



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



COUNTY: MONTGOMERY

MISSION STATEMENT / LOCAL FOCUS:

Montgomery County is a place where families, children and adults live in safe supportive neighborhoods, care for and respect one another, value each other, and succeed in school, the workplace and life. The vision of the Montgomery County FCFC is to serve as a catalyst to foster interdependent solutions among public and private community partners to achieve the vision for the health and well-being of families, children and adults.

The Montgomery County FCFC recognizes that the health and human services system is complicated. As a result, a high level of service coordination between community organizations is critical to have a positive impact on the families we serve. In addition, many of our clients are burdened by a number of challenges, not just on particular problem. Serving them often means that more than one agency or system needs to be involved. Fostering an environment to support and strengthen this teamwork and shared goals is the role of the FCFC.

OPERATING STRUCTURE:

The Montgomery County FCFC has 36 members plus 60 other non-appointed community volunteers that are organized into seven (7) Outcome Teams, each with appointed Community Champions that identify community strengths and weaknesses, research related causes and effects, assess needs, gaps and priorities, identify best-practice models and negotiate for available resources, and then develop, recommend and implement community improvement strategies through pilot projects. This process is designed to help shape overall community priorities and develop consensus building for community change.

FCFC Outcome Team Structure:

Healthy People / Young People Succeeding / Safe Neighborhoods / Supportive and Engaged Neighborhoods / Positive Living for Special Populations / Stable Families / Economic Self-Sufficiency

FCFC Committee Structure:

Council / Executive Committee / Agency Directors / Service Brokers / Early Childhood Coordinating Committee

LOCAL FCFC CORE RESPONSIBILITIES:

- **Community Capacity Building / Planning:** strategies and outcomes
The Montgomery County FCFC works actively with the health and human services agencies in Montgomery County to build community and operational capacity. This is evidenced through the work of its Outcome Teams and its close work with our Human Services Levy Council and Homeless Solutions Policy Board to affect broader systemic change. The FCFC coordinates many cross-system initiatives and projects. Ex. – Sojourner Project to provide substance abuse treatment while supporting / enhancing Family Unification and Reunification. Ex – Successful application for FASD grant with Northrop Grumman Technologies.
- **Service Coordination:** strategies and outcomes
The Montgomery County FCFC works actively with ADAMHS, Job and Family Services, Public Health, MR/DD, Juvenile Court, Public Housing, Public School Systems and Education and other systems to facilitate and support referrals for service coordination. This process is also furthered by the FCFC's Service Brokers which are assigned by each system to navigate barriers and provide solutions for families on the most difficult / complex cases.
- **Family Empowerment:** strategies and outcomes
The Montgomery County FCFC works actively with the health and human services agencies in Montgomery County to improve circumstances and conditions for families. Focus is achieved through direct work with agencies as well as through the work of the Outcome Teams.
- **Early Childhood System of Care:** strategies and outcomes
The Montgomery County FCFC implements the Help Me Grow program county-wide through contracted providers. No direct services are provided by FCFC. The number of families / children served continue to increase. Over 2,700 referrals and 1,300 children served daily in 2008.

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

- **Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention:** strategies and outcomes
The Montgomery County FCFC provides oversight for the Children Trust Fund responsibilities. In SFY 2009 a best practice approach was adopted for all services provided through contracted community providers.

OTHER LOCAL INITIATIVES: strategies and outcomes

The Montgomery County FCFC currently monitors 27 Community Indicators in its Community Outcome areas. This progress reporting began in 1998. The published annual reports of the data along with meaningful information help the data tell the story to inform the community if short-term trends are emerging and if we are moving in a desired or non-desired direction. This data becomes information for our Outcome Teams to process. As a result of the Outcome Team process, the Montgomery County FCFC has implemented a variety of community strategies through pilot projects. As pilot projects mature they are evaluated to determine their success and if they warrant locating an institutional home for ongoing programming.

Selected Outcome Team projects to date include:

*Healthy People: Low Birth Weight Registry / Promoting Healthy Lifestyles / Improving the Healthcare Safety Net
Young People Succeeding: Early Care & Education (Step Up to Quality) / Mentoring Collaborative / Alternative Ed.
Stable Families: Substance Abuse / Strengthening Family Success / Poverty Reduction / Family & Community Violence
Positive Living for Special Populations: System Navigation / Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder / Legislative Advocacy
Safe Neighborhoods: Safe Neighborhoods Court / Quality of Life Improvements
Supportive and Engaged Neighborhoods: Building Supportive and Engaged Neighborhoods
Economic Self-Sufficiency: Ex-Offender Community Re-Entry / Increased Employment / Homeless Train. & Employment*

FUNDING:

The Montgomery County FCFC receives \$2 million in local funding from the Montgomery County Human Services Levy for its Outcome Team initiatives plus \$3 million for community based service contracts. It also receives \$700,000 for FCFC staffing support. The total FCFC budget including Help Me Grow and any other state activities is approximately \$7 million.

STAFFING:

There are 13 staff members in the Montgomery County Office of Family and Children First. These staff allocate their time between support of the FCFC, the Human Services Levy, the Homeless Solutions Policy Board and other duties for the Montgomery County Board of County Commissioners.

CHALLENGES:

Increasing needs for flexible state and federal funding to state agencies and broader access to state and federal data bases. The impact of growing service demands due to increasing poverty level in our region.

FUTURE PLANS:

The Montgomery County FCFC will continue its Outcome Team focused work and initiatives. This local approach is also used as the framework to support the states Commitments to Child Well-Being (HB 289). The work of the FCFC evolves with community needs and priorities.

Contact Information:

Tom Kelley, Director
Montgomery County Office of Family and Children First
451 W. Third St., 9th Floor
Dayton, Ohio 45422

Phone 937-225-4695
Fax 937-496-7714
email kelleyt@mcoho.org