

Date – February 2024

Manual – Child and Family Services Manual, Chapter B, Prevention Services

Transmittal # 308

The purpose of this transmittal is to provide new and revised guidance for Chapter B, Prevention Services of the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) Child and Family Services Manual. Unless otherwise stated, the provisions included in this transmittal are effective upon release.

Changes to the manual enhance guidance on meeting the safety, permanency, and well-being needs of children and families receiving Prevention and In-Home Services. Content in each section of Chapter B, Prevention Services has been revised in the adjustment of masculine and feminine pronouns and titles to neutral language, person first language, and minor grammatical changes. All changes are in italics.

Prior Language	New Language
Alaskan Eskimo	Alaskan Native
Services Supervisor	Family Services Supervisor
Services Worker	Family Services Specialist
Indian child	American Indian Child
Maternal	Parental
Victim Child	Child Who is a Victim

This transmittal and manual are available on FUSION at: <https://fusion.dss.virginia.gov/dfs/DFS-Home/Prevention-Services/Prevention-Services-Guidance>

The entire Prevention Services Manual can be found on the public site for VDSS at: <https://www.dss.virginia.gov/family/prevention.cgi>

Significant changes to the manual are as follows:

Section(s) Changed	Significant Changes	Reason for Change
2.6.8.3 If missing child is at-risk of being or is a victim of sex trafficking, p. 40	This subsection was created to provide guidance to the local departments of social services (LDSS) of the responsibilities of the LDSS when a missing child is at-risk of being or is a victim of sex trafficking.	This change was made to comply with 71(a)(35)(B) of P.L. 117-348 (Federal Law).

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