

Agency Summary: Lee County DSS

Region: Western

Class Size:

Director: Barbara Surber

Early Prevention Contact Person: Angela Hedrick (angela.dennison@dss.virginia.gov)

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

Lee County Department of Social Services provides a system of services to the general public, high risk groups, and individual families. Lee County 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

Lee County Department of Social Services has 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 Lee 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:
 - 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
 - Attendance at Hugs and Kisses performances
 - Training to community based organizations/providers, (e.g. Boy Scouts, child care providers, school personnel)
- Funding Sources for Early Prevention Public Education and Awareness:
 - QI, IV-E, Foster Home Recruitment
- Staff that provide Early Prevention Public Awareness Activities:
 - Intake worker
 - Staff devoted primarily to prevention (Family Stabilization staff, etc.)
 - CPS investigative worker
 - CPS family assessment worker

- CPS on-going services worker
- Foster care worker
- Adoption worker
- Volunteers used:
 - Distribution of materials
- Material printed in Spanish: None

2. Early Prevention Services to High Risk Groups

- High Risk Groups Targeted:
 - 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.)
- Funding for Services to High Risk Groups:
 - QI
- Staff the Provide Early Prevention to High Risk Groups:
 - CPS investigative worker
 - CPS family assessment worker
 - CPS on-going services worker
 - Prevention worker
- Volunteers used for Early Prevention for High Risk Groups: None

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
- Funding for Services to Individual Families:
 - 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
- Volunteers used: None

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)
- Virginia Cooperative Extension Programs (including 4-H)
- Intensive in-home service providers
- Public health 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
- Child Advocacy Centers
- ACAA