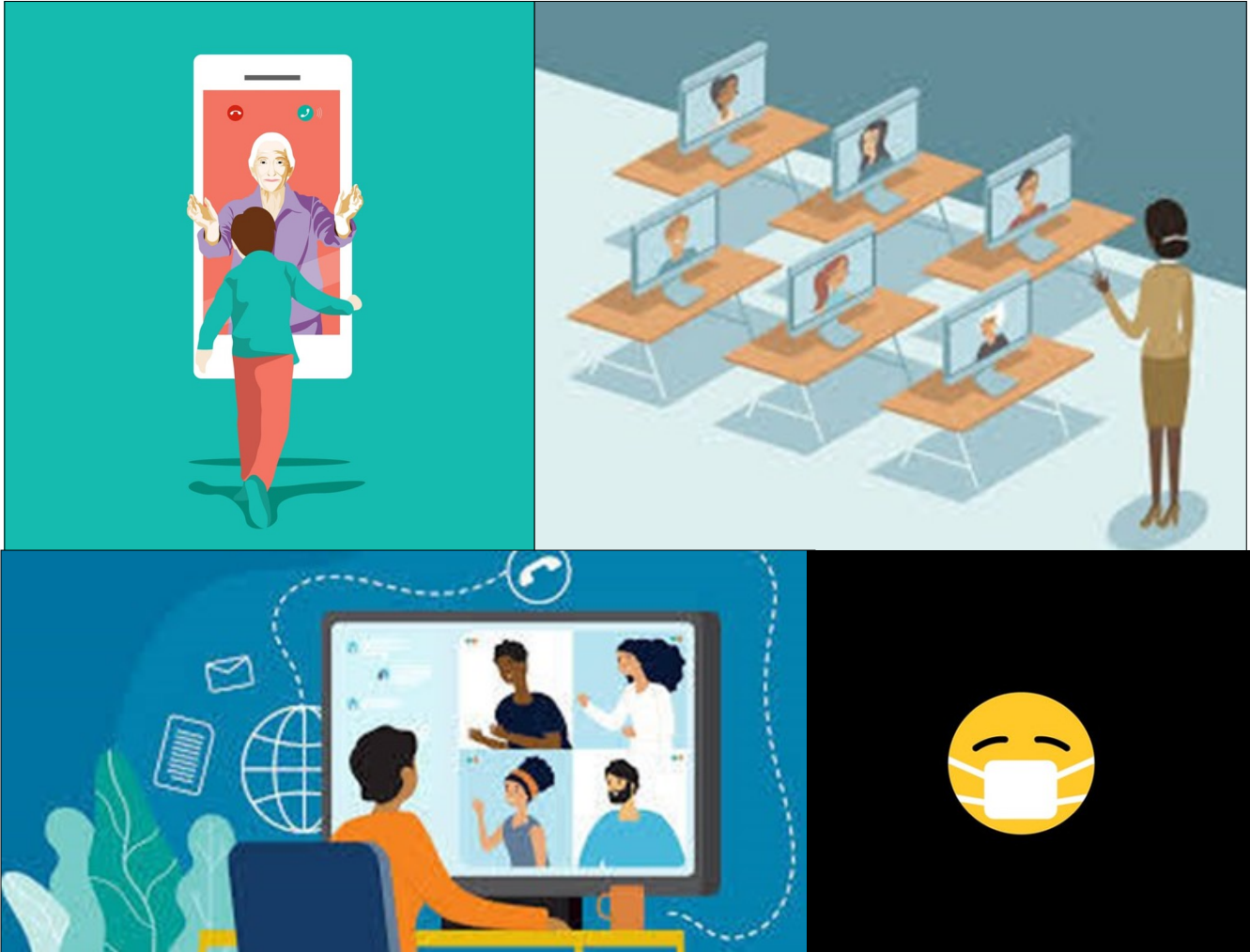




FAIRFIELD COUNTY FAMILY, ADULT AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL

831 College Ave. Lancaster, Ohio 43130, www.facfc.org

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



**CELEBRATING OUR CARING COMMUNITY
DETERMINED TO SERVE, CONNECT, AND PROTECT**

**FAIRFIELD COUNTY
FAMILY, ADULT AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL
2020 VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEETING & AWARD PRESENTATIONS
NOVEMBER 19, 2020, 8:30 A.M.**



Welcome and Introductions

Aundrea Cordle, Director, Fairfield County Job and Family Services
FACF Council President

Business Meeting

Nominating Committee Report—Aundrea Cordle, Dr. Marie Ward, Rhonda Myers
Election of Officers for 2021—Melissa Newman, Parent Representative as President; Heathe O’Keefe, Deputy Director of Protective Services as Vice President

FACF Council Annual Report & 2020 Firefly Award Presentations

Our Firefly Award recipients are recognized for lighting the way for others to succeed.

Chris Varnell, Victory Hill Church
Kim Devitt, Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency
St. Forrest Cassel, Fairfield County Sheriff’s Office
Minuteman Press

Job and Family Services Partner for Youth Award Presentation presented by Heather O’Keefe, Deputy Director of Protective Services

Presentation: *Living the Pandemic – How Initiating Communication Helped Charter an Uncertain Course*, John Pekar, Superintendent of the Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities

We extend heartfelt appreciation to our *Fireflies*—lighting the way in our community: Chris Varnell, Victory Hill Church; Kim Devitt, Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency; Sgt. Forrest Cassel, Fairfield County Sheriff’s Office; and Lancaster Minuteman Press.



MARY GOOD HUMANITARIAN SERVICE AWARD

The Fairfield County FAF Council was privileged to recognize the recipient of the annual Mary Good Award -- Jennifer Beckley-Watson, LPCC-S with Fairfield County Juvenile Court. The award was presented by nominator and co-worker, Keith Tremblay, at the United Way Awards banquet on February 26. "Her energy, empathy, and professionalism, in every role she has held is an inspiration for all who engage in family work," Keith noted.

The FAF Council created the award as a tribute to Mary Good for her compassion and service to the community on behalf of children and families. Mary Good was a teacher with the Lancaster City Schools, Christian educator at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, park leader with the United Way Summer Park program in Pleasantville, Peace School Coordinator, social worker and scout leader. This award encourages and recognizes others who emulate Mary Good's zest for helping children and families.

Photos: Top right—Jennifer with her family ; bottom right—Jennifer with award nominators Becky Edwards and Keith Tremblay.



MARY GOOD HUMANITARIAN SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

2003	Keith Tremblay	2012	Cathy Crawford
2004	Debby Rockwood	2013	Michael Orlando
2005	Jenny Ruff	2014	Diana Williams
2006	Carol Wagner	2015	Andy Phillips
2007	Cyndi Lavere	2016	Melodi Slater
2008	Amanda Wilkins	2017	Holly Bennett
2009	Phil Mackie	2018	Johanna Pearce
2010	Jack Blankenship	2019	Kevin Boyer
2011	T. Ryan Snyder	2020	Jennifer Beckley-Watson



FAIRFIELD COUNTY FAMILY, ADULT AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL MISSION

In the pursuit of a better quality of life for the families, adults and children of Fairfield County, it is the vision of the Council to create and facilitate a coordinated system of services that responds to the strengths and needs of our community.

The Fairfield County FAF Council is a partnership of public and private non-profit child and family-serving agencies and organizations committed to improving the well-being of children and families. The Council facilitates a local community collaborative to:

- Streamline and coordinate government services for families seeking help for their children;
- Develop and implement a service coordination mechanism to prioritize services and fill gaps where possible;
- Participate in comprehensive and coordinated inter-agency system for infants and toddlers with developmental disabilities or delays;
- Monitor progress toward achieving results;
- Ensure input from families and from a broad spectrum of the community;
- Build community capacity.

The Council is steered by its Executive Committee, which includes representation from: parents, Board of County Commissioners, Mayor of the City of Lancaster, Educational Service Center, Pickerington Schools, Lancaster City Schools, New Horizons Mental Health, Fairfield County Board of DD, Job and Family Services, Child Protective Services, Fairfield Community Health Center, Early Childhood Programs of Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency, United Way, Lancaster Community Development Department, Fairfield Health Department, ADAMH Board and Juvenile Court. The Fairfield County Board of Commissioners is the FAF Council’s administrative agent.

MULTI-SYSTEM YOUTH PROGRAM— CINDI WEST, MSY COORDINATOR COURTNEY CARLO, MSY PROGRAM ASSISTANT

The Multi-System Youth (MSY) program provides the service coordination system for multi-need youth that organizes agencies, people and services to support the individual needs of children and families. With the family’s involvement, a coordinated service plan is formulated to increase efficiency and responsiveness to each family’s unique needs. Service Coordination provides a broad and effective perspective by bringing all case managers and others important to family success to the table to collaboratively implement an approach that is efficient and effective. Fairfield County pools its resources and efforts to provide service coordination, as well as a broad range of support and evidence-based interventions.

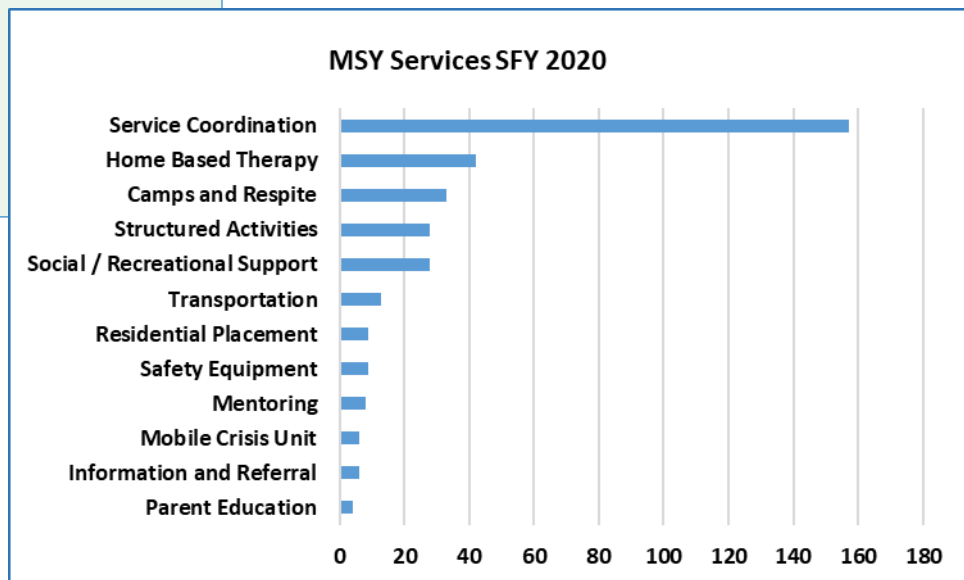
Reducing out of home placements for high-need youths is one of the goals of this program. During FY 2020, 157 youth were served. Youth in out-of-home placement represented 5.7% of those served. Most youths exiting service coordination achieved all of the goals of their service plan.

Multi-System Youth Committee Structure

- Interdisciplinary Team for youth from birth up to age 21
- Executive Cluster for out-of-home placements and overall strategies

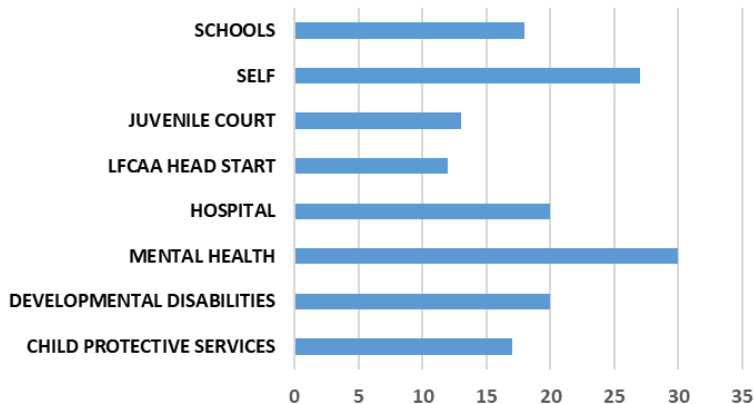
Multi-System Youth Services Pooled Funding Partners

- ADAMH
- Juvenile Court
- Board of Developmental Disabilities

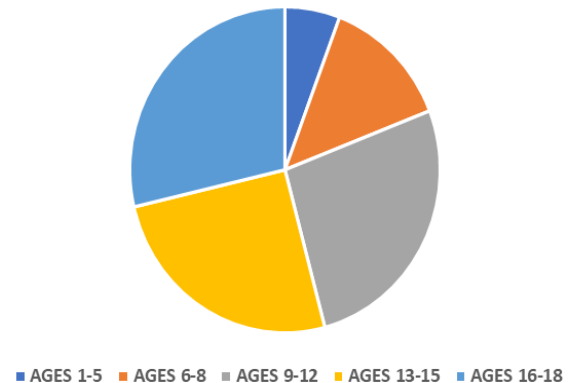


SFY 2020 MSY PROGRAM DATA SNAPSHOTS

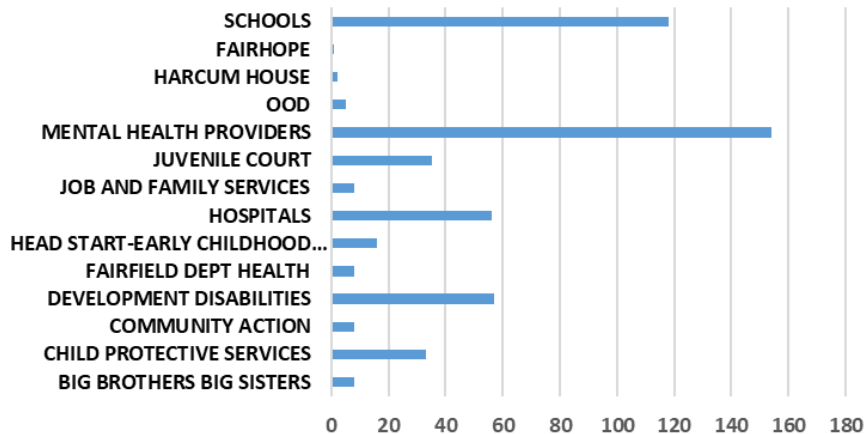
SOURCE OF REFERRAL TO MSY PROGRAM



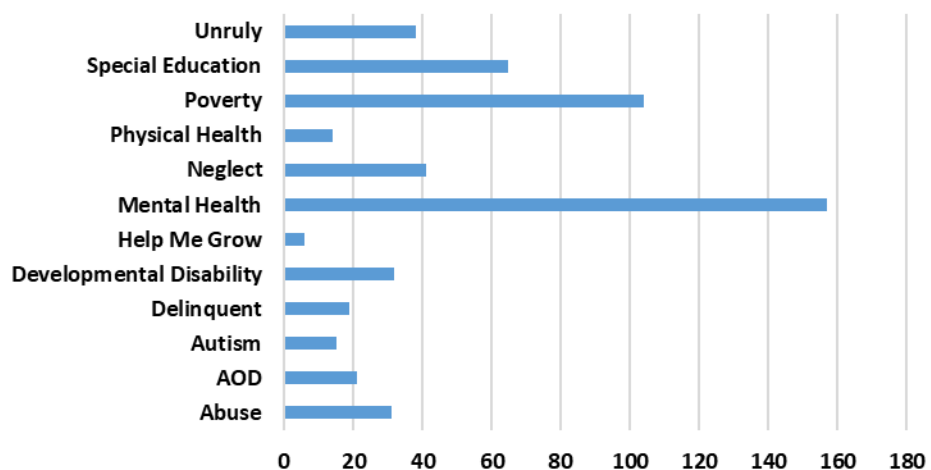
AGES SERVED



AGENCY INVOLVEMENT



PRESENTING NEEDS AT INTAKE



Children are our future. We must take care of them with maximum effort.

~ Naomi Campbell

HELP ME GROW EARLY INTERVENTION—TIFFANY WILSON, CONTRACT MANAGER

Help Me Grow Early Intervention (EI) serves children birth to three years of age who may have developmental delays and disabilities by providing assessments, evaluations, and coordinated services. Early Intervention program implementation partners are Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency for service coordination and the Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities for provision of services. We applaud the team for developing and implementing virtual processes to sustain services in the pandemic. The new virtual model meets the individualized needs of each family while protecting the health and safety of everyone involved.

EI is an evidenced-based program that believes children learn best from familiar people in familiar settings. Every family in the EI program has a service coordinator and service providers. An Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) is developed collaboratively. The team works in the child's natural environment, using the family's existing supports and resources to enhance the child's learning and development. Service Coordinators guide families through every aspect of the EI process, from program entry until the child transitions out of the program by age three.

In SFY 20, 391 children were served. Most of the 203 children exiting the program transitioned successfully to preschool. Reports indicate that all children exiting demonstrated substantial progress with social and emotional skills, acquisition and use of knowledge and skills, and taking action to meet needs.

Percentage of children that substantially Improved Social-Emotional skills			Percentage of children that substantially improved Acquiring and Using Knowledge and Skills			Percentage of children that substantially improved Taking Appropriate Action to Meet Needs	
Fairfield	State of Ohio		Fairfield	State of Ohio		Fairfield	State of Ohio
79.83%	51.06%		83.87%	59.05%		83.38%	62.42%
Percentage of children that left the program at age with Social Emotional skills			Percentage of children that left the program at age expectation with Acquiring and Using Knowledge and Skills			Percentage of children that left the program at age expectation with Taking Appropriate Action to Meet Needs	
Fairfield	State of Ohio		Fairfield	State of Ohio		Fairfield	State of Ohio
56.95%	59.58%		53.64%	49.48%		40.40%	50.64%

Eligibility Reason	#	%		Exit Reason	#	%
One or More Substantial Delay(s)	256	65%		Reached age 3	125	62%
One or More Mild Delay(s)	39	10%		No longer eligible prior to age 3	40	20%
Informed Clinical Opinion	20	5%		Withdrawn by parent before age 3	25	12%
Eligible Diagnosis on DODD List	75	19%		Attempts to contact unsuccessful	10	5%
Other Diagnosis on approved Form	1	0%		Moved out of state	3	1%
SFY20 Cumulative Count	391			Total Exits	203	

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EI TEAM

Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency

Kim Devitt, Director

Margie Partridge, Supervisor

Cindi Bauers, Service Coordinator

Erin Borrow, Service Coordinator

Shelly Wright, Service Coordinator

Vicki Smith, Intake Specialist

Fairfield County Family, Adult and Children First Council

Tiffany Wilson, Contract Manager

Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Jenna Dodson, Early Intervention Supervisor

Molly Fender, Developmental Specialist

Melissa Sheerer, Developmental Specialist

Lindsay Lee, Developmental Specialist

Lindsay Morrison, Developmental Specialist

Erica Neal, Developmental Specialist

Karen Wideman, Speech Language Pathologist

Victoria Repko, Speech Language Pathologist

Judith Jones, Physical Therapist

John Wagner, Physical Therapist

Christina Bosch, Occupational Therapist

PARENT EDUCATION

COOPERATIVE—PAM REDDING, COORDINATOR

To meet families' needs of parenting support during the pandemic, virtual methods of service delivery were implemented to provide parent education classes and discussion groups through live-virtual and web-based platforms.

The parenting education curriculums and parent discussion groups provided to the community by the FACFC are made possible through the support of many partners, including the Fairfield County ADAMH Board, Lancaster Community Development Department, Fairfield County CDBG grant, Fairfield County Foundation, and South Central Power Foundation. Nationwide Children's Hospital sponsors Power of Positive Parenting—"Triple P"—discussion groups and brief interventions.

The Fairfield County Parent Education Cooperative meets quarterly to review availability, optimal scheduling, and gaps in population-specific education. This is an important advisory group to inform the direction of our parenting support activities in our community. We value and appreciate their willingness to offer their advice and expertise.

Parent education services include: The First Five Years, Active Parenting, Active Parenting for Step-families, Loving Solutions, Parent Project, Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) Level 3 and Triple P Level 4, and Positive Parenting Brief Interventions. During FY 20, 208 parents completed one of the services offered.

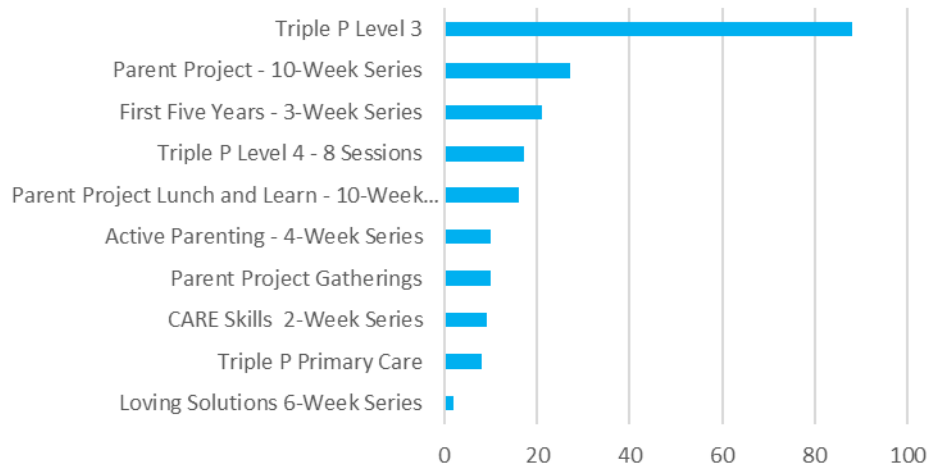
The development and distribution of the quarterly Family Resource Calendar continued to be a priority for 2020. The resource guide is available on the Council's website, and 1,500 copies are printed each quarter and distributed throughout Fairfield County.

The Parent Education Coordinator prepared a Parenting Resource Guide for the Youth Homelessness Project of the Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency. This project involved collaboration across a five-county homeless planning region to target pregnant homeless youth. The guide provides pregnant homeless youth—as well as all caregivers of children—information on where to seek assistance. To view a copy of the guide, go to www.factc.org.

Photo: Parent Education Coordinator Pam Redding is with Parent Project participants, pre-COVID-19.



Parent Education Participation SFY 2020



SAFE COMMUNITIES COALITION—KIRSTEN PERSINGER, COORDINATOR

The Safe Communities Coalition promotes safe driving practices and creates awareness of behaviors that prevent traffic crashes, injuries, and fatalities. Safe Communities Coalition initiatives are made possible through a grant from the Ohio Traffic Safety Office and in-kind support from local community partners.

This year, the Coalition applied for and received a State Farm Insurance Foundation grant to present a special event at Lancaster High School — ThinkFast® Interactive — a program that educated students on pedestrian and traffic safety in a fun and relaxed environment. This program engaged participants through Audience Response Technology.



When community events at which the Coalition planned to conduct outreach were cancelled due to the pandemic, virtual ways of reaching people with traffic safety messages were implemented. Coalition members presented two educational videos in March and August with support from many community volunteers who offered their time and resources. These videos focused on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* theme. Links to these videos can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/pg/FairfieldCountySC>.

Despite the unforeseeable challenges presented by the pandemic, the Safe Communities Coalition increased its membership and was able to reach more people than ever through virtual technology. We are encouraged by reports that show increased seat belt use in Fairfield County. According to the University of Akron's 2019 observational study, seat belt usage is 89.5%, up 2.7% from the 2018 study.

It is the volunteerism of community members and law enforcement that makes the Safe Communities Coalition successful in all efforts toward the goal of traffic safety in Fairfield County.

In FY 2020, seat belt use increased by 2.7% and 6,688 people were reached with key safe-driving messages.



COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Building Trauma Informed Systems (BTIS)

Driven by the collective understanding of the effect of child maltreatment and the ways that multiple systems can utilize brain research and best practice, this work group reviews the research and literature, learns from those in the field who are using the concepts of trauma-informed care and proposing both macro-educational opportunities as well as agency-to-agency collaborations to work together for the best outcomes for children. The Committee presented a virtual community training conference this year. BTIS is chaired by Kim Devitt, Director of Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Early Childhood Programs.

Fairfield County Perinatal Leadership Group

Chaired by Stephanie Fyffe, Director of Nursing at the Fairfield Department of Health, the Perinatal Leadership Group is addressing the issue of access to prenatal care for pregnant women who are actively using substances and the potential effects on infants. Efforts this year focused on compliance with the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act for Plans of Safe Care for substance-exposed and substance-affected infants.

Fairfield County Housing Coalition

As the lead entity for the Continuum of Care planning process, the Fairfield County Housing Coalition provides a unified approach toward sustaining and improving local housing services for the homeless and low-income population. The Coalition has a diverse membership including service providers and community leaders that successfully collaborate in strategic planning to strengthen the system of care that serves the homeless and those at risk of homelessness. The Coalition conducts the Homeless Point-In-Time Count and fair housing training every year. Lynda Berge Disser, Executive Director of the Lancaster Community Development Department, serves as Chair; Randall Hunt, Housing Director for Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency, serves as Vice Chair.

Fairfield County Transportation Coalition

The Fairfield County Transportation Coalition convenes community members and transportation services providers to identify gaps and needs in services, and advocates for the provision of safe, affordable and accessible transportation. The Coalition also provides leadership in the development of the county's coordinated transportation plan. Carrie Woody, Director of Lancaster-Fairfield Public Transit, serves as President; Dr. Ed Payne, Executive Director & CEO of the Fairfield Center for disAbilities & Cerebral Palsy, serves as Vice President and Secretary.

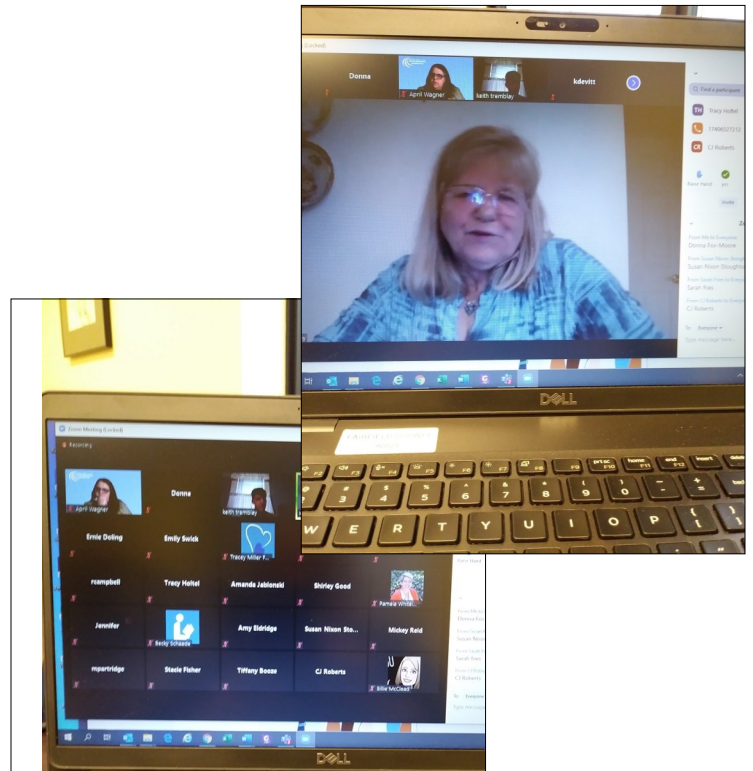
Older Adult Network

The Older Adult Network is a collaboration among agencies, businesses, and organizations who serve older adults and their families in the community. Membership in the OAN is open to anyone who provides resources and services for the aging population and advocates for older adults. Co-Chairs are Linda McDonald & Nichole Speakman; Secretary is Kim Shook.

Community Trauma Conference Goes Virtual

When it was necessary to cancel the Annual Community Trauma Conference in the Spring due to the pandemic, the BTIS committee moved training to a virtual format featuring community experts. The series included the following:

- Overview of the Safe and Together Model I- A Strength Based Approach to Domestic Violence, Casie Burke, MS Ed, PC, Kinship/Permanency Supervisor Fairfield Co. Protective Services—Oct. 6.
- Taking the Trauma out of COVID-19, Dean Rallof, MA of Clinical Psychology, Fairfield County Board of DD—Oct. 13.
- Supporting the Artistry of Change with Karen Taskey, LPCC-S, and Keith Trembley, LPCC-S, Juvenile Court—Oct. 20.
- Heal Yourself to Help Your Kids with Jennifer Beckley-Watson, LPCC-S, Juvenile Court—Nov. 10.
- Understanding and Affirming of the LGBTQIA+ Community: Tools for Clinicians and Community Members by Cate Petrowski, PhD, Clinical Psychology—Dec. 1.



Early Literacy and Kindergarten Readiness Work Group

Dr. Marie Ward, Superintendent of the Fairfield County Educational Service Center organized the Early Literacy and Kindergarten Readiness Collaborative, convening educators, local government leaders, and the private sector to focus on Kindergarten preparedness. Emerging from these discussions, the multi-media "Say, Do, Know" campaign was conducted by Lancaster City Schools offering pointers to parents on ways to support Kindergarten readiness for their preschool-age children.

FAMILY, ADULT & CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL STATE FISCAL YEAR 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Fairfield County FACF Council integrates public and private support to achieve the greatest impact with financial and human resources. Our partners provide resources as well as collaboration in the structure and design of the FACF Council's services to the community.

Note: Charts reflect SFY 20 expenditures—July 1, 2019—June 30, 2020.

Local Government Partnerships

- ADAMH Board
- Board of Commissioners
- Board of Developmental Disabilities
- Job and Family Services
- Juvenile Court
- Lancaster Community Development Department
- Fairfield County Regional Planning

Local Philanthropic Partnerships

- Fairfield County Foundation
- South Central Power Foundation
- First United Methodist Church

State of Ohio & Other Partnerships

- Family and Children First
- Department of Developmental Disabilities
- Mental Health and Addiction Services
- Traffic Safety Office
- Nationwide Children's Hospital

Multi-System Youth Services Pooled Funding Partnerships

Services provided to youth with multi-system needs in our community are largely made possible through local partners that work collaboratively and pool funding and other resources.

This year, the Ohio Department of Medicaid provided the opportunity for Councils to apply on a family-by-family basis to fund services to avoid custody relinquishment, a resource available through June 30, 2021.

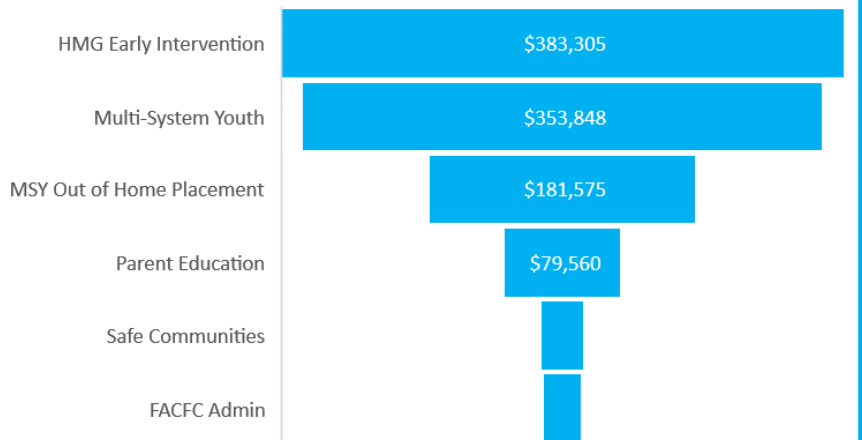
Committee Funds

The FACF Council administers funds on behalf of the Older Adult Network, Children's Committee, and Sharing Hope.

FY 2020 Expenditures by Source

HMG Early Intervention	\$ 368,522
Multi-System Youth Pool	\$ 267,515
Dept Medicaid-OOH Placement	\$ 95,739
Out of Home Placement Pool	\$ 85,836
Ohio Family Centered Services	\$ 49,655
MSY Pool IHBT Supplement	\$ 36,678
Parent Education ADAMH	\$ 32,484
Safe Communities	\$ 28,911
FACF Administration	\$ 25,925
NCH Triple P	\$ 24,695
HMG Outreach	\$ 14,783
NCH FCF—Triple P Incentives	\$ 8,500
Fairfield Co Foundation	\$ 6,279
Lancaster CDBG—Parent Ed	\$ 4,000
County CDBG—Parent Ed	\$ 3,600
South Central Power—Parent Ed	\$ 2,254

Expenditures by Program Area



SHARED PLAN FY 2020 – 2022

Development of the Shared Plan is facilitated by the Fairfield County Family, Adult and Children First Council to help identify our community's shared priorities, outcomes, and strategies to increase the well-being of children and families. A new plan was developed for FY 2020-2022 by a committee of community partners. Below is a summary of the plan. The complete plan is available online at www.facfc.org.

Annually data indicators identified by the committee are reviewed to monitor progress toward achieving the desired outcomes. This past year, a snapshot of progress includes: units of recovery housing increased; the number of people employed through Fairfield County Board of DD programs has increased; declining homeless point in time count numbers have declined; Lancaster City Schools conducted a Kindergarten readiness campaign.

Shared Community Priorities	Shared Outcomes
Prevent and reduce homelessness	Families have access to safe, decent, affordable housing
-Increased Kindergarten readiness -Capacity to serve childcare needs and support for children with disabilities and special needs	Children ages birth to 8 receive the support they need to succeed in school.
Complete continuum of care to meet the complex needs of families	Families have access to care to enable their children with complex needs to be served in their homes and in their community.
- Prevent youth involvement in juvenile justice system -Reduce further penetration/recidivism for court-involved youth in the juvenile justice system -Reduce drug and alcohol use among youth	Youth ages 9-21 will overcome barriers to successfully transition into adulthood and independence as productive members of the community.
Economic development and employment	Families and youth seeking employment find and maintain employment to meet their financial needs
Children and families have access to care and resources to lead a healthy lifestyle.	Community Wellness

2021 FACF COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Mark your calendar and please join us.

Go to www.facfc.org for location.

Meetings begin at 8:30 a.m.

Full Council Meetings

January 21
March 18
May 20
July 15
September 16
November 18

Executive Committee Meetings

February 19
April 16
June 18
August 20
October 22
December 17

2020 FAIRFIELD COUNTY FACF COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Aundrea Cordle	Job and Family Services Director, Council President
Chris Briggs , Ed.D.	Pickerington Schools Superintendent
Dave Levacy	Fairfield County Commissioner
David Scheffler	Lancaster City Mayor
Heather O'Keefe	Deputy Director of Protective Services
John Pekar	Board of Developmental Disabilities Superintendent
Kim Devitt	Community Action-Early Childhood Programs Director
Lisa Evangelista	Fairfield Community Health Center CEO
Lynda Berge Disser	Lancaster Community Development Executive Director
Marie Ward, Ph.D.	Fairfield County Educational Service Center Superintendent
Melissa Newman	Parent Representative, Council Vice President
Phil Pack	New Horizons Mental Health CEO
Scott Reed	United Way CEO
Stephanie Fyffe	Fairfield County Health Department Nursing Director
Steve Wigton	Lancaster City Schools Superintendent
Terre Vandervoort	Juvenile & Probate Court Judge

FAIRFIELD COUNTY FACF COUNCIL STAFF

Wearing Powerful Purple in October for Domestic Violence Awareness Month!



From left to right: Kirsten Persinger, Safe Communities Coordinator; Donna Fox-Moore, Executive Director; Courtney Carlo, Multi-System Youth Program Assistant; Cindi West, Multi-System Youth Coordinator; Pam Redding, Parent Education Coordinator, Active Parenting/Parent Project Facilitator; Tiffany Wilson, Help Me Grow Contract Manager & Triple P Facilitator.