

Agency Summary: Winchester DSS

Region: Northern

Class Size:

Director: Carla Taylor

Early Prevention Contact Person:

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

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

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

Specific information about Winchester 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 support groups open to anyone in the community
 - Parent education groups open to anyone in the community
 - Parent training open to anyone in the community and focused on building skills of parents
 - Public speaking at community events or to groups within the community
 - Information and/or materials to children to increase their safety
 - 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

- Funding Sources for Early Prevention Public Education and Awareness:
 - Grant funding
 - 100% Local only funds
 - Safe and Stable Families (budget line item 866/Title IVB Subpart 2)
 - United Way
 - Community block grants
 - Community resources (e.g. churches, Salvation Army, etc.)
- 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
 - Generic worker
- Volunteers used:
- Material printed in Spanish:

2. Early Prevention Services to High Risk Groups

- High Risk Groups Targeted:
 - Fathers
 - Parents with disabilities
 - Parents with children with disabilities
 - Non-English speaking parents
 - Incarcerated parents
 - Pregnant teens
 - Parenting teens
 - 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
 - Financial assistance
 - Translator services
- Funding for Services to High Risk Groups:

- Grant funding
- CSA funds
- Medicaid
- Safe and Stable Families (budget line item 866/title IVB Subpart 2)
- Budget line item 829-Family Preservation (SSGB)
- 100% local funds
- Adoption Assistance
- United Way
- Community block grants
- 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:

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
 - LDSS funded home repair
 - Services provided to children to increase protective factors
 - Developmental screening for children
 - Finding relatives and other individuals to enhance parent support
 - Children's services within domestic violence prevention or treatment programs
 - 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
 - Translator services
- Funding for Services to Individual Families:
 - Grant funding

- CSA funds
- Medicaid
- Safe and Stable Families (budget line item 866/title IVB Subpart 2)
- Budget line item 829-Family Preservation (SSGB)
- 100% local only funds
- Adoption Assistance
- United Way
- Community block grants
- Community resources (e.g., churches, Salvation Army, etc.)
- Foundations and corporations
- 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
 - Adoption worker
 - Generic worker
 - Benefit program worker (VIEW, TANF, etc.)
- Volunteers used:

4. Community based resources to which the agency refers

- Healthy Families Providers
- Home visiting 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
 - Parent support groups for the general public and at-risk families
 - School based support groups for the general public and at-risk parents
 - Mental health based support groups for the general public and at-risk parents
- Workshops and trainings provided by community groups to specific targeted groups, including:
 - General public
 - High-risk families
 - Families where domestic violence is present or suspected
 - 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
- Foundations and corporations
- Stop Child Abuse Now