

FINANCIAL REPORT

Revenue for CY2023		\$1,039,168	
Expenses for CY2023		\$1,162,427	
Administration Related		Program Related	
FCF Administrative	138,527	Service Coordination/Wraparound	168,636
		Out of Home Placements	178,958
		Early Intervention	247,793
		Home Visiting	357,844
		Parenting and Prevention Programs	24,417
		Early Childhood Safety Initiative	46,251
Percentage for Administration		Percentage for Programs	
Total Administrative	138,527	Programs	1,023,899
REV vs. EXP DIFFERENCE		(\$123,259)	



OFCF, established in 1993, is a partnership of state and local government, communities and families that enhances the well-being of Ohio's children and families by building community capacity, coordinating systems and services, and engaging families. OFCF's vision is for every child and family to thrive and succeed within healthy communities. Locally, the county commissioners establish the 88 county Family and Children First Councils (FCFC). Elisha Cangelosi, MSW, LISW-S, serves as the Ohio Family & Children First Executive Director.



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2023 Annual Report



Family & Children First



*Individual commitment to a group effort...
 that is what makes a team work, a company
 work, a society work, a civilization work.*

Vince Lombardi

A Message from the Council Director:

Change....that was the operative word in 2023. Council saw changes in membership as folks retired or moved on. FCF also had several staff changes, but I am so grateful and blessed to have a core group of staff who have stuck by me and supported me through these past 25 years as Director. Thank you Jon, Teresa, LeAnn, Andrea, Elaine, and Liz (82 years combined!). You are the best! I'm also so appreciative of my engaged Council members who support families and children in our county by their collaborative work and passion. And a special thank you to our supportive County Commissioners, who serve as Council's Administrative Agent.

In 2023, Governor DeWine announced the formation of the new Ohio Department of Children and Youth whose mission is to promote positive, lifelong outcomes for Ohio youth through early intervention, quality education, and family support programs. This change offers new opportunities, as well as new challenges, as it brings together programs from various state agencies that serve children, under one department. Thus, we will continue to adjust our sails to meet the changing winds.

Thank you to all who support our collaborative work!

Cindy Davis, WCFCFC Director



“Every success story is a tale of constant adaption, revision and change” *Richard Branson*

MISSION STATEMENT

The **Washington County Family and Children First Council** promotes coordination and collaboration among county and local governments, non-profit organizations, businesses, schools and families in a manner which fosters wellness and self sufficiency for families and increases child well-being.

The **Vision** of the Washington County Family & Children First Council is that all children and families thrive and succeed within healthy communities.

INITIATIVES

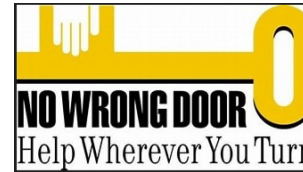
EARLY CHILDHOOD SAFETY INITIATIVE



Washington County FCF was awarded a competitive Early Childhood Safety Initiative grant from the Ohio Children's Trust Fund for SFY 24. The \$50,000 grant offers families in Help Me Grow, as well as any family under 200% FPL with a child under age 2, a Safety Kit. The kit includes child-proofing products and a stroller, along with a safety education presentation. Help Me Grow families can also receive additional safety items based on specific needs identified.

110 families received Safety Items in CY 2023

NO WRONG DOOR INITIATIVE



Family & Children First launched our No Wrong Door (NWD) Initiative in 2023, as a result of Council's Shared Plan to increase resource awareness. Social services systems can be challenging to navigate and understand, sometimes causing people to feel rejected or frustrated in

their efforts to obtain help. That's why the NWD philosophy promotes a practice that when people need help, they're connected with the desired services, regardless of which agency they call or the door they enter. Thus, every health and human services door would be the right one, with a range of information and referrals accessible to everyone who enters. Council sought support from county agencies and organizations who were committed to the mission to make every door the right door. 16 organizations pledged their support to become actively involved, and identified a Navigator from their system. These Navigators formed the Cross-Systems Training (CST) Team that meets monthly to develop and promote NWD and trainings for county staff. Anyone is welcome to join the CST Team! Navigators also serve as the resource go-to person in their agency and between partners.

Trainings are an integral part of the NWD process and our first virtual Lunch & Learn Training was held in November and will continue on the first Thursday of each month, with different presenters. A Social Services 101 training for newer employees, and other trainings are planned for the future. Trainings are open to all agencies/organizations staff interested in broadening their knowledge on county resources, in order to assist clients.

We are excited to grow this Initiative to encompass all service providers. The goals include: better service to families; improve staff and client satisfaction; and reduce stressors for clients!

Please join us in this worthwhile effort to make Washington County a true NO WRONG DOOR community! To learn more, become a partner, or register for trainings, visit www.wcfcfc.org or contact the FCF office.

44 staff participated in the first Lunch & Learn in 2023

PARENTING PROGRAMS and MORE...

Washington County Family & Children First offers several Parenting Programs free to the public. They include:

STRENGTHENING Families PROGRAM FOR PARENTS AND YOUTH 10-14

Strengthening Families 10-14 Program is the #1 evidence-based parenting program that reduces substance abuse in youth. Trained Facilitators present the 7-week program to parents and their youth between ages 10 - 14 with family strengthening activities. A family meal, child care, transportation and a gift basket are available free to all participants. The program is funded through the Washington County Behavioral Health Board.

12 parents and children served in CY 2023

The Incredible Years[®] Parents, teachers, and children training series

Incredible Years Preschool Basic 3-6 Program is an evidence-based parenting program that strengthens parent-child interactions and attachment; reduces harsh discipline; and fosters parents' ability to promote children's social, emotional and language development. Facilitators present the 14-week IYP program to parents with children ages 3-6. A meal, child care and transportation are provided. The program is funded through the Washington County Behavioral Health Board.

4 parents completed the program in CY 2023



Parenting Wisely (PW) is an evidence-based interactive CD Rom program that is accessed individually at a computer and completed in a 2-3 hour session. PW provides skills that help in communicating and lowering children's risks for problems. Both **PW American Teens** and **PW Young Children** are available on an ongoing basis to allow immediate access to parenting skills training. FREE to the public at the FCF office on a weekday basis.

12 sessions completed in CY 2023

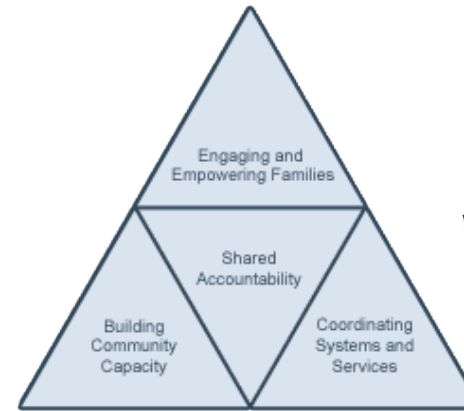
CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY FITTING STATION



Family & Children First serves as an official Car Seat Fitting Station. Families can receive education and training from certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians on how to properly install and use their child safety seat. FCF's 2 trained technicians also provide Car Seat Classes and Events, in collaboration with the Marietta/Belpre Health Department. Contact FCF to schedule a fitting.

5 car seats checked in 2023 at Fitting Station and Events

Core Functions of Family & Children First Council



2023 COUNCIL MEMBERS

<i>Amanda Bohlen</i>	<i>Extension Educator, OSU Extension Washington County</i>
<i>David Browne/George Goddard*</i>	<i>Executive Director, Wash. County Behavioral Health Bd</i>
<i>Kelly Byrne*</i>	<i>Parent representative</i>
<i>Kara Carson</i>	<i>Hopewell Health Center</i>
<i>Anthony Underwood/Jane Young*</i>	<i>Administrator/Designee, Washington County Health Dept.</i>
<i>Jennifer Farnsworth*</i>	<i>Parent Representative</i>
<i>Denyse Fordham*</i>	<i>Parent Representative</i>
<i>Flite Freimann*</i>	<i>Director, Wash. County Dept of Job and Family Services</i>
<i>Dianna Beck*</i>	<i>Marietta/Belpre Health Department</i>
<i>Beth Brown*</i>	<i>Superintendent, Frontier Local School District</i>
<i>Daniel Everson/Geoff Schenkel*</i>	<i>Development Director, City of Marietta</i>
<i>Brad Silvas*</i>	<i>Superintendent, Marietta City Schools</i>
<i>Dawn Rauch*</i>	<i>Dir. of Planning & Dev, Wash/Morgan Community Action</i>
<i>Brenda Riffe*</i>	<i>Superintendent, Wash Cty Bd of Developmental Disabilities</i>
<i>Charlie Schilling*</i>	<i>Commissioner, Washington County Commissioners</i>
<i>Rachel Shipley*</i>	<i>Director, CAP Head Start & Early Head Start</i>
<i>David VanCleave*</i>	<i>Parole Officer, Ohio Department of Youth Services</i>
<i>Alice Stewart</i>	<i>Administrator, Washington County PCSA /Children Services</i>
<i>Heather Warner</i>	<i>Director, GoPacks</i>
<i>Tasha Werry</i>	<i>Director, Building Bridges to Careers</i>
<i>Mandy Bishop</i>	<i>Southeastern Ohio Counseling Center</i>

*Indicates mandated member per ORC 121.37

COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL:

Community Options Team	Early Childhood Committee
Finance/Audit Committee	Membership Committee
Pooled Funds Group	Shared Plan Workgroup

Family & Children First Administrative Agent - Washington County Commissioners

WHAT WE DO...

SERVICE COORDINATION / WRAPAROUND



Service Coordination offers families of children with multi-system needs the opportunity to bring providers together in a coordinated manner to support and wrap services around the family, enabling youth to thrive in their home and school environment.

The Wraparound process is offered to those with more intense needs when systems and families 'don't know what else to do'. Trained facilitators develop Family Teams who support family voice and choice, and wrap families in services to prevent removal from the home.

73 new referrals received in CY 2023

88 youth served in CY 2023

MULTI-SYSTEM YOUTH (MSY) INITIATIVE

Through a Grant Agreement with the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM), Family & Children First was able to financially support services to children/youth in our Service Coordination Mechanism Process. These funds target children/youth that have multi-system needs and are at risk for custody relinquishment, and provide much needed services and supports to vulnerable families.

Total MSY ODM funds awarded in CY 2023 was \$114,400

OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS

Family & Children First coordinates services and funding for families whose child has been identified to need temporary out-of-home placement in a residential treatment facility. While our goal is to prevent removal of children from their home, the other goal is for parents to not have to relinquish custody in order to receive services. Fortunately, through the services offered by facilitators in our Wraparound process, parental placements continue to decrease significantly.



2 youth supported in short-term Out-of-Home Parental Placement

PARTNERS SUPPORTING MULTI-SYSTEM YOUTH

FCF is fortunate and grateful to have the added financial support of our local partners, DJFS and the Behavioral Health Board, to support our MSY services to children and youth; as well as the administrative financial assistance from our *Pooled Funds Group* members: Behavioral Health Board, Children Services, and the Board of Developmental Disabilities.

WHAT WE DO...



*Help Me Grow is the umbrella for two programs: **Home Visiting** through the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), and **Early Intervention** through the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD).*

Washington County FCF receives the Early Intervention Grant from DODD and is the Provider for the ODH Home Visiting Program.



Home Visiting— Home Visiting is a voluntary, confidential program offered to prenatal and new moms. FCF is affiliated with the national Parents As Teachers Home Visiting model. Credentialed Home Visitors provide the Parents As Teachers (PAT) curriculum; referrals and resources; developmental screenings; parenting tools assessments; and a Family Plan. The program serves prenatal moms and children up to age 5.

The 4 goals of the program are:

- To increase healthy pregnancies
- Improve parenting confidence and competence
- Improve child health, development and readiness
- Increase family connectedness to community and social support

FCF serves as the Home Visiting Provider in both Washington and Morgan Counties.

129 children served in HMG Home Visiting in SFY 2023



Early Intervention— Ohio's Early Intervention System serves children from birth to age 3 who have a developmental delay or a diagnosed medical condition likely to cause a delay. Service Coordinators provide screenings, Individualized Family Service Plan development, transition services, referrals/resources, linkage to specialized services, and coordination of evaluations, assessment, and funding. The goals of the program are:

- To enhance the development of infants and toddlers with disabilities;
- To reduce educational costs by minimizing the need for special education through early intervention;
- To minimize the likelihood of institutionalization and maximize independent living;
- To enhance the capacity of families to meet their child's needs

192 children served in HMG Early Intervention in CY 2023

Central Coordination (CC)— Bright Beginnings of Cuyahoga County serves as the contractor for HMG Central Coordination through 7 regional sites. This is the statewide system for referring to the Help Me Grow Home Visiting and Early Intervention programs. 1-800-755-4769