Ohio Family & Children First

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Ohio Family and Children First Cabinet Council was created in statute (ORC 121.37) in 1993 with the specific purpose:

**to help families seeking government services...by streamlining and coordinating existing services for families seeking assistance for their children.**
FCFC’s Core Functions/Responsibilities

Shared Accountability:
- Shared resources, risks, and rewards
- Planning and annual reporting
- Fiscal responsibility and oversight
- State support
  • Operational Capacity Building Funds (OCBF)

Engaging and Empowering Families:
- Family representatives on FCFCs
- Involving broad representation of families
- State support
  • Red Treehouse
  • Parent Advocacy Connection (PAC)
FCFC’s Core Functions/Responsibilities

Building Community Capacity:
- Shared Planning: Develop a comprehensive plan focused on child well-being priorities; annually report progress to the OFCF Cabinet. (Refining guidance – Collective Impact)
- Build FCFC’s capacity through Systems of Care
- Logic Model, Planning

Coordinating Systems and Services:
- Provide service coordination to children with multiple needs referred to FCFC
- Develop a system of care by identifying gaps and removing duplication of services and efforts
- State Support
  - ENGAGE- Hi-Fidelity Wraparound
  - FCSS-Flexible funds for non-categorical needs
  - HMG- early childhood coordination
  - OCTF- Prevention of CAN- (Regional SFY 17)
Ohio’s State and Local Collaborative Family and Children First Model To Establish Priorities for Families and Children

88 County Family and Children First Councils

County Priorities
County Family and Children First Councils determine, develop and implement strategies to achieve their own county’s highest priorities and implement strategies that make a positive impact on state initiated priorities

Build Community Capacity - mobilize child and family serving partners to address the needs of children and families through planning and implementing evidence-based programs;
Coordinate Systems and Services - provide a formalized venue to facilitate the alignment of resources, policies, and services with and for children and families;
Engage and Empower Families - recruit and support families to be active contributing members on council and advocate on behalf of children and families; and,
Share Accountability for FCF’s Vision - monitor, evaluate, and communicate progress and successes for each of Ohio’s commitments to assure that all Ohio families and children thrive

Ohio Family and Children First

State Department Priorities
State Departments determine which of their agency priorities require state & local government, communities & families to address their priorities

Data Informed Policy Making
88 County Family and Children First Councils inform the development and implementation of future state & local intersystems priorities and funding
Shared Accountability
County FCF Council Membership

- County Commissioners
- At least 3 parents not employed by an agency on FCFC
- ADAMH Board or ADAS and CMH Boards
- General Health District
- City Health Department
- CDJFS
- PCSA
- DD Board
- Largest school district
- School district representing all other districts
- Largest municipal corporation representative
- DYS representative
- Head Start representative
- Help Me Grow / Early Childhood Collaborative Group (ECCC) representative
- Non Profit agency representative
- Others
County FCFC’s role to:

- Evaluate and prioritize services for children and families
- Fill service gaps where possible and invent new approaches to achieve better results
- Maintain an accountability system to monitor progress in achieving results
- Participate in the development of the Help Me Grow system
- Refer children for whom the county council cannot provide adequate services to the Cabinet Council for assistance.
Engaging & Empowering Families

- Engaging and Empowering Families
- Shared Accountability
- Building Community Capacity
- Coordinating Systems and Services
FCFC Roles with Family Engagement

A key role of FCFCs is to ensure ongoing input from a broad representation of families who are receiving services within the county system.
Current State Initiative

www.redtreehouse.org
What is Parent Advocacy Connection (PAC)?

• A grassroots organization of trained advocates who reflect the cultural and ethnic make-up of the families they serve.
• Operates throughout the State assisting parents whose children are involved in the county Family and Children First (FCF) Service Coordination process.
• Is overseen by the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Ohio (NAMI Ohio) and is funded by OhioMHAS, ODJFS, DYS.

Who are volunteer Parent Advocates?

• They are parents and caregivers who, through lived experience and training, assist families to:
  – understand how to navigate the various child serving systems
  – research the various options available to them
  – work effectively with professionals to get the best outcome for their children
Building Community Capacity
Building Community Capacity for Collaborative Planning

• System of Care building is a dynamic process occurring in an ever-changing environment
• Involve stakeholders
• Establish Need
• Map Resources and assets
• Identify Gaps
• Define collective strategies and outcomes
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Current FCFC Initiatives:
Coordinating Systems & Services
FCFC Service Coordination:

- Minimum standards in ORC for every county
  - Required county Service Coordination Mechanism
  - Effective Practice Model (Wraparound)
- Shared philosophy about service delivery
- Collaborative infrastructure supported by policy and funding
- Services and supports unique to a family-driven plan (TIP informed = youth driven)
System of Care

Major Focus on:

TIP informed Wraparound
Most Recent State Effort to Build Capacity & Coordinate Systems: OhioMHAS System of Care Grant from SAMHSA
ENGAGE’s Purpose

To develop a statewide system of care framework that coordinates and adapts policy, fiscal and administrative actions to support the transition of Ohio’s youth and young adults to adulthood.

• Implementation of Tip-informed Wraparound statewide - an effective intensive care coordination model
  – Roll out across the state by cohorts (3rd cohort to begin spring 2016)
  – Training in High Fidelity Wraparound
  – Payment to counties in cohorts on a per youth/young adult basis involved in High Fidelity Wraparound.
  – Understanding systems changes occurring along the way.

• Initiative housed within the Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services (OhioMHAS)
Family Centered Supports and Services (FCSS-flexible funds)

- 75% SSA IV-B federal funds
- 25% State General Revenue Funds Pooled to Match
Promote the Stability and Well-being of Children and Families

- State General Revenue Match (approx 25%)
- IV-B Federal Funds (approx 75%)

- No cannot use to match federal funds
- No out-of-home placements

- Yes Community-Based Services
FCSS Allowable

- Non-clinical in-home parent/child coaching;
- Non-clinical parent support groups;
- Parent education;
- Mentoring;
- Respite care (including summer camp);
- Transportation (ie. Cab/taxi fares, gas vouchers);
- Social/recreational activities;
- Safety and adaptive equipment;
- Structured activities to improve family functioning;
- Parent advocacy;
- Service coordination (UNIT COST EXAMPLE)
FCSS Non-Allowable

- Out of home placements;
- Court related expenses;
- Administrative or operating expenses;
- Federal match;
- Clinical interventions
- Medical services and equipment;
- General programs costs
- Food, clothing, shelter, utilities, and/or household expenses;
- Classroom instruction or any required public education cost or responsibility;
- Family and work related childcare
About Ohio Family and Children First

Ohio Family and Children First (OFCF) 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.

Established in 1003, Ohio Family and Children First (OFCF) is defined as the Governor's Children's Cabinet with the purpose of streamlining and coordinating government services for children and families. The OFCF Cabinet Council is comprised of the following Ohio Departments: Aging, Developmental Disabilities, Education, Health, Job and Family Services, Medicaid, Mental Health and Addiction Services, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities, Rehabilitation and Correcion, Youth Services, and the Office of Budget and Management. Locally, the county commissioners establish the 88 county Family and Children First Councils (FCFC).

Family and Children First Councils are mandated to perform four core functions as illustrated in the triangle. For more information about these core functions or responsibilities, click on the triangle.

Events
Click on the calendar to view OFCF related meetings, events, and key FCFC deadline dates.

Latest News
New Ohio Benefits Site Connects Ohioans to Coverage

On October 1, the State of Ohio launched a new system designed to assist residents who wish to obtain health care coverage through Medicaid. Ohio Benefits is a simplified, self-service Website that makes it easier for Ohioans to learn what type of assistance may be available to them.

Through the new Benefits portal, individuals will receive immediate notice as to whether or not they qualify for Medicaid coverage. Those who do not qualify for Medicaid will be directed to other opportunities for coverage through the federal health insurance exchange.

Over the next two years, Ohio Benefits will become the primary resource for those seeking assistance beyond just Medicaid. In 2015, eligibility determination for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and other programs will be on Ohio Benefits.

If you or someone you know are looking to find out more about Medicaid eligibility and the new system, please visit: Benefits.ohio.gov. To follow the integrated eligibility work being led through the Governor's Office of Health Transformation, click here.

Find Your County FCFC

Click on a county below to view the FCFC Chair and Coordinator/Director contact information, the FCFC Service Coordination Mechanism, and the FCFC Shared Plan (HB 289).
Contact for a County FCFC

Click on a county in the map to view the FCFC Chair and Coordinator contact information or download the 88 County FCFC Coordinators Directory.

88 County FCFC Coordinators Directory

Contact Ohio Family and Children First

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OFCF Regional Map