Ohio’s Children’s Cabinet
Historical Context
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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
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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
- Abuse and Neglect: 82%
- Other: 18%

Reason for Children In PCSA Custody
- Child Abuse and Neglect: 39%
- Dependency: 29%
- Delinquency: 16%
- Child Behavioral Problem: 16%

Figure 1: SFY 2018
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

Divert children from foster care with prevention, intervention and crisis services

Better address children’s trauma

Develop robust options for professional foster care

Reduce how long children stay in foster care

Build after-care and reunification services to sustain permanency

Fewer children enter/re-enter foster care

Develop more appropriate residential care services

Reduce use of residential care and number of children placed out of state

Strengthen families

Reduce cost to taxpayers

Fewer children enter/re-enter foster care

Reduce use of residential care and number of children placed out of state

Contact for More Information

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