groups to specific targeted groups, including:
 - General public
 - High-risk families
 - Families where abuse and neglect has occurred
 - Families where domestic violence is present or suspected
 - Families whose children have been removed
 - Foster families
 - Adoptive families
- Intensive in-home service providers
- Public health providers
- Private health providers
- Public mental health providers (e.g., community service boards)
- Private mental health providers
- Respite care providers
- Schools
- Churches
- Mentoring program providers
- Domestic violence prevention providers
- Sexual Assault Centers
- Child Advocacy Centers
- Homeless Shelters
- International Black Women's Caucus