

## **Agency Summary: Bedford County DSS**

**Region:** Piedmont

**Class Size:**

**Director:** Andy Crawford

**Early Prevention Contact Person:** Heather Jones (heather.jones@dss.virginia.gov)

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

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

Bedford 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 Bedford 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:
  - 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
  - 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:
  - Purchased services
- 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

- Volunteers used: None
- 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:
  - Case management/coordination
  - Information and referral
  - LDSS funded respite care
  - Transportation
  - Services provided to children to increase protective factors
  - Finding relatives and other individuals to enhance parent support
  - Domestic violence prevention programs
- Funding for Services to Individual Families:
  - Medicaid
  - Budget line item 829-Family Preservation (SSGB)
- Staff that Provide Early Prevention Services to Individual Families:
  - Intake worker
  - CPS on-going services worker
- Volunteers used: None

## **4. Community based resources to which the agency refers**

- Healthy Families Providers
- Part C Early Childhood Intervention
- Head Start (3 to 5 years old)
- Virginia Cooperative Extension Programs (including 4-H)
- Workshops and trainings provided by community groups
- 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