

## **Agency Summary: Portsmouth DSS**

**Region:** Eastern

**Class Size:**

**Director:** Reynold W. Jordon

**Early Prevention Contact Person:** Ranea Evans-House (w.ranea.evans-house@dss.virginia.gov)

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

Portsmouth Department of Social Services provides a system of services to high risk groups and individual families. Portsmouth does not utilize volunteers to provide prevention services. However, they 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

Portsmouth Department of Social Services has a specific staff devoted primarily to prevention. These staff members provide early prevention services to high risk groups and individual families.

### **Specific information about Portsmouth 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)**

None

**2. Early Prevention Services to High Risk Groups**

- High Risk Groups Targeted:
  - Fathers
- Services Provided to High Risk Groups:
  - Parent education for high risk groups (e.g., financial, health, child development, working with school systems, behavior management, family relationships.)
  - Public speaking for high risk groups
  - Financial assistance
- Funding for Services to High Risk Groups:
  - CSA funds
  - Medicaid
  - Safe and Stable Families (budget line item 866/title IVB Subpart 2)
  - Budget line item 829-Family Preservation (SSGB)
- Staff that Provide Early Prevention to High Risk Groups:
  - Family stabilization or other staff devoted primarily to prevention

- Contracted Vendor
- 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
  - LDSS funded respite care
  - 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
  - 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)
  - Community resources (e.g., churches, Salvation Army, etc.)
- Staff that Provide Early Prevention Services to Individual Families:
  - Intake worker
  - Family stabilization or other staff devoted primarily to prevention
  - CPS on-going services worker
- Volunteers used: None

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

- Healthy Families Providers
- Home visiting providers
- Parent Support group providers
  - Parent support groups for the general public and at-risk families
  - School based support groups for 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 abuse and neglect have occurred
  - Families where domestic violence is present or suspected

- Families whose children have been removed
  - 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
- Child Advocacy Centers