Family First Prevention Services Act And Implementation Updates
The **vision** for Family First is to **keep children safe**, **strengthen families** and **reduce the need for foster care** whenever it is safe to do so.
Three Tiers of Family First

Prevention Services

Foster Care Changes

Other Programmatic Changes

Strategic Priorities:

Prevention Services

Family-Based Placements

Evidence-Based Services

Resource and Financial Accountability
Prevention Services
Prevention and Family First

- PRIMARY Prevention
- SECONDARY Prevention
- TERTIARY Prevention
- Family First
- The CHILD & FAMILY
Who is Eligible for Title IV-E Prevention Services Funds?
A child (and their caregivers) who is a candidate for foster care who can remain safely at home or in a kinship home and is identified as being at imminent risk of entering foster care.

A child in foster care who is pregnant or parenting.

A child whose adoption or guardianship arrangement is a risk of a disruption/dissolution and includes post-reunification services.
“Imminent risk” means a child and family’s circumstances demand that a defined case plan is put into place within 30 days that identifies interventions, services and/or supports and absent these interventions, services and/or supports, foster care placement is the planned arrangement for the child.
What services are reimbursable?
Mental Health Prevention and Treatment Services

Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Services

In-home Parent Skill-Based Programs

Trauma Informed and Evidence-Based Services
**Well Supported (1)**

- Improved outcome must be based on the results of at least 2 studies that used a random control or quasi-experimental trial.
- Carried out in a usual care or practice setting.
- Sustained effect for at least one year beyond the end of treatment.

**Supported (2)**

- Improved outcome must be based on the results of at least one study that used a random control or quasi-experimental trial.
- Carried out in a usual care of practice setting.
- Sustained effect for at least 6 months beyond the end of treatment.

**Promising (3)**

- Improved outcomes must be based on at least one study that uses some form of control group.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mental Health Prevention Treatment Services</th>
<th>Substance Abuse Prevention Treatment Services</th>
<th>In-Home Parent Skill-Based Programs</th>
<th>Kinship Navigator Programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Parent-Child Interaction Therapy</td>
<td>• Motivational Interviewing</td>
<td>• Nurse-Family Partnership</td>
<td>• Children’s Home Inc. Kinship Interdisciplinary Navigation Technology-Advanced Model (KIN-Tech)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy</td>
<td>• Multisystemic Therapy</td>
<td>• Healthy Families America</td>
<td>• Children’s Home Society of New Jersey Kinship Navigator Model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Multisystemic Therapy</td>
<td>• Families Facing the Future</td>
<td>• Parents as Teachers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Functional Family Therapy</td>
<td>• Methadone Maintenance Therapy</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Evidence-Based Services
Federal Prevention Services Clearinghouse

Release of Clearinghouse Handbook of Standards and Procedures
April 2019

May 2019
Release of Program and Service Ratings of the Initial 11 evidence-based services

Release of the next list of evidence-based services to be reviewed
Late Spring-Summer 2019
Foster Care Program Changes
We believe that children do best when raised in families.

After a two-week grace period, Family First limits IV-E Maintenance Payments to:

- Family and kinship foster homes
- Placements for pregnant or parenting youth
- Supervised independent living for youth 18+
- Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (QRTP) for youth with treatment needs
- High quality residential placements and support services for victims of sex trafficking
- Family-based residential treatment facility for substance abuse *(beginning October 2018)*
Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP)

- Accreditation
- Trauma Informed Treatment Model
- Facilitates Outreach to the Family
- Provides Family-Based Aftercare Support for at least 6 months
- Registered or Licensing Nursing and Clinical Staff

Non Family-Based Placements
QRTP Collaborations

- DBHDS
- OCS
- VDSS Licensing
- VDSS Family Services
- DMAS

Non Family-Based Placements
QRTP Requirements

- 30-day Assessment
- 60-day Court Review
- 12-month review by Commissioner

Reduce Congregate Care

Non Family-Based Placements
Implementation Updates
We know some of the pieces, But we’re still figuring out many of the pieces.
The Collaborative Relationships

VDSS/OCS/DMAS/DBHDS/DJJ/VDH

Alignment

Family First

Children’s Behavioral Health Redesign

Children's Residential Services
Public Law 115-123
DIVISION E—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES EXTENDERS TITLE VII—FAMILY FIRST PREVENTION SERVICES ACT

Virginia Department of Social Services
(IV-E Funding Entity)

Virginia Office of Children’s Services
(State Foster Care Funding Sources)

Three Branch Leadership Team
(Judicial, Executive and Legislative Branches of Government)

Three Branch Home Team

Finance
Prevention Services
Appropriate Foster Care Placements
Evidence-Based Services

A Collaborative Approach to Implementation:
The Three Branch Model
Core Team
Carl Ayers, Virginia Department of Social Services
Sandy Karison, Court Improvement Program
Scott Reiner, Office of Children’s Services
The Honorable Monty Mason, Senator
The Honorable Chris Peace, Delegate
The Honorable Frank Somerville, Culpeper JDR Court

Children's Home Society
Commission on Youth
Court Improvement Program, Office of the Executive Secretary Supreme Court of Virginia
Culpeper Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court
Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services
Elk Hill Farm
Fairfax Department of Human Services
Families Forward
Family and Children’s Trust Fund of Virginia
Family Focused Treatment Association
Fredericksburg Department of Social Services
Governor’s Office
Greater Richmond SCAN
HopeTree Family Services
Norfolk Department of Human Services
Office of Children’s Services
Office of the Attorney General
Powhatan Children’s Services Act Office
Senate Rehabilitation and Social Service Committee
Spotsylvania Children’s Services Act Office
Troutman Sanders Strategies
United Methodist Family Services
Virginia Association of Community Services Boards
Virginia Association of Counties
Virginia Association of Licensed Child Placing Agencies
Virginia Association of Local Human Services Officials
Virginia Coalition of Private Provider Associations
Virginia Department of Health
Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice
Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services
Virginia Department of Social Services
Virginia League of Social Services Executives
Virginia Municipal League
Virginia Poverty Law Center
Voices for Virginia's Children
Youth for Tomorrow
40 meetings

119 hours

110 Experts

= **12,210 hours of work** invested in the implementation of the Family First Act in Virginia

**June 2018 – May 2019**
## Sample of Workgroup Accomplishments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prevention Services</th>
<th>Appropriate Foster Care Placements</th>
<th>Evidence-Based Services</th>
<th>Finance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Recommendations on defining key terms</td>
<td>• Recommendations for QRTP Assessment</td>
<td>• Survey for EBS in Virginia</td>
<td>• Maintenance of Effort</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Continuum of Prevention Services</td>
<td>• Defining Key terms for QRTP qualifications</td>
<td>• Collaboration with DMAS, DBHDS and DJJ</td>
<td>• Budget Implications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Feedback for Development of Federal Clearinghouse</td>
<td>• Feedback for Development of Federal Foster Home Model Licensing Standards</td>
<td>• Increased understanding of the Hexagon Tool</td>
<td>• Budget Proposal for General Assembly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Moving Forward
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workgroup</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Finance Workgroup</td>
<td>• Recommending a fiscal auditing tool and process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evidence-Based Services Workgroup</td>
<td>• Analyze Prevention Services Clearinghouse Ranking how these might effect Virginia’s implementation of Family First.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention Services Workgroup</td>
<td>• Maximize and leverage CSA and Family First Funds (as well as other child serving agencies) to meet the diverse and complex needs of families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Develop a long term vision for the prevention services continuum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriate Foster Care Placements Workgroup</td>
<td>• Develop workflow recommendations for the judicial and Commissioner review requirements for a youth placed in a QRTP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Develop strategies to increase foster homes with an emphasis on kinship homes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Recommendation for key terms: High quality Residential Placements and support services for victims of sex trafficking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reach out to community partners (DSS, CSB, CSA, DJJ, Health Dept, etc.) to discuss community needs when choosing an evidence-based program.

Consider costs, your agency’s organizational structure and the administrative support needed to support and sustain an evidence-based program.

Choosing an Evidence-Based Program/Services

Federal Prevention Services Clearinghouse

Consider the needs of the children and families in your community (especially those that qualify for Family First).
QRTP Provider Considerations

Choose an accrediting body that best fits your organization
- Council on Accreditation
- The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF)
- The Joint Commission
- Reach out to other providers who have already been accredited for support and information
- Come to the QRTP Conference on June 12th

Reach out to community partners to discuss community needs when choosing a trauma-informed treatment model.
- Approved SAMHSA Definition
- Consider an evidence-based treatment model

Full approval as a QRTP will occur at the state level.
- Virginia Department of Social Services and/or Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services
- Contacting currently accredited facilities
Treatment Foster Care Provider Considerations

- Think of ways to support kinship placements and approve kinship providers

- Explore Evidence-Based Models – Treatment Foster Care-Oregon (Adolescents), Teaching-Family Model, etc.

- Review the Children's Bureau’s model licensing home standards

- Keep in contact with your colleagues who are on the Three Branch Team
To Do

- Consider establishing a local Three Branch Team
- Locate the providers in your community and ensure they’re aware of these changes
- Reach out to the Family First Team if you have any questions
- Stay Tuned for our public-facing website which will be debuted soon!
Thank you!

familyfirst@dss.virginia.gov