

Agency Summary: Arlington County DSS

Region: Northern

Class Size:

Director: Valerie Cuffee

Early Prevention Contact Person: Heather Stowe (hstowe@arlingtonva.us)

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

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

Arlington County 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 Arlington 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
 - 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
 - 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

- Safe and Stable Families (budget line item 866/Title IVB Subpart 2)
- Staff that provide Early Prevention Public Awareness Activities:
 - Intake worker
 - CPs investigative worker
 - Mental health staff
- Volunteers used: None
- Material printed in Spanish: Yes

2. Early Prevention Services to High Risk Groups

None

3. Early Prevention Services to Individual Families

- Early Prevention Services Provided to Individual Families:
 - Case management/coordination
 - Information and referral
 - LDSS funded respite care
 - 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
 - Financial assistance to individual families used for prevention
 - LDSS funded child care
 - Domestic violence prevention programs
 - Translator services
- Funding for Services to Individual Families:
 - CSA funds
 - Medicaid
 - Safe and Stable Families (budget line item 866/title IVB Subpart 2)
 - Budget line item 829-Family Preservation (SSGB)
 - Adoption Assistance
- Staff that Provide Early Prevention Services to Individual Families:
 - Intake worker
 - Family stabilization or other staff devoted primarily to prevention
 - CPS investigative worker
 - CPS on-going services worker
 - Mental health staff
- Volunteers used: None

4. Community based resources to which the agency refers

- Home visiting providers
- Part C Early Childhood Intervention
- Early Head Start (birth to 3 years old)
- Head Start (3 to 5 years old)
- Parent support groups
 - Mental health based support groups for at risk parents
- Workshops and trainings provided to the community
- 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
- Sexual Assault Centers