Agency Summary: Dinwiddie DSS

Region: Eastern

Class Size: 

Director: Ray Spicer

Early Prevention Contact Person: Doretha Townes (doretha.townes@dss.virginia.gov)

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

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

Dinwiddie 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 Dinwiddie 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
     - 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
     - In-service training with teachers
   - Funding Sources for Early Prevention Public Education and Awareness:
     - Grant funding
     - Safe and Stable Families (budget line item 866/Title IVB Subpart 2)
     - United Way
     - 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
• Generic worker

• Volunteers used:
  o Distribution of materials

• 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:
     o Case management/coordination
     o Information and referral
     o Transportation
     o LDSS funded home repair
     o Services provided to children to increase protective factors
     o Developmental screening for children
     o Finding relatives and other individuals to enhance parent support
     o Children’s services within domestic violence prevention or treatment programs
     o Advocacy on behalf of the family within the community to secure services and support
     o Mentoring
     o LDSS funded child care
     o Domestic violence prevention programs
     o Translator services

   • Funding for Services to Individual Families:
     o Grant funding
     o CSA funds
     o Medicaid
     o Safe and Stable Families (budget ling item 866/title IVB Subpart 2)
     o Budget line item 829-Family Preservation (SSGB)
     o Adoption Assistance
     o United Way
     o Community resources (e.g., churches, Salvation Army, etc.)

   • Staff that Provide Early Prevention Services to Individual Families:
     o Intake worker
     o CPS investigative worker
     o CPS family assessment worker
- CPS on-going services worker
- Foster care worker
- Adoption worker
- Generic worker
- Benefit program worker (VIEW, TANF, etc.)

- Volunteers used:
  - Lifting, moving, distribution of items

4. **Community based resources to which the agency refers**
   - Head Start (3 to 5 years old)
   - Parent Support group providers
     - Mental health based support groups for parents
   - Workshops and trainings provided by community groups to specific targeted groups, including:
     - Foster families
     - Adoptive families
   - Intensive in-home service providers
   - Private health providers
   - Public mental health providers (e.g., community service boards)
   - Private mental health providers
   - Schools
   - Churches
   - Mentoring program providers
   - Domestic violence prevention providers