

# Licking County Children and Families First Council



## 2014 Annual Report

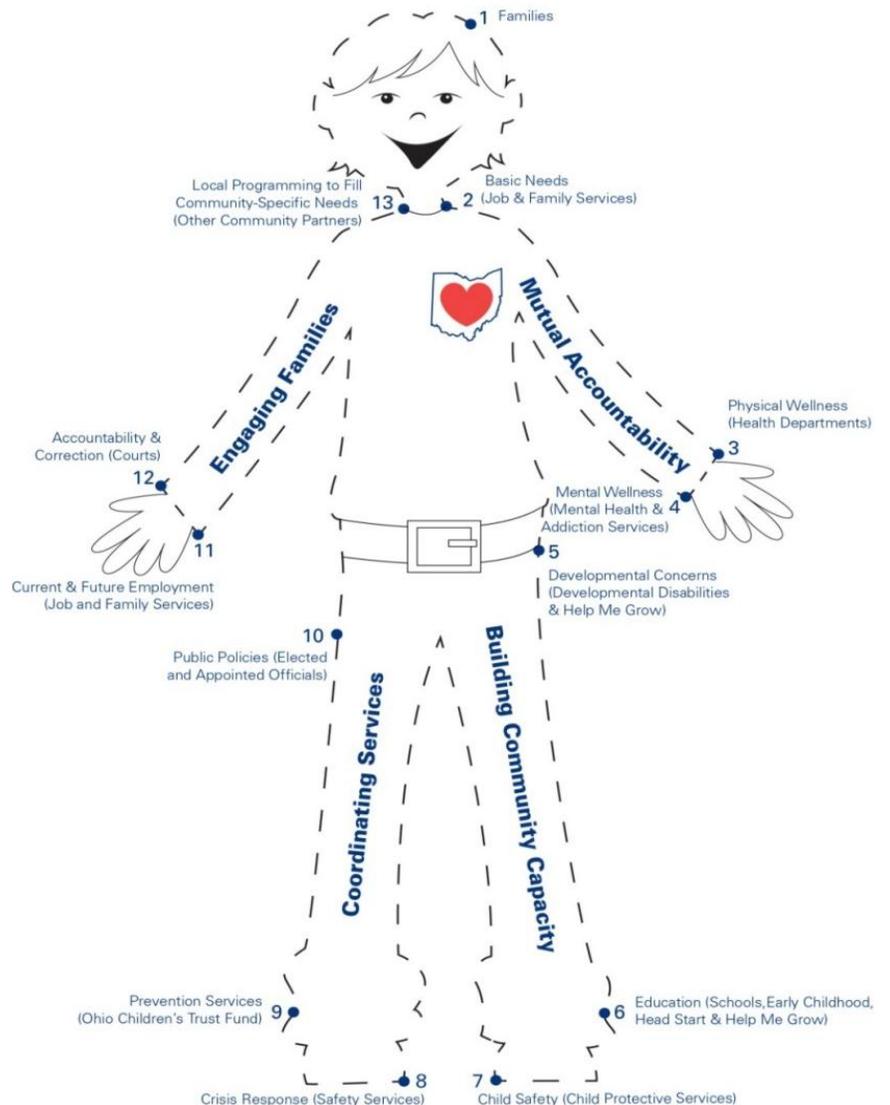
## Licking County Children and Families First Council

- We build our community's capacity, coordinate systems and services, and engage and empower families. Any Licking County family with a child age birth - 21 years, in need of a coordinated inter-disciplinary plan to address their unique needs, is eligible for services.
- Families are the center of our work and are active participants in the service planning and decision-making process.
- We take a personalized approach in building family treatment plans based on the family's strengths.
- We evaluate outcomes to ensure our families receive effective, high quality services.
- We bring together partners that serve children and families.
- CFFC is funded by contributions from Council partners, county and state allocations and state and federal grants. In-kind support increases our capacity to coordinate services for Licking County children and families.

### Council Members

Behavioral Healthcare Partners  
 Big Brothers / Big Sisters  
 Family Health Services  
 Family Representatives  
 LAPP  
 LEADS Head Start  
 Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities  
 Licking County Commissioners  
 Licking County Job & Family Services/Children Services  
 Licking County Educational Service Center  
 Licking County Family YMCA  
 Licking County Juvenile/Probate Court  
 Licking County Health Department  
 Mental Health America of Licking County  
 Mental Health & Recovery for Licking and Knox Counties  
 Newark City  
 Newark City Schools  
 Ohio Department of Youth Services  
 Pathways of Central Ohio  
 The Woodlands  
 United Way of Licking County

**Licking County Children and Families First Council connects the dots to eliminate redundancy and bring resources together for planning, monitoring and improving outcomes for families and children in Licking County**



**Licking County Children and Families First Council Clinical Committee and Community Support Teaming transfer the Council's goals into action steps to reduce safety risks in the community and support the family in maintaining children safely in their home.**

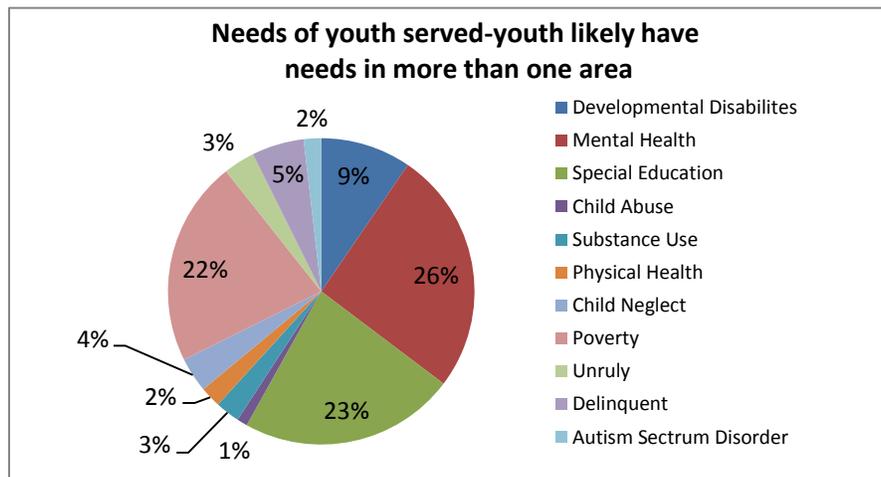
**Clinical Committee and Community Support Teaming** provide supports and services to achieve optimal outcomes for families and children whose needs cannot be adequately addressed through traditional agency systems, while maintaining the youth safely in their own homes and communities. These services build a plan that is focused on the strengths of the family and utilizes agency collaboration and community services in a child-centered, family focused manner that is both responsive to the family/youth needs and cost effective. The target population are families with children (ages 0 through 21) experiencing multiple needs or involved with multiple child-serving agencies in Licking County.

**Clinical Committee** is a collaborative group of representatives from child-serving agencies which provides family-centered, strengths-based service coordination to families. The family and involved agencies develop a coordinated case plan and the committee authorizes funds for services and supports that promote healthy families. Clinical Committee members (\*Denotes member is also a Pooled Funds Contributors):

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Behavioral Healthcare Partners of Central Ohio, Inc.    | *Licking County Juvenile Court                       |
| Licking County Alcoholism Prevention Program            | Mid-Ohio Psychological Services                      |
| *Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities     | Newark City Schools                                  |
| Licking County Health Department                        | * Mental Health & Recovery for Licking/Knox Counties |
| Licking County Educational Service Center               | Parent Mentor  |
| *Licking Co. Job and Family Services- Children Services | The Woodlands  |

Additional contributors that fund the plans include Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, United Way of Licking County, and family contributions (determined by using a sliding fee scale).

In SFY 14, 86 families were served. The majority of youth served (44) were age 14-18, and thirty-eight 10-13 year olds were served. The most frequently used services/ supports were respite (including camp) – 65, and social/ recreational supports- 31. The needs of the youth are identified at intake (see chart). Youth may fit in to more than 1 need category.



**Community Support Teaming (CST)** is available to youth at-risk of out-of-home placement or preparing to transition home from an out-of-home placement (e.g., hospital, residential, foster care or correctional institution). CST uses a high-fidelity wraparound service model to coordinate and integrate treatment services and community supports to maintain youth safely in the community or least restrictive level of care and strengthen the capacity of families to function effectively. CST meetings invite communication between all team members, including probation officers, Guardian Ad Litem, counselors, case managers, school staff and family. Youth may participate in meetings, depending on their age, developmental and emotional capabilities.

Of the 48 CST-involved youth in SFY 2014, 100% were placed in the least restrictive level of care based on their needs and 90% were maintained in either their home or a relative's home. 6% of the youth (3) were placed out of home; and all of these youth were placed according to their behavioral healthcare needs. 79% of youth who were closed in SFY 2014 showed improvement in functioning. Only two youth were referred to CST while in out-of-home placement. Both youth were in the Department of Youth Services and both stepped down to a less restrictive level of care and are currently in residential treatment centers.



## **HELP ME GROW EARLY INTERVENTION 2014**

The Help Me Grow Early Intervention (HMGEI) program in Licking County is implemented by the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Help Me Grow services include service coordination, evaluations and assessments for children from birth to age three who are at risk for, or have, delays in one or more of the following five areas of development: social/emotional, cognitive, adaptive, communication or physical. Children who are found eligible for EI services are then linked with resources and service providers to meet their specific needs. The vast majority of these children receive services from the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities' Early Intervention Specialists and/or Speech, Occupational, and Physical Therapist in addition to receiving Service Coordination.

The goals of HMGEI are to: 1) Enhance development of children with disabilities, 2) Reduce educational costs by minimizing need for special education, 3) Minimize likelihood of institutionalization and maximize independent living, and 4) Enhance capacity of families to meet their child's developmental needs.

In 2014, 378 children were referred for Help Me Grow Early Intervention services in Licking County. 229 of those children were found eligible and received ongoing early intervention services from the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Most referrals were made by parents, family members and medical professionals. 69 referrals were from Children's Services, as required when a child is the victim of substantiated abuse or neglect.

The success of our program in 2014 is illustrated by the following data: 98% of children made progress and/or met outcomes in their Individual Family Service Plan, 95% of families who completed our exit survey indicated that they felt more competent in helping their child learn and grow, and 53% of exits occurred because children were caught up developmentally or parents felt confident enough to address developmental needs on their own without the help of our program. Additionally, 100% of parents who completed exit surveys gave positive reviews of the program, and we completed monitoring activities with both Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities during the year that resulted in no citations or negative feedback.

There were some notable changes and experiences throughout 2014: Service Coordinators completed trainings on IFSP and rule changes, new tools and other EI service providers and resources. We started using a new family assessment tool, the Routines Based Interview, and Service Coordinators started actively participating in evaluations to determine eligibility.

The Help Me Grow program also implemented rule changes on a statewide level in January 2015, but the focus of the program remains the same. In 2015, we will continue to support children with developmental delays and disabilities, and their families, by providing evaluations, assessments, service coordination and linkage to other early intervention service providers.

### **Help Me Grow Home Visiting**

Voluntary, family-focused services and supports to first-time pregnant women and to families with young children. There are two agencies approved to provide home visiting services in Licking County:

- Pathways of Licking County, Parent Education Center  
1627 Bryn Mawr Dr., Newark, OH 43055
- CareStar, Inc., 2760 Airport Drive Suite A 130  
Columbus, OH 43219



To make a referral to HMG call 1-800-755-GROW (4769) or visit [www.helpmegrow.ohio.gov](http://www.helpmegrow.ohio.gov)



**Our Futures** in Licking County is a federally funded program to improve the education, social, safety and economic environments of Licking County by reducing the use/abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs by youth and adults. To achieve this goal, **Our Futures** has introduced the following initiatives/activities.

**PAX GOOD BEHAVIOR GAME** Over 350 Licking County Educators have been trained to use PAX GBG in the classroom – an initiative to introduce and reinforce positive behavior. PAX GBG is evidence based and proven to have long and short range impact on reducing substance abuse.

**REWARD & REMINDER** Recognizing business owners and establishments that refuse to sell alcohol or tobacco to minors. Beginning in 2009, approximately 181 alcohol checks were made with 9 reminders and 178 tobacco checks with 9 reminders.

**POSITIVE PARENTING PROGRAM** This program trains practitioners to provide parenting support to reduce child maltreatment. One hundred and twenty practitioners have been trained and have worked with 3799 parents.

**YOUTH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL** Licking County High School youth who strive to make Licking County a happy, healthy, safe and drug free place by talking with youth about drug usage.

**PAX-IT NOTES** PAX-IT notes are praise notes given to reward students and adults who do good things that make our world a better place to live. Approximately 30,000 notes have been issued.

**PRIDE SURVEY** Annually, approximately 8,500 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students are assessed on their usage of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. The results are used for the purpose of developing strategies to decrease or delay youth substance abuse.

The federal grant money that supports **Our Futures** in Licking County ends Sept 29, 2015. In all too many cases where the federal money disappears, so does the program. However, the norm does not apply in this case. Much of what **Our Futures** attempts to do is similar to the mission statement of Licking Memorial Health System. Therefore, we are pleased to announce that LMHS will assume the funding for **Our Futures**. Thank you LMHS for continuing to serve the community with programs that improve our social and safety structure.

## Triple P Positive Parenting Program

Triple P is an evidenced-based parent support program that Licking County began sponsoring in 2009. It is funded by The Ohio Children's Trust Fund, and supported by Mental Health and Recovery, The Children and Families First Council, and Our Futures in Licking County.

Research shows that Triple P reduces incidents of child abuse and maltreatment, which supports our important county goal of the reduction of child abuse. Through Triple P, we are striving to help parents by decreasing parental stress and frustration, while increasing their confidence as parents. Our program has trained 120 people through 2014 to be Triple P providers. This training enables providers to offer both individual and group parent meetings, which include useful materials that parents take home. Those who have received provider training include teachers, counselors and principals from all 10 Licking County districts and several private schools, parent mentors and others from 6 community agencies, and family ministry representatives from 5 churches. Triple P in Licking County has transitioned from offering solely individual parent consultations to a much broader range of implementation where the majority of parents participate in Triple P group programs located in a variety of settings, including schools and the Licking County Family YMCA.

At the end of 2014, our Triple P providers reported that they had worked with at least 228 parents on an individual basis, and that at least 691 parents and families attended Triple P small group and seminar sessions. Since the program's inception in 2009, Triple P Providers reported that more than 3,799 parents in our county have done Triple P. Parent satisfaction with Triple P programs and materials has been consistently very high. At the end of 2014, 98% of parents surveyed indicated that they were satisfied with Triple P Triple P strategies and were likely to use them. Through Triple P, we hope to show that small changes can make a big difference for children and for parents in Licking County!





**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Licking & Perry Counties (BBBSLP)** Community-based Mentoring Program (CB) has been serving children since 1969. Our School-based Mentoring Program (SB) has been serving children in local schools since 2000.

In BBBSLP terminology, a "match" is a one-to-one relationship between a Big Brother or Sister (Big) and a Little Brother or Sister (Little.) In 2014, a total of 619 matches were supported by BBBSLP. Through both our CB and SB programs, each volunteer Big is matched with one specific Little to provide individualized time and attention on a consistent basis. CB Bigs provide their Littles with individual time and attention at least twice per month for a period of at least one year. They share in conversations and activities that are mutually enjoyable and approved by the Littles' parents/guardians. CB Bigs are encouraged to introduce Littles to new opportunities in their communities. This mentoring takes place at locations throughout Licking or Perry County and central Ohio. In 2014, 106 matches were served in the CB Program and the average match length was 22.3 months. Through our SB Program, the Littles are elementary or middle school students. SB Bigs meet weekly with their Littles exclusively at the student's school, with BBBSLP staff present during these programs. SB Bigs emphasize literacy, academic, & social skills. Specific program activities vary by school and grade, but all are designed to build relationships between Bigs and Littles with the goal of positive outcomes for Littles. In 2014, 513 matches were served across nine Licking County schools, with an average match length of 12.6 months.

BBBSLP currently serves children between the ages of six and 18 who attend partner schools in Licking Co. or reside in Licking or Perry Co. BBBSLP seeks to serve youth facing adversity, primarily focusing on children who are exposed to three factors that can make growing up more difficult: living in poverty, growing up in a single-parent household, and having an incarcerated parent. The majority of our Littles cope with one or more of these factors. Over 78% of CB Littles are being raised by relatives, in foster care, or live in a single-parent household. Our SB programs partner with school districts with lower graduation rates and schools in low-income areas. The grades served span K-8.

Children are primarily self-referrals or through school personnel. Key mentor referral sources include: Denison University, OSU-N, Boeing, State Farm, Park National Bank, and The Energy Coop. Support from Kessler Sign Co. and WNKO/ WHTH Radio helps us promote mentoring opportunities.

**Accomplishments of the program during 2014:**

- Number of matches served increased to 619; for the second year in a row, BBBSLP increased the number of matches served, while the national average among BBBS agencies decreased
- BBBSLP was ranked #1 in the Midwest Region - Small/Mid-size Agency Category among BBBS agencies for serving the most matches relative to budget size
- BBBSLP continues to focus on the length and strength of our matches (quality rather than just quantity) in order to get the most impact for each match. Match support is essential to sustaining these relationships. In 2013, our CB match support completion rate was 70% and the SB completion rate was 81%. In 2014, these improved to 81% for CB and 97.5% for SB. These increases in match support contribute to matches remaining open longer.

**Plans for 2015 include:**

- Continuing to increase number of matches being served by enrolling more mentors, focusing on areas outside of Newark and Granville (currently, the majority of mentors come from those areas.)
- Supporting the need for children to successfully transition from one grade to the next, ultimately achieving graduation. This will include expansion to additional grades at current schools and re-establishing a Perry County school partnership and may also include a new partnership with a third, Licking County school district
- Expanding agency-sponsored activities and promotion of other opportunities available to matches throughout the county. Designing and implementing a training program for mentors, focused on skill and relationship-building that support longer matches and positive youth outcomes. Our newly hired, full-time, CB Match Support Specialist will manage these efforts.

## **Reviewing the accomplishments of 2014**

The task of Licking County Job and Family Services (LCJFS) includes not only providing food, access to medical care, cash assistance, supportive services, employability skills/opportunities, protection of the young and the elderly, but also adapting to a changing service delivery environment. Opportunities range from maintaining our focus on Public Assistance eligibility services, to expanding services to provide greater individual guidance and case management; keeping children safe from abuse and neglect, to expanding and developing services and resources to keep children safe and secure with their families or with relatives; helping individuals obtain employment, to helping address issues/barriers that often prohibit their ongoing and advanced employability.

### **Children Services Levy Replacement**

Every ten years, the Children Services Levy goes before the voters for replacement. It is critical that our community understands that through the Levy resources, abused and neglected children are kept safe and provided with those necessary services to heal the effects of abuse and neglect. Thanks to the assistance and dedication of many staff and community members, the Children Services Levy was not only successful, but obtained its greatest winning majority, 63.5%!

### **Children and Families First Council**

On July 1, 2014, LCJFS became the Administrative and Fiscal Agent for the Licking County Children and Families First Council. This created the opportunity for JFS to enhance partnerships with other community agencies and provided an additional opportunity to assist families and children.

### **Wendy's Wonderful Kids (WWK)**

Adoption recruiters, funded by the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, implement a child-specific recruitment program to place foster children who have previously been thought of as "hard to place" in loving, adoptive families. To date, LCJFS adoption recruiters have successfully placed 23 children in loving adoptive homes and continue their efforts to make "unadoptable" unacceptable in our county.

### **Alcohol and other Drug (AOD) Services**

Children Services was concerned with the increasing number of children referred from the homes of parents with AOD issues and the parents' inability to resolve these issues in order for their children to remain safely in their homes or return home quickly. LCJFS, in cooperation with Mental Health & Recovery for Licking/Knox Counties, released an RFP and awarded a contract to **Behavioral Healthcare Partners** to place a counselor at Children Services to focus on the AOD treatment needs of the parents. As a result, families are linked to services and engaging in the treatment process much more quickly and increasing the likelihood of reunification.

### **Independent Living**

When a youth "ages out", or turns 18 while in foster care, he or she must make the difficult transition from foster care to independent living, self-sufficiency and adulthood. Recognizing this difficulty, LCJFS enhanced services to better assist these youth. Foster care youth, referred to the Independent Living Social Worker when they turn 16, are assessed in a variety of areas impacting independent living success and a plan is developed to guide the transition to adulthood. 55 youth were served in the first year (2014).

### **Child Welfare Innovation Grant**

In 2014, Licking County JFS was awarded a one-time Child Welfare Innovation Grant for CY2015 that provides the opportunity to increase our "innovation" and address some specific areas:

- ✓ Greater assistance with legal fees for kinship
- ✓ Expedite adoption child summaries to quickly enable several children to complete the adoption process
- ✓ Enhance visitation services for children and parents
- ✓ Re-establish Family Team Meetings
- ✓ Enhance AOD case management Services



R. Joseph Ebel, R.S., M.S., M.B.A.  
Health Commissioner



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[www.lickingcohealth.org](http://www.lickingcohealth.org)

## Licking County Health Department

675 Price Road

Newark, OH 43055

### **Licking County Health Department Child & Family Health Services**

The Licking County Health Department offers many services for children and families. They are:

**At-Risk Pregnancy Program:** Provides education and counseling to pregnant women and new moms. The goal of this program is to enable clients to experience a healthy pregnancy and delivery, and equip them to care for their newborn child. In 2014 there were 1,787 clients were served.

**BCMh** – Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps: Assists Licking County families with children who have special needs. Registered nurses provide case management services to families with children who have special medical needs. A total of 250 home visits were made by the nurses in 2014.

**Early Head Start Program:** This program provides home visitors to work with low income families with pregnant women and/or children less than three years old. Parenting guidance is provided and children are screened to ensure that they are meeting developmental milestones. In 2014 there were 2,110 home visits that took place.

**Dental Sealants:** This program provides free dental screenings, oral health education, and dental sealants to 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students in income qualifying districts. Sealants seal the tops of molars, reducing the risk of cavities. This past year the dental team applied 1,530 sealants for children.

**Childhood Immunizations:** Vaccination is key to the prevention of many communicable diseases that can cause serious illness in children and infants. No child is denied immunization services due to inability to pay. Immunization clinics are held throughout each week. In 2014 1,438 children received immunizations.

**STD/Sexual Health Clinic:** STD and HIV testing and education is provided on a weekly basis by appointment only. In 2014, 537 clients age thirteen and older were seen.



The Mission of **Mental Health America of Licking County (MHA)** is to promote good mental health and wellness, and to achieve victory over mental illness. MHA is continually seeking ways to further this mission through advocacy, prevention, and education. MHA is thrilled to have this opportunity to share our efforts to proactively serve Licking County through our unique partnerships with schools, agencies, and families within this community. All of our programs are funded through grants, fundraisers and donations from organizations and people like you; therefore, this opportunity to reach so many is crucial to our programs.

The partnerships MHA maintains with the local school systems have always been a vital part of the agency's outreach. Part of this relationship involves fulfilling a need for secure and engaging after school programs. MHA provides this safe haven for hundreds of students in this community through the Youth Engaged in Service (YES) Club. This program inspires its members to cultivate good decision making skills and encourages them to give back to those in need. In February, this program was featured in *The Newark Advocate* for the #NewarkLove project. Students gathered donations of hats, scarves, gloves, and socks and hung them from trees on the south end of the city, offering warmth to the needy in this community. In addition to the many exciting programs and activities YES Club offers, they also provide students with many basic necessities that may not be provided at home, including a hot meal every day as well as clean showers and toiletries for anyone who needs them. Students are required to complete homework assignments or work on an alternative academic activity and computers are available to them.

Another critical program MHA provides for Licking County schools is the Suicide Prevention Program. Through the Signs of Suicide (SOS) program, students learn to recognize the signs of suicide and understand available local resources for help. SOS is currently in 90% of the schools in Licking County. Additionally, as was highlighted in *The Newark Advocate* recently, depression screenings are offered to schools. The screenings revealed some shocking statistics: 35% of the students screened were red-flagged for depression and were immediately evaluated by a mental health professional. 14% indicated that they had contemplated or attempted suicide. Many times, these screenings offer students an opportunity to talk about issues they find difficult to talk about at home.

The most recent program undertaken by MHA, Girls in Progress (GIP), was implemented through a partnership with the Newark City Schools Linkage Coordinator. Responding to a need for guidance for at-risk middle schoolgirls, GIP provides these vulnerable students with hope by encouraging them to aspire and achieve their goals. The objective is to create a change by addressing the roots of the problem of generational poverty through teaching the young girls various life skills, while also developing their leadership abilities. Although still early in its development, GIP is making an impact with these students. The Linkage Coordinator has observed improvement in the areas of self-esteem, attendance, behavior, and academics.

These are only three of the programs offered by MHA. Also available are Parent Support parenting classes, Youth Self-Advocacy for the developmentally delayed, and Bridges Out of Poverty including Getting Ahead classes, and Compeer, a social integration and wellness program for adults in recovery from mental illness. For a complete description of our programs and for more information on all of our events, please visit our website at [www.mhalc.org](http://www.mhalc.org).



## **Pathways of Central Ohio**

The 2-1-1/Crisis Hotline provides comprehensive information and referral services to children and families in Knox, Licking, Muskingum, Perry, and Morgan Counties. Referrals are made to assist families in accessing safety net services to meet their basic needs. Crisis services are available to children and families in Knox and Licking Counties. The 2-1-1/Crisis Hotline can be utilized to access the Mobile Urgent Treatment Team which serves ages 8-24. The 2-1-1/Crisis Hotline is also the safe school tip line for Newark City Schools. The 2-1-1/Crisis Hotline assisted 29,633 individuals, 540 of which were youth in 2014. The 2-1-1/Crisis Hotline was the recipient of the Cyril G. Ransopher Vision award from Mental Health and Recovery for Licking and Knox Counties in 2014.

The Pathways Center for Prevention Services (CPS) provides prevention services in regards to any mental, emotional or behavioral health concern (including substance use, bullying, violence, suicide, mental illness, etc.) to Licking County residents of all ages. Our highest population of consumers is middle and high school students. The CPS provided prevention programming/services to every school district in the county serving nearly 1900 person in FY 14, completed the installation of the seventh permanent prescription drug disposal bin in Licking County, 35 high school students participated in the Youth Leadership Council of Licking County, the highest number in Council history, and increased our programs/services to senior citizens with the WISE (Wellness Initiative for Senior Education) program.

Other important information such as referral sources, awards received by the program, plans for the coming year. There is always the potential decreased funding would reduce programming/services. Increased educational testing requirements impacts time allotted for evidence-based curricula to be delivered in the classroom.

The Professional Development Center for Early Learning (PDC) provides professional development, technical assistance and resources to early childhood professionals and child care facilities with the goal of improving the quality of care for children in preschools, child care centers, before and after school programs and family child care homes. The program is the primary provider of professional development for child care centers and family child care providers in Licking County. Professional development is offered as onsite training, workshops, Annual Pathways to Quality Conference or the Child Development Associate Credential (CDA). The PDC primarily services early childhood professionals from Licking County. However, professional development sessions are often attended by participants from surrounding counties. 1,501 individuals attended workshops or onsite training (460 hours); 251 participants attended the Annual Pathways to Quality Conference; 9 individuals completed the CDA program and earned their national credentials; 172 hours of technical assistance was provided.

The PDC collaborated with LCDJFS and Action for Children to support family child care providers in earning their Step Up to Quality ratings. To date, seven providers have earned ratings (4 are one star programs; 3 are two star programs). Funding to this program has been consistently reduced since 2008. This has led to a permanent reduction in staffing which stops the program from expanding to meet industry needs.

The Parent Education Center (PEC) provides Help Me Grow Home Visiting services, using the Parents as Teachers curriculum, for qualified families with expecting first-time mothers or first time parents with children 0-3 years of age. PEC also provides Active Parenting Now parent education classes to all families with children ranging in age from birth to 12 years. Lastly, PEC facilitates the Incredible Years Dina School curriculum, for all kindergarten classes at Ben Franklin Elementary and the Incredible Years Parent Program at Flying Colors Preschool. The PEC serves Licking County parents of children age 0-12 seeking parent education, including: parents of preschool children who have been identified with conduct disorders, teen parents, parents in AOD treatment/recovery seeking to improve healthy parenting behaviors, and parents of children age 0-5 seeking information on child development and basic support. 99% of parents surveyed reported post class that they are more likely to give children choices instead of telling them what to do as opposed to 65% pre-class (PECS). In addition, 98% of parents surveyed reported post class that they use logical consequences as compared to 73% pre-class (PECS).

# LICKING COUNTY CHILDREN & FAMILIES FIRST COUNCIL

## Thanks you!!

The Licking County Children and Families First Council wishes to express our gratitude to all council members for your work with children and families in Licking County. You have made 2014 a year of growth and increased opportunities for our children and families.

We are particularly thankful to Mental Health and Recovery for Licking and Knox Counties for their years of leadership and support of Our Futures in Licking County.

A special note of thanks goes to the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities for their years of leadership and service as the council's Administrative and Fiscal Agent.

A final note of thanks goes to Kathy McLeish for her years guiding, organizing and managing our Council.

## 2015 holds many exciting opportunities

Looking Ahead:

- New partnership with the State of Ohio's ENGAGE implementation project to expand high fidelity wraparound.
- As the State of Ohio focuses on services for youth transitioning to adulthood, new partnerships will be formed with adult-serving organizations and systems of care.
- Licking Memorial Health Systems assumes funding and support for Our Futures In Licking County, sustaining this important community initiative and creating new partnerships and opportunities.
- With LMH assuming funding for Triple P, Ohio Children's Trust Fund dollars are available to provide in-home parenting services for parents of children age 3 to kindergarten and those ineligible for Help Me Grow Services.



# Licking County Families and Children First

## Board Members

**Joe Ebel, Council President**

Health Commissioner  
Licking County Health Department

**Patrick Evans, Council Past President**

President and Chief Executive Officer  
Behavioral Healthcare Partners of Central Ohio

**Nelson McCray, Ph.D., Council Vice President**

Superintendent  
Licking County Educational Services Center

**Kristin McCloud, Council Treasurer**

Executive Director  
Pathways of Central Ohio

**Rick Black**, Licking County Commissioner

**David Edelblute**, Court Administrator, Licking County Juvenile/Probate Court

**John Fisher**, Director, Licking County Job and Family Services

**Nancy Neely**, Superintendent, Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities

**Kay Spergel**, Director, Mental Health & Recovery for Licking and Knox Counties

**Kim Wilhelm**, Director, Licking County Children Services

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