










If you mess up
today tomorrow is a
new day.  

I'm good person
   

 I am   enough  as I am! 



You Are  STRONG!! 

Everything works
out when you
BELIEVE!

   I can overcome hardships




Best Wishes, Tim!

Front and back cover artwork was created by our residential children.



Mr. Kevin Gavitt
President



Ms. Loree Richardson
Vice-President



Mr. Keith Easton
Secretary



Atty. Thomas Carey



Ms. Nicolette Darkangelo



Sister Jean Orsuto



Mr. Luther Stubbs

TRUMBULL COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES

Reeves Road, NE | Warren, Ohio 44483-4354
Phone/TDD 330.372.2010 | Fax 330.372.3446 | www.trumbullcsb.com

Trumbull County Children Services is accredited by the Council on Accreditation and is a member agency of the Child Welfare League of America. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Speakers are available to address community groups. Call for information.



“Endings are Just New Beginnings”

These are five words that encompass many life events and emotions. In our Agency’s day-to-day functioning, this plays out in various ways: families who confront addiction, end a destructive cycle and begin a life of recovery and healing; families who lose custody of their children, end denial of needing help and begin to embrace reunification efforts; children traumatized by abuse and neglect, end acceptance that this is “normal” or the belief that they have ownership of this behavior and begin to heal through trauma informed care; foster families who open their homes and hearts to our children, experience the ending of these placements as children reunify and begin the process of grieving and preparing for the next child who needs their help. Likewise, child welfare staff experience cases ending and new ones beginning, and all the highs and lows that are inherent with this field of work.



Marilyn Pape
Executive Director

The beginning of this year brought the end of Executive Director Tim Schaffner’s leadership at this Agency. Tim spent the last twelve years providing excellent leadership at the Agency. His career, however, spanned 49 years in leadership in the behavioral and mental health fields. His impact was enormous, and his support of staff, children, and families has been invaluable. He will be missed, but the ending of his career is the beginning of a new and exciting chapter in his life. That ending has also brought a new beginning for me, as I assumed the Executive Director position upon Tim’s retirement. My career has spanned 38 years at this Agency, and I am proud and humble to assume leadership of an Agency I know and love. Fortunately, we have a great leadership team and staff who are passionate and committed to our mission. I am confident that we will continue the excellent work and pioneering practice that our Agency is known for across the state.

We have not, however, done our work in a vacuum. Our community has always been there for us and the children and families we serve. Private citizens reach out to us with concerns for the welfare of a child, volunteer as a mentor to our children, provide donations to remind our children that they matter and are not forgotten, step up to become foster parents, and support our levy to ensure that we are able to practice at the highest standards of accreditation while we serve the families of Trumbull County. Likewise, our police, courts, emergency services, hospitals, and schools work with us during crisis and in times of need. Our community partners believe in our mission and meet monthly to address the needs of children and families through Family and Children First Council, Community of Support Network, and the Child Assault Prosecution Unit, to name just a few.

Our challenges in 2024 include efforts to support kin placements, increase the number of foster families, and locate placements for children struggling with severe emotional and behavioral problems due to their trauma. Placement costs have risen across the state due to a combination of these higher needs and limited availability of placements. These factors have forced counties to send children out of state and some to house children in their lobbies as they search for placements. As we move forward, we ask for your support with our levy renewal this year. We will continue to utilize the expertise and strength of our staff and our strong existing community partnerships to forge ahead with best practice through all endings and new beginnings. As Fred Rogers said, “Often when you think you’re at the end of something, you’re at the beginning of something else.”

2023 REVENUE

Revenue Sources:

Children Services Levy	\$9,583,403
Federal Reimbursement	
• Title IV-E	2,981,063
• Title IV-B	155,950
• Medicaid	7,530
• Emergency Services Assistance and Kinship Care	144,448
• Caseworker Visits	6,041
Total Federal Funding	\$3,295,032
State Reimbursement	
• Child Welfare Subsidy (SCPA)	2,349,940
• Multi-System Youth Funding	275,034
• Children Services Best Practices Funding	85,508
• Prevention Services/Ohio START Funding	277,228
• Workforce Support Funding	244,136
• Community of Support Network Funding	17,142
• Non-Recurring Adoption Subsidy	11,867
• State Match Funding	42,842
• Foster Parent Training	8,831
Total State Funding	\$3,312,528
Support for the Care of Children	
• Foster Care and Paid Placements	1,445,942
• Residential Care	989,899
• Behavioral Health	145,552
• Independent Living	144,010
Total Support for the Care of Children	\$2,725,403
Grants	\$185,258
Refunds and Reimbursements	\$381,619
TOTAL 2023 REVENUE	\$19,483,243

2023 EXPENDITURES

Service Categories:

Casework Services to Children and Families	
• Intake and Assessments	1,667,218
• Investigations	367,567
• In Home Services	777,081
• Substitute Care Services	1,379,281
• Recovery Services	402,184
• Resources and Permanency Planning	1,694,793
• Family Support Team	176,078
• After Hours Emergency Team	82,715
• Family Unity Meetings	99,995
Subtotal	6,646,912
Services for Children in Placement	
• Children’s Center	2,938,469
• Foster Care and Adoption Subsidy Payments	1,182,755
• Paid Placements	2,295,998
• Transportation Services	434,797
• Independent Living Initiatives	200,275
• Foster Child Daycare	284,960
Subtotal	7,337,254
Other Direct Service Programs	
• Child Assault Prosecution Funding	307,504
• Family Emergency Support & Kinship Care Funding	178,383
• Family Dependency Treatment Court	13,458
• Family & Children First Council Funding	72,675
Subtotal	572,020
Other Cost Categories	
• Maintenance and Custodians	386,320
• Human Resources and Administration Costs	951,322
• Fiscal, Quality Assurance and Support	1,270,737
• Legal Services	562,172
• Staff Training and Education	333,428
• Community Education and Recruitment Activities	39,019
• Wendy’s Wonderful Kids	189,213
• Foster Care Recruitment and Retention	59,761
Subtotal	3,792,472
TOTAL 2023 OPERATING EXPENSES	\$18,348,658

Children Services offers a full slate of child welfare services for the families and children of Trumbull County. These services are listed below with the number of persons served in 2023.

Provided services to **3,052** children in **1,514** families.

Assessed and provided services to **1,004** referrals of child maltreatment (i.e., abuse, neglect, dependency, other) concerning **2,318** children.

Conducted **162** investigations of serious sexual abuse, physical abuse, neglect and dependency allegations concerning **416** children.

Provided to **284** children.

Provided to **37** families.

Serviced **30** children; **5,324** days of care in the Children's Center.

71 children received **12,945** days of care in therapeutic foster care and other residential settings.

136 children were cared for in Agency foster homes for a total of **24,750** days of care; a monthly average of **67** children were served. The Agency had **71** licensed foster homes during **2023**.

19 children were placed and **19** adoptions were finalized.

Provided to **45** families.

39 children were prepared for emancipation from agency care and assisted after emancipation.

Trumbull County Children Services actively participates in several community programs that support children, such as the Family & Children First Council, the Child Assault Prosecution Team, the Child Fatality Review Board, the Child Advocacy Center, Trumbull County Juvenile Court, the County Job and Family Services Agency, the County Board of Developmental Disabilities, the County Mental Health & Recovery Board and Community of Support Network and OhioRISE.

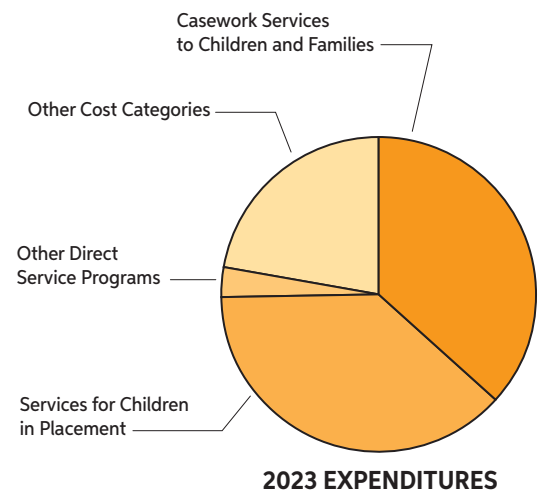
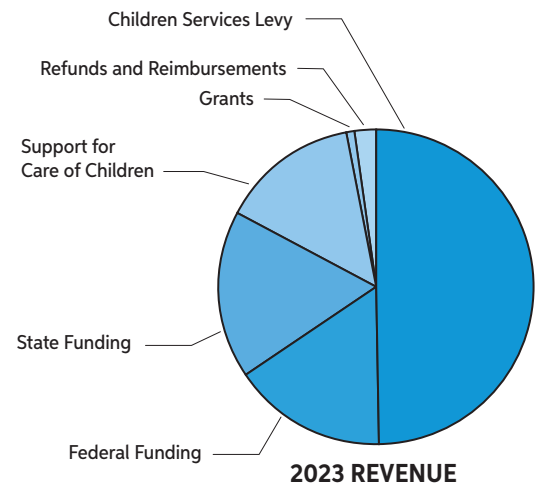
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April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and each year Trumbull County Children Services spreads awareness and advocates to end violence against children by wearing blue on Wear Blue Day.

STRENGTH-BASED AND FAMILY CENTERED SERVICES

Children Services offers programs which strengthen and maintain family life. We identify positive attributes that have worked successfully for families in the past, and we build on these strengths so that families can solve their problems and grow stronger. Programs are developed which provide support for families and help children find permanency in their birth homes, relative homes or adoptive homes.

- **Substance Use Disorder Programming:** The agency has a Prevention Services program designed to address the intersection of child welfare and parental substance abuse. The START (Sobriety, Treatment And Reducing Trauma) program pairs a child welfare caseworker with a peer recovery advocate to provide intensive case management services to families.
- **Family Unity Meetings:** An agency facilitator partners with the family in a community support team that strengthens the family and provides for the safety and well-being of the children.
- **Family-To-Family Team Meetings:** Family connections are made between foster parents and birth parents to support the children in care. The Family-To-Family relationship provides a foundation that continues long after the child returns home.
- **Family Dependency Treatment Court (FDTC):** Family Court, Children Services, the Mental Health & Recovery Board, and other child advocates and treatment providers collaborate to assist parent(s) in achieving sobriety, receiving appropriate drug & alcohol treatment and making positive changes in their lives and the lives of their child(ren). Many families involved in this program have achieved sobriety and reunification.
- **Residential Services:** The Agency partners with Cadence Care Network, Belmont Pines, Valley Home Health Care and Warren City Schools to provide therapeutic, trauma based services for children who require residential treatment for emotional problems. Trumbull County is fortunate to have community-based residential treatment services offered by the Children's Center. Without locally-based residential treatment, children would have to receive help from other institutions, miles from their home.
- **Wendy's Wonderful Kids (WWK) Recruitment Program:** The Agency's WWK Recruitment Program is graciously being funded by the Dave Thomas Foundation. These funds have allowed the Agency to hire two fulltime WWK Recruiters. The Agency's WWK Recruiters focus exclusively on removing obstacles to permanency and finding adoptive homes for the Agency's hardest to place children.
- **Community of Support Network:** This community network, chaired by the Agency, was formed through a grant funded by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. The network is comprised of countywide child serving entities charged with hardwiring best practices and oversight for coordination of comprehensive care for children at highest risk for intensive, out of home placement due to complex behavioral health and multisystem needs. OhioRISE ensures children get the care they need to get healthy, while remaining at home with their family or kin. Cadence Care Network is the managed care entity responsible for the operations of OhioRISE.



May is Foster Care Appreciation Month. Foster caregivers make a difference in our community every day by opening their homes to provide temporary care for children who have experienced abuse or neglect. The Agency hosted a carnival on campus. Our families enjoyed food trucks, carnival games, and face painting!