



OFCFCA

**Promoting healthy children, strong families,
and thriving communities county by county.**



COUNTY: Cuyahoga County

MISSION STATEMENT/LOCAL FOCUS:

As the planning entity for Cuyahoga County, the Family and Children First Council promotes a collaborative system of care emphasizing coordination across a continuum of family-centered, neighborhood based, culturally competent services to ensure the well-being of every child, and to preserve and strengthen families in their communities.

OPERATING STRUCTURE:

The CCFCFC's Administrative Agent is the Cuyahoga County Board of County Commissioners. The Council consists of 32 public and private members. The CCFCFC has an Executive Committee. Under the Executive Committee there is subcommittee designed to meet the needs for all Council initiatives.

LOCAL FCFC CORE RESPONSIBILITIES:

Service Coordination: strategies and outcomes

The Cuyahoga County model is designed to provide information and support to all families with children, prenatal through 18. It directs parents to a full scale of quality services for their children.

High Fidelity Wraparound - Cuyahoga Tapestry System of Care takes a family-centered, team approach to serving children with multiple needs. It also values the importance of social networks, "natural" supports, the faith community and neighborhoods.

Service Coordination Team (SCT) - Exists to help multi-need/multi-system children and their families access appropriate community services and to assure the effective coordination and delivery of services among systems for their best possible health and safety.

Early Childhood System of Care: strategies and outcomes

The Office of Early Childhood/Invest in Children's goals is pursued through a number of service strategies for children, from prenatal to the start of kindergarten.

Effective Parents and Families

- Offering Home Visiting Services for expectant parents and families with children under the age of three
- Offering professional services to children under the age 4 through the Early Childhood Mental Health Program

Safe and Healthy Children

- Enrolling children in Healthy Start
- Promoting the importance of preventative health care through use of a family's Medical Home
- Preventing newborns from lead exposure through Lead Safe Living

Children Prepared for School

- Establishing a quality early care and education system. This includes a new focus on providing voluntary universal pre-kindergarten.
- Helping child care programs provide the appropriate care and support to children with special needs.

Community Committed to Children

- Raising awareness and bringing the community to a call for action

OTHER LOCAL INITIATIVES: Youth/Teen Development System of Care: strategies and outcomes

As part of the Youth Development Initiative, the Cleveland Foundation and the Cuyahoga County Board of County Commissioners have identified the Cuyahoga County Family and Children First Council (CCFCFC) office as the governmental intermediary to handle day-to-day management of the initiative.

Youth Development

- Youth Engagement: Convening area youth to develop a diverse group of youth leaders to be involved in the planning, implementation, communications, outreach, and evaluation of the initiative.
- Youth Employment: The emphasis for this component will be summer employment, year-round employment, career development and exploration. An additional 1,252 youth were able to work this summer.
- Youth Advisory Council: This group of youth has been participating for provide input and we move forward with planning youth activities.

Educational Success

- Out of School Time: Focuses on activities for youth when they are not in school such as recreation, tutoring, leadership and civic opportunities, job training and employment readiness. This summer we were able to increase our slots by 3,152
- Transitions: Focus on the transition from childcare, Head Start or Universal Pre-K to Kindergarten, along with 3rd, 6th and 9th grades.

Healthy Lifestyles

- Enrolling youth and teens in Healthy Start
- Promoting teen pregnancy prevention and comprehensive sexual choices through the Wellness program.

Effective Parents/Caring Adults

- Parent Advisory Council: The group of parents will be engaged to provide input on our community wide plan, service coordination and to serve as front line advocates for other parents.

COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING/PLANNING:

The Youth Development initiative will begin in 8 neighborhoods with a plan to phase in additional communities over time. Six neighborhoods will be located in the City of Cleveland and two neighborhoods in the inner-ring suburbs.

LOCAL CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND RESPONSIBILITIES (As applicable):

- Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention: strategies and outcomes:
Our outcome is to decrease childhood sexual abuse. To track our success we will monitor the number of allegations of sexual abuse against children that are called in the County's Child Abuse Hotline - 696-KIDS.

FUNDING:

\$3.4 million

STAFFING:

6 currently with plans to hire 4 additional staff to support the Youth Development Initiative

CHALLENGES:

Funding to support the work we are doing. Cuyahoga County has 1.3 million residents. We have had challenges with parent engagement.

Contact Information:

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