

# Ohio's Children's Cabinet



# Historical Context



# Historical Context

## State Structure:

- Established Ohio Family & Children First Cabinet Council in 1991
- Codified in Ohio Revised Code in 1993
- Governor serves as chairperson or his/her designee

## ➤ 11 Cabinet Agencies:

Aging, Developmental Disabilities, Education, Health, Job and Family Services, Medicaid, Mental Health and Addiction Services, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities, Rehabilitation and Corrections, Youth Services, and the Office of Budget Management

# Historical Context

## Local Structure:

- Codified County Family and Children First Councils
- County Commissioners serve as chairpersons or their designee

## ➤ Local Members:

- County agencies serving children & families plus 2 school districts, 3 family representatives, early childhood agency, private providers/non-profits

# Importance of Formalized Cross-Agency Bodies



# Ohio Family and Children First

## Overall Purpose:

- Streamline and coordinate government services for families needing help for their children.

## Key Roles:

1. Improve the coordination of services, policies and funding for children and families across state agencies
2. Increase child well-being and measure progress
3. Respond to the needs of county FCFCs

# Ohio Family and Children First

## Key Roles

1. Improve the coordination of services, policies and funding for children and families across state agencies

## Examples Over the Years:

- Early childhood
- Youth transitioning to adulthood / Ready by 21
- Autism
- Connecting with families

# Ohio Family and Children First

## Key Roles:

2. Increase child well-being and measure progress

## Examples Over the Years:

- Launched an initiative to build county FCFC's capacity to address well-being issues
- Created a state level dashboard to track indicators under 6 main child well-being goals
- Shared Planning Model for county FCFCs



# Ohio Family and Children First

## Key Roles:

3. Respond to the needs of county FCFCs

## Examples Over the Years:

- Assisted with referrals from FCFCs for services, funding, and other needs
- Formalized the county service coordination model with support to elevate to High Fidelity Wraparound

# Achieving Cross-Collaborative Goals



## Today's Perspective

### Children Services' connection with cross-system issues:

- Multi-System Youth
- Family First Prevention Services Act
- Transitioning to adulthood
- Early childhood
- Juvenile Justice crossover
- Children's Continuum (System) of Care

## Ohio's Multi-System Youth Definition

- A youth with significant mental health, addiction and/or developmental delays who is involved or at risk of being involved with child protection and/or juvenile justice....
- Who...are not accessing the right services or supports to remain stable and in their own home....
- Who...have a high risk of poor outcomes – education, health, employment, criminality

# Those in Custody with Multi-System Needs

Majority of youth in custody are there for reasons other than abuse and neglect

Reports Screened-in to PCSAs

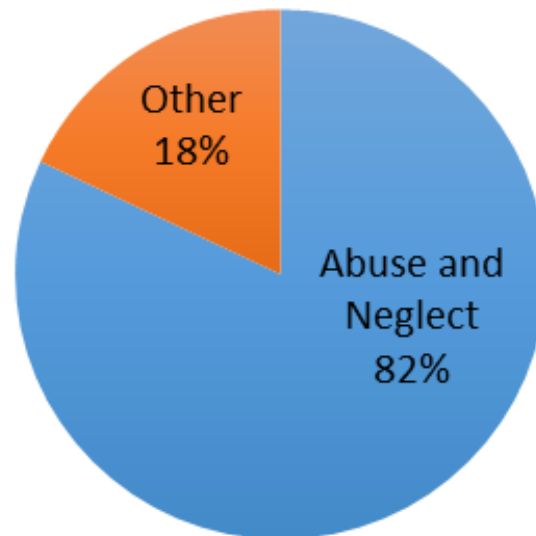


Figure 1: SFY 2018

Reason for Children In PCSA Custody

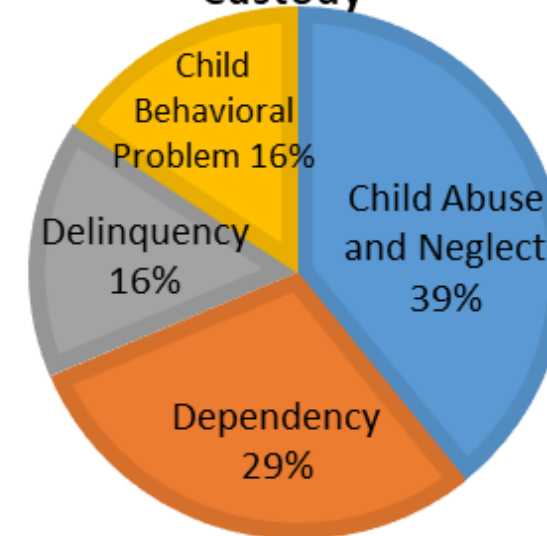


Figure 2: For children in custody on 7/1/18

Source: PCSAO Factbook 14th Edition

# Why Custody Relinquishment?

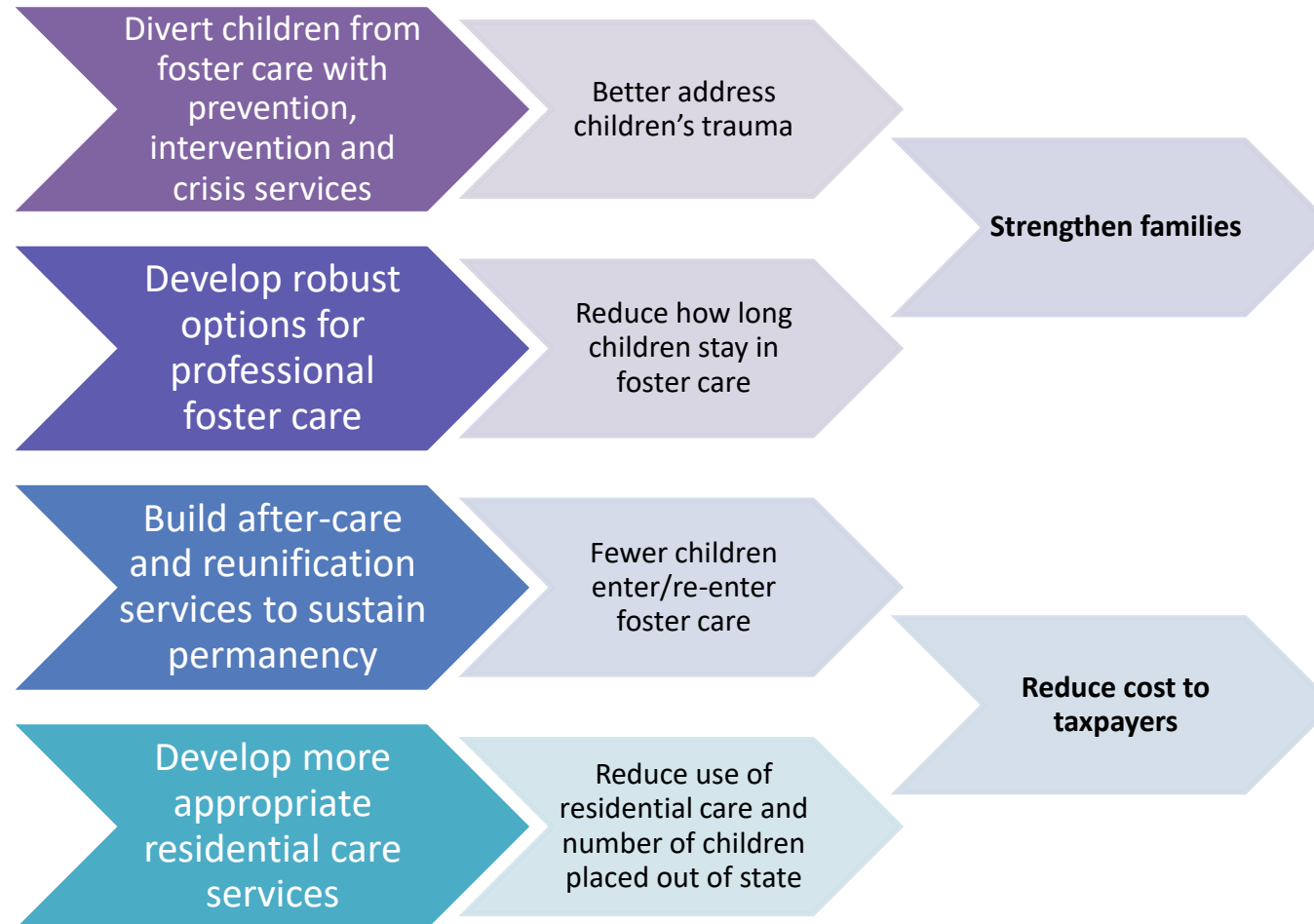


**Not our  
Youth**



**Belongs to  
You**

# PCSAO's Children's Continuum of Care



<http://www.pcsao.org/public-policy/continuum-reform>

# Contact for More Information

Angela Sausser, Executive Director  
614.224.5802; [angela@pcsao.org](mailto:angela@pcsao.org)  
[www.pcsao.org](http://www.pcsao.org)



@PCSAOhio



PCSAO

