

Licking County Children and Families First Council



2015 Annual Report

Licking County Children and Families First Council

We are proud to present this 2015 Annual Report, highlighting the progress being made in our county to move our mission forward-- *Building our community's capacity, coordinating systems and services, and engaging and empowering families.*

Established in Ohio statute, Licking County Children and Families First Council (CFFC), functions to achieve results related to child and family well-being. CFFC is funded by contributions from Council members and grants. In-kind support increases our capacity to coordinate services for Licking County children and families. CFFC Priorities:

- Families are active participants in decision-making and service planning.
- Family treatment plans are based on the family's strengths
- Outcomes are evaluated to ensure our families receive effective, high quality services.
- The community partners collaborate to identify, prioritize and implement needed services; build capacity; align programming; eliminate redundancy and coordinate services for youth and families

CFFC services include Family Centered Support Services (Clinical Committee, Community Support Teaming and ENGAGE) as well as oversight for the Ohio Children's Trust Fund and Help Me Grow Central Coordination and Early Invention Services. Any Licking County family with a child age birth - 21 years, in need of a coordinated interdisciplinary plan to address their unique needs, is eligible for these services.

2015

- CFFC Administrative Agent, Job & Family Services, and CFFC Coordinator completed their first year of service.
- Pathways awarded Children's Trust Fund dollars, through a competitive RFP process, to provide *Parents as Teachers* for parents of children age 3 to kindergarten and those ineligible for Help Me Grow Services.
- CFFC joined 2nd cohort of Ohio's ENGAGE initiative. Four providers trained to provide facilitation services.
- Increase in CFFC meeting participation from families, Licking Memorial Hospital, schools and others.
- CFFC completed 10 years of administrative oversight for *Our Futures in Licking County*, which began with a SAMHSA grant to reduce the use/abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs by youth and adults. Mental Health and Recovery for Licking and Knox Counties has provided leadership for *Our Futures* since its inception.

Looking ahead

- Our Futures continues with support from Licking Memorial Health Systems and Mental Health and Recovery for Licking and Knox Counties.
- CFFC Members are invited to participate in the development of the 2017-2019 Shared Plan that will establish our service priorities, fill service gaps where possible, and identify approaches to achieve better results for families and children.
- Participation in the ENGAGE project will provide opportunities for training, learning from other ENGAGE Communities and partnerships with adult-serving systems/providers to better serve youth/young adults.
- As the Ohio Children's Trust Fund moves direction and planning from a county to regional level, CFFC will have the opportunity to form partnerships and advocate for Licking County families on a regional level.
- Help Me Grow Central Coordination service provider changes affords an opportunity to publicize this service.

Board Members

Joe Ebel, **Council President**, Health Commissioner, Licking County Health Department

Patrick Evans, **Council Past President**, President and CEO, Behavioral Healthcare Partners of Central Ohio

Kristin McCloud, **Council Vice President**, Executive Director, Pathways of Central Ohio

Kim Wilhelm, **Council Treasurer**, Protective Services Administrator, Licking County Job and Family Services

Rick Black, Licking County Commissioner

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

John Fisher, Director, Licking County Job and Family Services

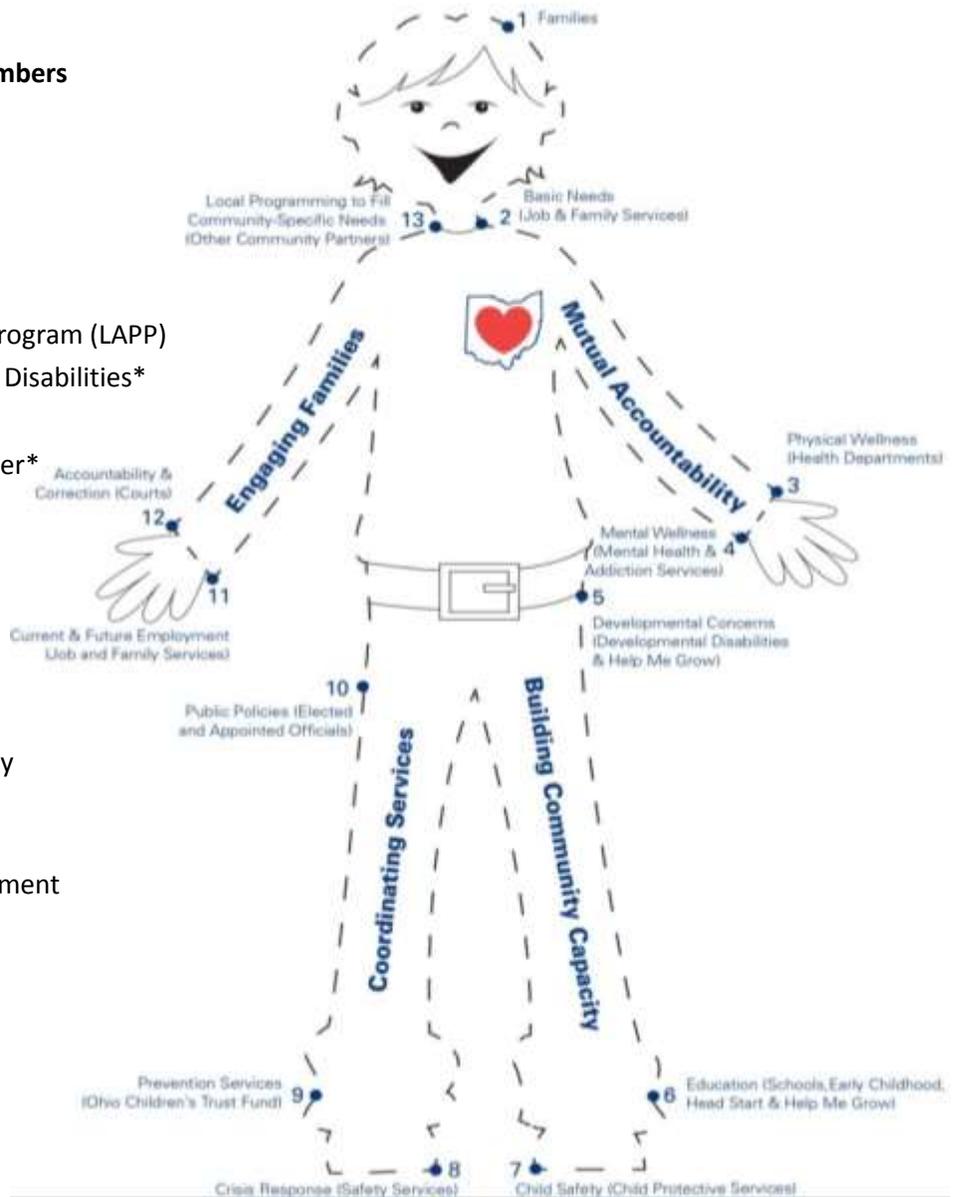
Kay Spergel, Director, Mental Health & Recovery for Licking and Knox Counties

Jason Umstot, Superintendent, Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities

This report highlights services provided by the Children and Families First Council, CFFC administered services, mandated member* services and partner member services—connecting the dots to improve outcomes for Licking County children and families

Children and Families First Council Members

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



Family Representatives are a voice for the children and families who utilize CFFC and partner agency services and are active in CFFC decision making, goal setting and service evaluation. CFFC is fortunate that our family representatives are advocates for children and families in other ways as well:

Mike & Dorothy Moorhead, who are parents/foster parents, have 15 years of experience successfully working with families on reunification and re-establishing their broken bonds. Their Close to Home Supervised Visitation Center provides a safe, relaxed and friendly environment to assure that children can have safe visits with their non-custodial parent- closetohomesupervisedvisitation.com.

Starla Doty and Karen Dickerson, both parents and grandparents, are group leaders for the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren support group, which meets at the New Hope Lutheran Church, 1137 Sharon Valley Rd. in Newark on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 10:30am.



Licking County Children and Families First Council's Family Centered Support Services

Family Centered Support Services provide supports and services to achieve the best outcomes for Licking County families, children and youth/young adults (YYA) ages 0 through 21, whose needs cannot be adequately addressed through traditional agency systems. Families with children experiencing multiple needs or involved with multiple child-serving agencies are eligible for services. Planning and services focus on the strengths of the family/child/YYA and utilize agency collaboration and community services that are both responsive to the needs of the family/child/YYA and are cost effective.

Clinical Committee is a collaborative group of representatives from child-serving agencies which provides family-centered, strengths-based service coordination to families. The committee may also authorize funds for services and supports that promote healthy families. Clinical Committee members include:

Behavioral Healthcare Partners of Central Ohio, Inc.
LAPP

*Licking Co. Board of Developmental Disabilities
Licking Co. Health Department

Licking Co. Educational Service Center

*Licking Co. Job & Family Services- Children Services

*Licking Co. Juvenile Court

Newark City Schools

* Mental Health & Recovery for Licking/Knox Counties

Parent Mentor

The Village Network

The Woodlands

*Denotes member is also a contributor to the County's Pooled Funds. Additional funders include Ohio Dept. of Mental Health and Addiction Services and family contributions as determined by using a sliding fee scale.

In SFY 15, 60 families with 69 children were served. 60% of youth served were age 14-18, and 40% were age 10-13. The most frequently used services/ supports were respite (including camp) - 40, and social/ recreational supports (primarily YMCA memberships which allow for a lower camp rate) - 38.

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 44 youth involved in CST during SFY 2015, 95% were maintained in their home or a relative's home. Of those youth requiring placement, 100% were placed in the least restrictive environment based on their needs. 27 cases closed during the year. Two cases were closed when the family moved out of county and 2 had parents who chose not to continue using CST. Of the remaining youth, 78% exhibited improvement in functioning with services in place. Six youth were referred to CST while they were in out-of-home placement, and of these, 4 youth returned home. 2 remained in Children Services Custody and in treatment facilities.

ENGAGE - In 2015, Licking County joined the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and Ohio Family & Children First ENGAGE (**E**ngaging the **N**ew **G**eneration to **A**chieve their **G**oals through **E**mpowerment) Initiative. ENGAGE uses high-fidelity wraparound to support the successful transition to adulthood of Ohio's youth and young adults (YYA), ages 14-21, with mental health challenges, co-occurring disorders, and multisystem needs. ENGAGE values individualized, family-driven, and youth-guided interventions; community-based, coordinated, collaborative care across all involved systems; and culturally and linguistically competent and respectful care.



Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities helps people with developmental disabilities to discover, pursue and achieve what is important to them. Services are provided from birth through adulthood, and include Help Me Grow programs.



CENTRAL COORINATION & EARLY INTERVENTION

The Licking County Help Me Grow (HMG) Early Intervention (EI) program is implemented by the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities. EI services include service coordination and evaluations and assessments for children from birth to age three who are at risk for, or have developmental delays. Children who are found eligible for EI services are linked with resources and providers to meet their specific needs. The majority of these children/families also receive evidence-based services provided in natural environments from the Licking County Board of DD's Early Childhood Team which includes: developmental specialists, an occupational therapist, a physical therapist and a speech therapist.

Goals of Ohio HMG Early Intervention

- Enhance development of children with disabilities
- Reduce educational costs by minimizing need for special education
- Minimize likelihood of institutionalization and maximize independent living
- Enhance capacity of families to meet their child's developmental needs

Key Data – Early Intervention

- 282 children received ongoing early intervention services
- The majority of referrals were made by parents, family members and medical professionals. 63 referrals were made by Children's Services for cases of substantiated abuse or neglect, down from 86 in 2014
- 99% of children made progress and/or met outcomes on their Individual Family Service Plan
- 100% of families who completed our exit survey felt more competent in helping their child learn and grow
- 75% of exits prior to age 3 occurred because children were caught up developmentally or parents felt confident enough to address developmental needs on their own without the continued support of our program

In 2015, rule changes and a new Individualized Family Service Plan were implemented statewide, and we added two new Service Coordinators to our Licking County EI team. In 2016, we will continue to support children with developmental delays, and their families, by providing evaluations, assessments and service coordination.

Central Coordination: Referrals

- 512 referrals received by Central Intake
- 358 referrals were forwarded to the early intervention provider, LCBDD
- 34 referrals were forwarded to a Home Visiting provider: Pathways' Parent Education Center, or CareStar

Promotion, Outreach and Child Find

- Developed HMG commercial which aired on FOX news, CNN and TLC a total of 700 times
- Mailed an informational letter to 130 area physicians
- Delivered presentations to all Licking County pediatric practices, 5 OBGYN practices, WIC, Licking County Cares About Kids, Early Head Start and Licking County high school counselors
- Set up informational booths at community events such as Sprouts Day Out, Infant Health Fair, Flying Colors' Parent Resource Fair and Newark City Schools' Child Find
- Flyers sent to 160 referral sources including: social service agencies, child care providers and child care centers
- Distributed brochures to all new moms through LMH Maternity Department
- Distributed a welcome gift to 10 new Home Visiting referrals who enrolled and participated in at least one visit

www.lcountydd.org

Administration Offices
116 N. 22nd Street
Newark, Ohio 43055
740-349-6588 Main
800-325-2848 Toll-Free
740-344-2787 Fax

Early Childhood
116 N. 22nd Street
Newark, Ohio 43055
740-349-6588 Main
800-325-2848 Toll-Free
740-344-2787 Fax

Employment Supports
116 N. 22nd Street
Newark, Ohio 43055
740-349-6588 Main
800-325-2848 Toll-Free
740-344-2787 Fax

Service Coordination
565 Industrial Parkway
Heath, Ohio 43056
740-349-1420 Main
800-325-2848 Toll-Free
740-349-1426 Fax

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



(740)349-6535
(740)349-6474 WIC
(740)349-6475 Environmental
(740)349-6476 Nursing
(740)349-6510 FAX
www.lickingcohealth.org

Licking County Health Department

675 Price Road

Newark, OH 43055

Licking County Health Department Child & Family Health Services

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 2015, there were 1,144 clients 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 medical needs. A total of 693 children were served in 2015.

Early Head Start Program: This program provides home visitors to work with low income 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 2015, there were 2,117 home visits that took place.

Dental Sealants: This program provides free dental screenings, oral health education, and dental sealants to 2nd, 3rd, 6th, and 7th grade students in income qualifying districts. Sealants seal the tops of molars, reducing the risk of cavities. This past year the dental team applied 1,641 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 2015, a total of 1,277 children received immunizations.

STD/Sexual Health Clinic: STD and HIV testing and education is provided on a weekly basis by appointment. In 2015, a total of 349 people were served. Of this number, 27 were children.

Pack and Play Program: A program sponsored by the Perry County Health Department to decrease infant mortality has enabled the At Risk Pregnancy Program nurses in 2015, to distribute 18 free Pack and Plays to families who did not have a safe place for their infant to sleep. These nurses discuss safe sleep issues with all families with an infant in the home.

Car Seat Program: Child Passenger Safety Technicians install and inspect car seats for families. They also provide car seats for qualified, low-income families who attend a class on car seat safety. In 2015, twenty-three classes were held. A total of 134 car seats were distributed and 78 car seats were inspected.



Additional mandated Children and Families First Council Partners include:

Licking County Juvenile/Probate Court- Hears cases of alleged delinquency, unruliness, juvenile traffic offenders; juvenile tobacco offenders; alleged child abuse, neglect and dependency; private complaints for custody; and certain adult criminal cases (misdemeanors) when the victim is a minor. Facilitates interventions for court involved families.

Licking County Commissioners- Overall responsibility for County governmental services, including Job and Family Services and Child Support and Enforcement Agency; as well as county finances and taxation.

Licking County Educational Services Center- Provides leadership and services to Licking County Schools to enhance and improve the quality of educational experiences for children. **ESC's Flying Colors Preschool**, for children age 3 to 6, gives children an academic and social advantage for success in school and in life. Services include Intervention Classrooms for children with special needs and disabilities; Child Find and Comprehensive Evaluation; Workshops, Resources and Support for Professionals and Parents.

Reviewing the accomplishments of 2015 and the opportunities for 2016

Children Services: Parental drug use continues to be a major factor generating reports of abused/neglected children. In August 2015, the agency had 97 children ages birth to 3 in care in which 80 parents had addiction issues (30 with opiate addictions). Also in August, 20 infants were in custody who were prenatally exposed to drugs and born with dependence/withdrawal issues. One month in 2015, the total number of children in care reached 437! A “one time”

Child Welfare Innovation Grant made a significant impact on the abused/neglected children and families:

- ✓ Completed 73 adoption placements and 68 adoption finalizations (our most ever!)
- ✓ Expanded AOD services provided by BHP
- ✓ Re-established Family Team meetings
- ✓ Provided assistance with legal fees for kinship providers
- ✓ Obtained pediatric nursing services to assist with adoption summaries and help monitoring medication for children in care



Provided training to staff, foster parents and community partners on care & comfort for infants born drug addicted. Given the focus on increased services to strengthen/reunify families and expediting the adoption process for children in permanent custody, we were successful in safely reducing the number of children in Foster Care. On Dec. 31, 2015, there were 347 children in care (39 less than a year ago). Through the dedicated efforts of staff focusing on the safety of children, we will continue efforts to protect children and maintain and/or reunify families. We expect the time a child is in Foster Care will continue to be reduced by enabling safe and timely reunifications with families through the expansion of the AOD services, ongoing dialog with the Community Mental Health & Recovery Board, and agency reorganization to increase the number of Children Services Social Workers.

Families Helping Families: helped serve 640 children with assistance this Christmas season!

Comprehensive Case Management & Employment Program (CCMEP): Effective July 1, 2016, the WIOA Youth Program and designated TANF resources will be dedicated to serve young adults ages 16-24. The agency started laying its foundation for service delivery by enhancing PRC for Employment & Training Services, initially involving the community and seeking input through the JFS Planning Committee. CCMEP will allow our agency to be more holistic and pro-active in the delivery of Employment and Training Services and create new opportunities for our young adults customers. CCMEP will also provide opportunities for older foster children who are preparing to emancipate from services.

Services benefitting families: Ohio Benefits/Medicaid, Workforce Development/Ohio Means Jobs Licking County:

- ✓ Over 36,000+ Licking Countians are enrolled in Medicaid.
- ✓ 18,415 visits to OMJ by 6,726 unduplicated visitors. 2,878 of these visitors were new to Ohio Means Jobs (OMJ)
- ✓ 780 individual OMJ orientations to workforce services
- ✓ 132 employer recruitments were held
- ✓ 47 new On-the-Job (OJT) training opportunities with private employers
- ✓ 583 Ohio Works First (OWF) individuals assessed
- ✓ 668 Food Assistance individuals assessed
- ✓ 1,042 families applied for PRC Work Support Services



Additional Mandated Children and Families First Council Partners include:

Mental Health and Recovery for Licking and Knox Counties- Ensures quality treatment, prevention and education for county residents and their families coping with behavioral health challenges through contracting with behavioral health providers; and in cooperation with other local systems and citizens. Mental Health First Aid training is provided in partnership with Mental Health America.

Newark City*- The County seat and municipality with the largest population in Licking County. The Adult Probation Department represents the City of Newark on Council.

Newark City Schools* - Largest county school district with 7 elementary, 3 middle and 1 high school.

Ohio Department of Youth Services (DYS) - Ohio’s juvenile corrections system for youth ages 10 to 21. While with DHS, youth are engaged in programming to address criminological, behavioral, schooling and vocation issues. DHS supports community programs ranging from prevention and diversion to residential and community treatment.

Council Members connect the dots to improve outcomes for Licking County children and families

Licking Memorial Health Systems' Services to Infants and Children – 2015

Infants - 1,091 babies were born at Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH) in 2015.

Medical Services

- Lactation Clinic – free education and assistance from a certified lactation consultant to 30 outpatients in 2015
- Suboxone Clinic – free Suboxone therapy to 12 pregnant moms in 2015 to decrease the impact of abused drugs on newborns
- Level II Special Care Nursery services – staffed by two board-certified pediatric hospitalists
- Private Maternity suites – with staff support for breastfeeding and newborn care
- Home visits – 114 visits by certified nurse practitioner to first-time and/or teenage mothers in new program that began in April

Education

- Healthy Baby Initiative – launched in 2014 to increase community education and staff training
- First Impression classes – 1,046 registrations in 2015 for education on Maternity services, newborn care, and breastfeeding
- Publications – Quality Report Card on Maternity Care, and Community Connection stories
- Breastfeeding Support Group – 15 participants in 2015

Programs and Events

- Breastfeeding Promotion & Support Program – 289 free breast pumps to qualifying mothers in 2015
- Quit for You, Quit for Your Baby – free tobacco cessation services to expectant mothers
- Baby Expo – free annual event with maternity education, vendor information and prizes
- Coming in 2016 – first annual LMH Special Care Nursery Reunion
- Car seat donations – 9 car seats provided to indigent new parents in 2015



Children and Youth

Medical Services

- Pediatrics practices – 35,619 patient encounters in 2015, with an outstanding record of immunizations
- Additional physician practices – including new Allergy and Orthopedic Surgery offices
- LMH 4-South – Hospital care to 100 pediatric inpatients in 2015
- Kids Place – medical evaluation/victim advocacy to 224 children suspected to be victims of abuse, sexual abuse or neglect in 2015
- Licking Memorial Dental Clinic for Children – reduced-cost dental services provided by Drs. Wing, Mack and Smith
- Emergency Department gifts – toys and games given to children as a comfort measure
- Heart to Play – free sports pre-participation screenings, concussion screenings and EKGs to middle and high school students

Education

- Summer camps – three one-day camps for children with asthma, diabetes or close family member with cancer
- Coming in 2016 – Camp Med, an opportunity for students with healthcare aspirations to explore various fields
- Sibling Preparation class – education for 45 young children in 2015 about new baby's arrival in the family

Programs and Events

- Active•Fit Program – a healthy lifestyles initiative for 6 to 12-year-old youth that offers free year-round activities
- Safe Sitter classes – 13 sessions conducted in 2015
- Reach Out and Read – books given to Licking Memorial Pediatrics patients

Families

Services

- Pharmacy services for indigent patients

Education

- Betsy Eaton O'Neill Health Resource Center – health information and visual aids

Programs and Events

- Walk with a Doc events
- For Your Health 5K – attended by nearly 1,400 participants of all ages
- Family Movie Nights



Community Support

- Donation drives by LMHS staff – Salvation Army, The Center for New Beginnings, Operation Feed
- Licking Park District – staffing for levy committee and levy campaign marketing
- Licking County Health Department – provided space and advertising for the Infant Health Fair and 6 cribs to promote safe sleep
- Sports team sponsorships – donations to teams and assistance with pay-to-play fees for needy students
- Cardiovascular equipment donation to schools – 15 high schools using equipment that LMHS donated in 2013
- Hartford Fair steer purchase – meat donated to Salvation Army
- Our Futures in Licking County – financial support and marketing for school-based program
- Camp Enterprise – staffing support
- Licking County Library – staffing for levy committee and levy campaign marketing



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 assist families in accessing safety net services to meet their basic needs. The 2-1-1/Crisis Hotline can be utilized to access Crisis services for children and families in Knox and Licking Counties; the Mobile Urgent Treatment Team, which serves ages 8-24; and the safe school tip line for Newark City Schools. In 2015, the 2-1-1/Crisis Hotline assisted 34,935 individuals, 630 of which were youth.

The Pathways Center for Prevention Services (CPS) provides prevention services in regards to any mental, emotional or behavioral health concern (substance use, bullying, violence, suicide, mental illness, etc.) to Licking County residents of all ages. Our highest population served is middle and high school students. CPS served every school district in the county, serving 3127 youth in FY 15. In the Spring of 2015, 57 high school students were selected to join the Youth Leadership Council of Licking County, the highest number in Council history. Bobby Persinger, CPS Program Director, received the Cyril G. Ransopher Vision award from Mental Health and Recovery for Licking and Knox Counties in 2015.

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. In FY 15, 1301 individuals attended workshops or onsite training (512 hours), 265 participants attended the Annual Pathways to Quality Conference, and 12 individuals earned their national Child Development Associate Credential.

The Parent Education Center (PEC) served 317 parents and 196 children in FY 15 with services for parents of children age 0-12, including: parents of preschool children who have been identified with conduct disorders, teen parents, parents in AOD treatment/recovery, and parents of children age 0-5 seeking information on child development and basic support. The 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. Parents as Teachers is also utilized for families served under the **Ohio Children's Trust Fund** grant through the LCCFFC. The PEC provides Active Parenting Now classes to families with children age birth to 12 years; facilitates Incredible Years Dina School, for kindergarten classes at Ben Franklin Elementary and Incredible Years Parent Program, also at Ben Franklin.



How has Mental Health America of Licking County (MHA) benefitted Licking County children and families during 2015 and how will we serve families in 2016? Let us count the ways...

MHALC operates seven programs in Licking County. Five of these programs work with children and families specifically.

Parent Support works with families whose children are in placement or are in danger of being placed in foster care, providing evidence-based educational programs to address parenting topics such as discipline and communication. Parent Support is adding classes at Flying Colors Preschool in early 2016 to its lineup at MHA and Salvation Army.

Bridges Out of Poverty (BOP) has seen enormous success in 2015, with special recognition by the Ohio State Treasurers office "for its outstanding commitment to advancing financial literacy education". BOP is an integral part of the collaboration with Ohio Means Jobs and United Way in "Buses for Hope" which transports Licking Countians, without vehicles or driver's licenses, to work at the New Albany Beauty Park. BOP's Getting Ahead classes provide individuals and families with skill-building strategies for moving out of poverty, including communication skills, job preparation, financial literacy and reaching goals. Getting Ahead classes are held in three modules at the Licking County Justice Center, at treatment centers, churches and at MHA's office, providing support as people work to get out of poverty.

Girls in Progress mentoring and empowerment program for girls in three middle schools, has seen enormous growth in girls who express themselves through art journaling while exploring topics including body image and safe relationships.

The **Suicide Prevention** program, presenting Signs of Suicide to middle and high school students, added three schools in 2015 for a total of fourteen Licking County schools. This training teaches youth how to recognize signs and symptoms of someone who may be in danger of taking his or her life and resources available to help prevent such a tragedy.

Youth Engaged in Service (YES) is a youth development program, providing protective factors to nearly 500 students annually. This afterschool and summer program inspires participants to be good decision makers and give back to their community. YES Club saw the successful completion of the YES for Solar project with solar panels installed in late 2015.

For a complete description of MHA's programs or for information on our events, please visit www.mhalc.org.



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Licking/Perry Counties

Our 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 2015, a total of 645 matches were supported by BBBSLP within both, our Community-Based and School-Based Mentoring Programs. 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. Mentoring takes place at locations throughout Licking or Perry County and Central Ohio. In 2015, 91 matches were served in the CB Program; the average match length was 21 months.

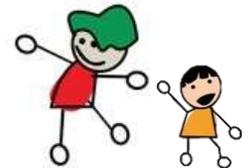
Through our SB Program, the Littles are elementary or middle school students. SB Bigs meet weekly with their Littles exclusively at the student's school, with BBBSLP staff present during these programs. SB programs emphasize on three core outcomes such as attitudes & competencies, avoidance/reduced risky behaviors and educational achievement. 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 2015, 554 matches were served across 10 Licking County schools and 1 Perry County school, with an average match length of 12 months.

BBBSLP currently serves children between the ages of six and 18 who attend partner schools in Licking & 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 80% of CB Littles are being raised by relatives, in foster care, or live in a single-parent household. Our SB program partners are school districts with lower graduation rates and schools in low-income areas.

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.

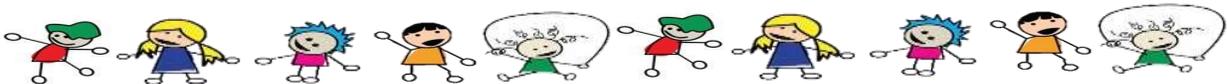
Accomplishments of BBBSLP during 2015:

- Number of matches served increased to 645; for the second year in a row, BBBSLP increased the number of matches served, while the national average among BBBS agencies decreased
- Ranked #1 in the Midwest Region - Small/Mid-size Agency Category among BBBS agencies for serving the most matches relative to budget size
- Over 200 Denison University students volunteering as a Big this year, highest amount ever from the University
- Hosted 3 BLT's (Big/Little Trainings) for our Community-Based matches. Trainings were on communicating more effectively with your Little, child safety and how to help your Little academically



Awards received: BBBSLP was a recipient of the Building a Healthier Community Award.

Plans for 2016: Supporting the need for children to successfully transition from one grade to the next, ultimately achieving graduation. In 2016, this will include expansion to additional grades at current schools and a new partnership with a second Perry County school district.



Additional Council Members include:

Behavioral Healthcare Partners of Central Ohio, Inc. - A private, not-for-profit behavioral healthcare organization that provides integrated mental health and addiction treatment services for youth, adults and families.

Family Health Services- Providing and assuring access to voluntary, comprehensive and culturally sensitive family planning and reproductive health care services.

LEADS Head Start- Provides a quality development program for income eligible children ages 3 through 5, and educational, medical, social service, and parent involvement opportunities. **Early Head Start** is a community-based program for income eligible families with infants, toddlers and pregnant women that promotes healthy prenatal outcomes, enhances the development of very young children, and promotes healthy family functioning.



The Woodlands Serving Central Ohio, Inc.
195 Union Street, Suite B-1
Newark Ohio, 43055

The Woodlands **Outpatient Department** skilled mental health services address a variety of challenges.

Mental Health Therapeutic Services

- Mental health therapy for individuals ages 5 and up, couples, and families provided by Licensed Social Workers.
- Group Therapy Services-- Current Therapeutic Groups include: RISE a weekly women's trauma group and the mental health NOS group, which assists individuals struggling with depression and anxiety.
- Our therapists are trained in several types of evidence based therapy models including, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Motivational Therapy, and Strength Based Therapy.
- Our therapists are also trained in Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), an innovative evidence based practice model specifically for trauma treatment that reduces the long-lasting effects of distressing memories by developing more adaptive coping mechanisms.

Psychiatric Services

- Psychiatric medication management services provided by John Bova, a Certified Nurse Practitioner, for individuals ages 14 and up
- Genetic testing is also performed on site. This state of the art service allows for effective determination of which medications will work best with your personal body chemistry

The Center for New Beginnings Shelter and Services provides free, confidential emergency shelter and services to community members who are victims of a domestic violence situation. In addition to providing the basic needs of food and shelter, our staff provides comprehensive services and support to our residents. These include:

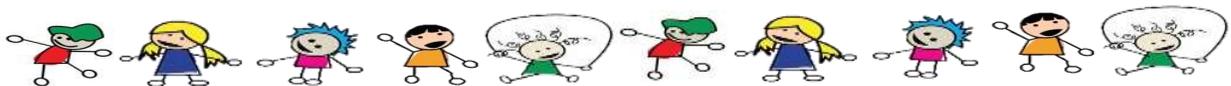
- Case Management
- Victim Advocacy
- Child Advocacy
- Wellness Education
- Parenting Support
- Individual and Group Trauma Therapy

Community based services also provided:

- A 24-hour crisis phone line is available for community members who may have questions or concerns about domestic violence, and for those who are in immediate danger and in search of a safe home for themselves and their children. Please call 1-800-686-2760
- Assistance with Civil Protection and Stalking Orders.
- Weekly Domestic Violence Support Group for residents at New Beginnings and community members.

The Woodlands **Outreach Department** provides educational programs to develop knowledge and skills in specific areas for adults, youth and families.

- Anger Management: A 12-week evidence based program, designed for wishing to improve their ability to manage anger. Course materials based on Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration model.
- Ending Violence In One Life While Validating Emotions (EVOLVE): A 12 week group for individuals having a history of, or at risk to commit domestic violence. Moral Reconciliation Therapy techniques used.
- Helping Children Succeed After Divorce: This seminar, created by The Woodlands in conjunction with Nationwide Children's Hospital curriculum, focuses on positive co-parenting for those going through divorce.
- Expect Respect: School-based dating violence prevention and education promotes healthy teen dating.



Additional Council Members include:

Licking County Alcoholism Prevention Program (LAPP) - Provides community education and abstinence-based treatment for individuals and families experiencing alcohol and drug-related problems.

Licking County Family YMCA activities and programs focus on youth development, improving family relationships, social responsibility, community participation, healthy living and improving physical and mental fitness.

United Way of Licking County- Unites the community to improve people's lives and ensures that residents achieve their full potential.

Thank you!

Licking County Commissioners for your ongoing support and commitment to Council.

Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities-- For years of leadership providing Help Me Grow Central Coordination and Early Intervention Services.

Licking Memorial Health Systems-- For assuring the continuation of Our Futures in Licking County.

Mental Health and Recovery for Licking and Knox Counties-- For years of leadership establishing a strong foundation for Our Futures in Licking County.

Nancy Neely, former Superintendent of the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities-- For your unceasing, enthusiastic support of CFFC. Best wishes in your retirement!

All Council members -- For your work and dedication to providing exceptional services to children and families in Licking County. You have enriched lives and provided opportunities for our children and families.



Licking County Children and Families First Staff

Sylvia Friel, Council Coordinator
Debra Tehrani, Clinical Systems Service Director

Administrative office:
C/o Licking County JFS
74 South 2nd Street, P.O. Box 5030
Newark, Ohio 43058
(740) 670-8844
www.lcfamilies.org

You are invited to attend our 2016 CFFC meetings.
Meetings are held at 1:30pm at the Licking County Health Department:

February 3, 2016

April 6, 2016

June 1, 2016

August 3, 2016

October 5, 2016

December 7, 2016

