

Agency Summary: Sussex DSS

Region: Eastern

Class Size:

Director: Chequila H. Fields

Early Prevention Contact Person: Tramall Holmes (tramall.holmes@dss.virginia.gov)

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

Sussex Department of Social Services provides a system of services to the general public, high risk groups, and individual families. Sussex utilizes volunteers to provide some of its prevention services. They also use Family Partnership meetings (FPMs) in early prevention. 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

Sussex 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 high risk groups and individual families.

Specific information about Sussex 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
 - Parent education groups open to anyone in the community
 - 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:
 - Grant funding
 - Safe and Stable Families (budget line item 866/Title IVB Subpart 2)
 - Community resources (e.g. churches, Salvation Army, etc.)
 - Quality Initiative Funding
- Staff that provide Early Prevention Public Awareness Activities:
 - Staff devoted primarily to prevention (Family Stabilization staff, etc.)
 - CPS investigative worker

- Foster care worker
- Adoption worker
- Generic worker
- Volunteers used:
 - Transportation
- Material printed in Spanish: Yes

2. Early Prevention Services to High Risk Groups

- High Risk Groups Targeted:
 - Parents with disabilities
 - Parents with children with disabilities
 - Single parents
 - Low-income families
- 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 support groups for high-risk groups
 - Parent education for high risk groups (e.g., financial, health, child development, working with school systems, behavior management, family relationships.)
 - Parent training for high risk groups
 - Public speaking for high risk groups
- Funding for Services to High Risk Groups:
 - Grant funding
 - CSA funds
 - Safe and Stable Families (budget line item 866/title IVB Subpart 2)
 - Community resources (e.g., churches, Salvation Army, etc.)
 - Foundations and corporations
- Staff that Provide Early Prevention to High Risk Groups:
 - 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
 - Generic worker
- Volunteers used for Early Prevention for High Risk Groups:
 - Transportation

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
- Counseling by LDSS
- Finding relatives and other individuals to enhance parent support
- Financial assistance to individual families used for prevention
- Funding for Services to Individual Families:
 - CSA funds
 - Safe and Stable Families (budget line item 866/title IVB Subpart 2)
 - Budget line item 829-Family Preservation (SSGB)
 - 100% local only funds
 - Community block grants
 - Community resources (e.g., churches, Salvation Army, etc.)
 - Foundations and corporations
- 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
 - Generic worker
- Volunteers used:
 - Transportation

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)
- Parent Support group providers
 - Mental health based support groups for at-risk parents
- Workshops and trainings provided by community groups to specific targeted groups, including
 - High-risk parents
 - 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
- Foundations and corporations
- Stop Child Abuse Now