

## **Family & Children First Council**

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Ottawa County FCFC operates under the Board of County Commissioners per ORC Section 121.37

**VISION:** That every child in Ottawa County feel safe and secure within a stable family.

**MISSION:** Serve as an agent of collaboration for all public and private agencies willing to participate as partners in the effort to help families stay together. Partnerships will be developed as necessary to meet the multiple needs of our children and their families.

Family & Children First Council started as an initiative of the Governor's office in 1991, and has been in statute since 1993. Every county in Ohio has a Family and Children First Council. Each Council includes public and private agencies as well as family representatives. Council members work collaboratively to enhance the well-being of their county's youth and families.

Ottawa County Family and Children First Council's (FCFC) membership includes approximately 25 agencies. Together, and through their Shared Plan, the Ottawa County FCFC works to identify and address the ongoing needs of children and families through planning, implementing effective strategies, monitoring and reporting, and evaluating progress toward achieving desired outcomes.

## Ottawa County Family & Children First Council Shared Plan for State Fiscal Years 2023-2025

**Current FCFC Initiatives**: High Fidelity Wraparound and Service Coordination, Ottawa County Community Day, Handle with Care, Ottawa County Prevention Coalition, Strong Families Safe Communities (6 county initiative)

Shared Priorities	Shared Outcomes	Shared Measurement	Mutually Reinforcing Activities
1. Enhanced Service Coordination (required)	Increased awareness and utilization of services and the development of a robust wraparound process that leads families to improved family functioning	<ul> <li>Number of youth engaged in FCFC High Fidelity         Wraparound Service, Service         Coordination and OhioRISE</li> <li>Percent of youth engaged in FCFC High Fidelity         Wraparound Service, Service Coordination and OhioRISE remaining in home</li> <li>Number of Youth in Early Intervention</li> <li>Number of kinship vs. placement by OCDJFS</li> <li>Percent of Ottawa County Children in Poverty</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Build and maintain relationship with OhioRISE partners to define a continuum of care for Ottawa County to ensure seamless support for youth and families</li> <li>Participate in Cross Agency Network meeting with local school district personnel to raise awareness of FCFC and its services</li> <li>Host parent training and relationship building event</li> </ul>

Shared Priorities	Shared Outcomes	Shared Measurement	Mutually Reinforcing Activities
2. Prevent children's exposure to trauma and violence, mitigate negative affects experienced by children's exposure to trauma and increase knowledge and awareness of this issue	Ensure children who are exposed to adverse events receive appropriate interventions at school and have opportunities to build resilience through positive relationships with teachers and first responders	<ul> <li>Number of law enforcement jurisdictions participating</li> <li>Number of school districts participating</li> <li>Number of daycares participating</li> <li>Number of Handle With Care Alerts received by district/school/daycare</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Continue implementation of Handle with Care Model in County</li> <li>Handle with Care process defined to Ottawa County Schools, First Responders, daycares, early childhood providers and mental health providers</li> </ul>

Shared Priorities	Shared Outcomes	Shared Measurement	Mutually Reinforcing Activities
3. Strong and high functioning FCFC	Strengthened and improved FCFC functioning	<ul> <li>Number of cross-system initiatives</li> <li>FCFC annual revenue is greater than expenses for shared priorities</li> <li>Average percentage of mandated and non-mandated members in attendance at full council meetings</li> <li>Parent representation on committees and partnerships</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Committee review/revision of bylaws</li> <li>Financial membership contributions to the operations of FCFC</li> <li>Membership seeks local and alternative funding</li> <li>Collaborate with regional partners to sustain and/or enhance funding</li> <li>Membership includes FCFC in grant applications where appropriate</li> <li>Encourage Parent Representatives to participate in one or more of the shared priorities</li> <li>Coordinate state and local initiatives with FCFC</li> <li>Maintain relationships with key state partners and collaborate on best practices, model strategies, and funding</li> </ul>

## **Levels of support**

Ottawa County FCFC employs a full-time Youth Services Coordinator who serves youth, families, and community agencies with three specific levels of support.

**Information and Referral** is in place to connect a family to the appropriate service provider, agency, or other community support system. *Calendar Year 2023: Four families served* 

**Service Coordination** uses, organizes, and adapts existing community-based services and resources to help meet the needs of youth and families. *Calendar Year 2023: Eight youth/families served* 

**High Fidelity Wraparound** works with families to organize existing services and develop new, highly individualized supports and interventions to meet the underlying, unmet needs of youth and families. *Calendar Year 2023: Ten youth/families served* 



