



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



COUNTY: KNOX

MISSION STATEMENT / LOCAL FOCUS:

To promote and facilitate collaboration among community agencies serving children and their families

OPERATING STRUCTURE:

FCFC (25 members) - Executive Board (consists of Chair, Vice-chair, representative of the fiscal agent, and 4 elected members with at least one parent), Early Childhood Coordinating Committee, Multi-agency Community Team, Pooled Funding Collaborative , and Ad Hoc committees, as needed.

LOCAL FCFC CORE RESPONSIBILITIES:

- **Community Capacity Building/Planning:** strategies and outcomes
The Knox County Family and Children First Council works to develop a comprehensive, well-coordinated continuum of services by reviewing and adjusting existing programs or developing new programs designed to serve children and families. Through coordination of services, existing or developing programs will reinforce each other and lead to positive outcomes for the children and families of our community.
- **Service Coordination:** strategies and outcomes
Knox County FCFC works within existing systems to facilitate and support referrals for service coordination through Help Me Grow and Community Team. In many cases, this process is facilitated by family teams that assist families with multiple needs to navigate barriers and find solutions .
- **Family Empowerment:** strategies and outcomes
The Knox County FCFC believes that family members are an integral part of the team and strives to include them in the planning and implementation of necessary steps to achieve success for their children. We have also worked to involve families on the Council and/or the Early Childhood Coordinating Committee. Their input is invaluable as we work to address barriers and gaps in service.
- **Early Childhood System of Care:** strategies and outcomes
The Knox County Health Department implements the Help Me Grow program. No direct services are provided by FCFC. The Council Executive Director and the HMG Project Director meet monthly and updates are provided to the Council on a regular basis.

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

- **Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention:** strategies and outcomes
Knox County FCFC provides oversight and administrative support to the Children's Trust Fund recipients. The Executive Board calls for proposals and selects those that best address child abuse and neglect prevention. In SFY09, selected strategies will support the planning and desired outcomes of HB289.

FUNDING:

The total FCFC budget including Capacity Building Funds, Pooled Funding, CTF, Help Me Grow and any other state funds is approximately \$ 600,000.

STAFFING:

Nancy Kadunc Omahan, Council Coordinator (with administrative support provided by Council Chair's assistant).

Aimee Frye, Community Team Coordinator Kay Benick, Help Me Grow Project Director.

CHALLENGES:

Time management, increasing costs and needs for service.

FUTURE PLANS:

To continue to provide a comprehensive and coordinated continuum of services designed to overcome barriers, address gaps and promote success for children and families.

Contact Information:

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