

TRUMBULL  
COUNTY

Children  
SERVICES



Annual Report

2024





## SERVICES OFFERED TO CHILDREN & FAMILIES IN 2024

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 2024.

### Children Services

Provided services to **3,451** children in **1,653** families.

### Intake/Assessment Department

Assessed and provided services to **1,159** referrals of child maltreatment (i.e., abuse, neglect, dependency, other) concerning **2,780** children.

### Sexual Abuse and Investigation Unit

Conducted **143** investigations of serious sexual abuse, physical abuse, neglect and dependency allegations concerning **361** children.

### Ongoing In-Home Protective Services

Provided to **273** children.

### Recovery Services

Provided to **35** families.

### Children's Center

Serviced **34** children; **5,029** days of care in the Children's Center.

### Therapeutic Paid Placements

**67** children received **13,880** days of care in therapeutic foster care and other residential settings.

### Foster Care/Out-of-Home Care

**151** children were cared for in Agency foster homes for a total of **23,502** days of care; a monthly average of **66** children were served. The Agency had **71** licensed foster homes during **2024**.

### Adoption Services

**18** children were placed and **23** adoptions were finalized.

### Family Support Services

Provided to **80** families.

### Independent Living Initiatives

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

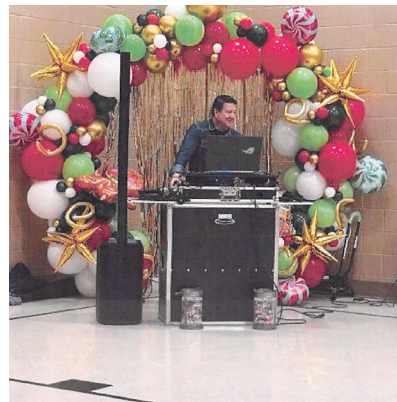
## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Trumbull County Children Services actively participates with several community programs and agencies that support children, such as the Family & Children First Council, the Child Assault Prosecution Team, the Child Fatality Review Board, the Child Advocacy Center, the Trumbull County Juvenile Court, the County Job and Family Services Agency, the County Board of Developmental Disabilities, the County Mental Health and Recovery Board, the Community of Support Network, OhioRISE, Cadence Care Network, First Step and Parkman Recovery, Belmont Pines, Valley Home Health Care, and Warren City Schools.

## 2024 HIGHLIGHTS



Warren City Halloween parade 2024 and Warren City Christmas parade 2024



Monica Groves hosted a Christmas party for the children at the Residential Center. Tom Angelo was the DJ for the evening.



Rock of Grace Church hosted Christmas breakfast for the Residential Children.



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

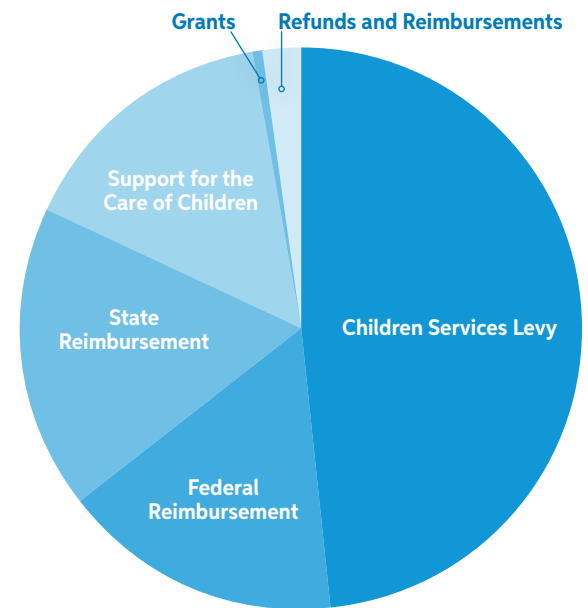


Children Services offers programs which strengthen and maintain family life. We identify positive attributes that have worked successfully for families in the past, and we build on these strengths so that families can solve their problems and grow stronger. Programs are developed which provide support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

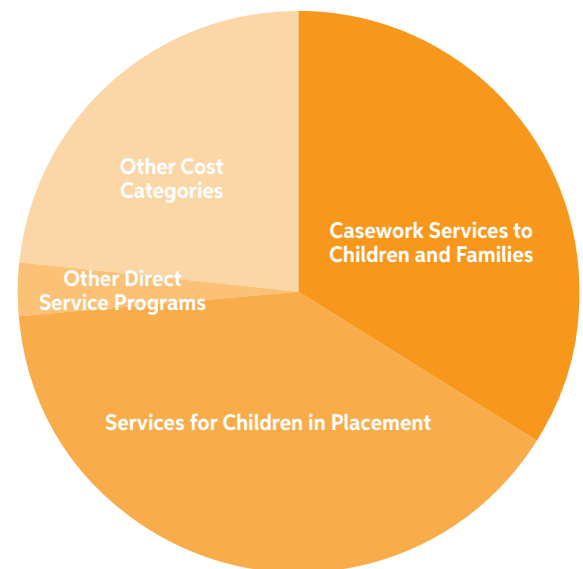
- **Substance Use Disorder Programming:** The agency has a Prevention Services program designed to address the intersection of child welfare and parental substance abuse. The START (Sobriety, Treatment And Reducing Trauma) program pairs a child welfare caseworker with a peer recovery advocate to provide 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 full-time 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.



## 2024 REVENUE



## 2024 EXPENDITURES



Cook/Meal preparation and Life Skill Advisor, Angeline Miranda, provided cooking lessons to one of our residents.



## “One Is Too Many.”

Each day we are confronted with the reality of child abuse and neglect and the resulting trauma it leaves for its victims. The images, the words, the memories...all are haunting. Yet, as a community we come together to report, protect, aid and treat the victims and their families. We work to keep families together or to reunify them, and to provide permanency for children. Our staff is passionate about the work we do and the lives we impact. We will never stop giving our all because even one child victim is one too many.



**Marilyn Pape**  
Executive Director

In comparison to 2023, the Agency saw an increase in our metrics of service delivery for 2024. We received one hundred and fifty-five more referrals of child maltreatment, with one hundred and thirty-nine more families, and three hundred and ninety-nine more children, receiving services from our Agency.

Here at Children Services, we offer an array of services outlined in this report to serve our families. We operate a residential treatment center, a rarity among the 88 child welfare counties in Ohio. Doing so enables us to keep children close to home and family, and to provide top level trauma informed treatment. In addition, 2024 brought the establishment of the Northeast Ohio Treatment Foster Care Collaborative, an initiative aimed at developing a public treatment foster care program for children in need across our county and in partnership with Mahoning and Ashtabula County. This endeavor will offer intense casework services, support and specialized training to create stable, supportive atmospheres where trained families can help children heal, fostering consistency and trust. These placement resources, in addition to our traditional foster care homes, are helping us to tackle the daunting placement crisis in Ohio and the rising placement costs that consume a large portion of our budget.

Another exciting development, which started in 2024 and will see its finalization in 2025, is a new partnership with First Step and Parkman Recovery. Our agencies applied for and received a grant from the OneOhio Recovery Foundation to open recovery housing for women and children, a need that has existed for a very long time. We look forward to reporting on this project next year.

On a very somber note, 2024 saw the passing of two devoted and beloved members of our “family.” Board member Sister Jean Orsuto and caseworker Debbie Miller dedicated their lives to serving others and their absence is profound. Two other board members finished their commitment on our board with distinction and have decided to enjoy some well-deserved downtime! A big thank you to Atty. Tom Carey and Mr. Luther Stubbs. As a result, we welcomed three new board members, Ms. Christine Ruggieri, Rev. Dr. Avan Odom, and Mr. Mark Bodo. All three bring a unique and specialized skill set to our board.

Lastly, I concluded my first year as the Executive Director. Being in leadership at an agency I have worked for and loved for 39 years is humbling. The Agency’s dedicated and passionate staff show up to work every day with one purpose: to make a difference in the life of a child. My thanks go out to our staff and our foster parents, as well as our community partners, service providers, public officials and residents. We will continue to celebrate our many successes while continuing to work toward ending child maltreatment because, one child victim is one too many.

## 2024 REVENUE

Revenue Sources:

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>Children Services Levy</b> .....                 | <b>\$9,553,012</b>  |
| <b>Federal Reimbursement</b>                        |                     |
| • Title IV-E .....                                  | 3,070,563           |
| • Title IV-B .....                                  | 134,304             |
| • Medicaid .....                                    | 18,362              |
| • Emergency Services Assistance .....               | 102,321             |
| • Caseworker Visits .....                           | 5,702               |
| <b>Total Federal Funding</b> .....                  | <b>\$3,331,252</b>  |
| <b>State Reimbursement</b>                          |                     |
| • Child Welfare Subsidy (SCPA) .....                | 2,628,132           |
| • Multi-System Youth Funding .....                  | 367,032             |
| • Children Services Best Practices Funding .....    | 82,661              |
| • Prevention Services/Ohio START Funding .....      | 431,465             |
| • Non-Recurring Adoption Subsidy .....              | 13,830              |
| • State Match Funding .....                         | 41,140              |
| • Foster Parent Training .....                      | 6,263               |
| • Kinship Licensing Incentive .....                 | 2,500               |
| <b>Total State Funding</b> .....                    | <b>\$3,573,023</b>  |
| <b>Support for the Care of Children</b>             |                     |
| • Foster Care and Paid Placements .....             | 1,514,366           |
| • Residential Care .....                            | 1,358,029           |
| • Behavioral Health .....                           | 129,877             |
| • Independent Living .....                          | 145,466             |
| <b>Total Support for the Care of Children</b> ..... | <b>\$3,147,738</b>  |
| <b>Grants</b> .....                                 | <b>\$148,290</b>    |
| <b>Refunds and Reimbursements</b> .....             | <b>\$406,308</b>    |
| <b>TOTAL 2024 REVENUE</b> .....                     | <b>\$20,159,623</b> |

## 2024 EXPENDITURES

Service Categories:

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>Casework Services to Children and Families</b>       |                     |
| • Intake and Assessments .....                          | \$1,760,556         |
| • Investigations .....                                  | 355,517             |
| • In Home Services .....                                | 661,991             |
| • Substitute Care Services .....                        | 1,179,331           |
| • Recovery Services .....                               | 420,725             |
| • Resources and Permanency Planning .....               | 1,742,758           |
| • Family Support Team .....                             | 185,100             |
| • After Hours Emergency Team .....                      | 83,427              |
| • Family Unity Meetings .....                           | 96,874              |
| <b>Subtotal</b> .....                                   | <b>6,486,279</b>    |
| <b>Services for Children in Placement</b>               |                     |
| • Children’s Center .....                               | 3,023,158           |
| • Foster Care and Adoption Subsidy Payments .....       | 1,162,061           |
| • Paid Placements .....                                 | 2,525,382           |
| • Transportation Services .....                         | 423,795             |
| • Independent Living Initiatives .....                  | 174,329             |
| • Foster Child Daycare .....                            | 274,748             |
| <b>Subtotal</b> .....                                   | <b>7,583,473</b>    |
| <b>Other Direct Service Programs</b>                    |                     |
| • Child Assault Prosecution Funding .....               | 332,206             |
| • Family Emergency Support & Kinship Care Funding ..... | 156,302             |
| • Family Dependency Treatment Court .....               | 19,657              |
| • Family & Children First Council Funding .....         | 72,675              |
| <b>Subtotal</b> .....                                   | <b>580,840</b>      |
| <b>Other Cost Categories</b>                            |                     |
| • Maintenance & Custodians .....                        | 422,275             |
| • Human Resources & Administration Costs .....          | 996,779             |
| • Fiscal & Planning Services .....                      | 779,592             |
| • Legal & Compliance Services .....                     | 1,155,926           |
| • Staff Training & Education .....                      | 428,413             |
| • Sheriff Department Services Funding .....             | 174,084             |
| • Community Education & Recruitment Activities .....    | 47,615              |
| • Wendy’s Wonderful Kids .....                          | 136,881             |
| • Capital Improvement Projects .....                    | 314,930             |
| <b>Subtotal</b> .....                                   | <b>4,456,495</b>    |
| <b>TOTAL 2024 OPERATING EXPENSES</b> .....              | <b>\$19,107,087</b> |



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



**Mr. Kevin Gavitt**  
President



**Ms. Loree Richardson**  
Vice-President



**Mr. Keith Easton**  
Secretary



**Mr. Mark Bodo**



**Ms. Nicolette Darkangelo**



**Rev. Dr. Avan Odom**



**Ms. Christine Ruggieri**

## **TRUMBULL COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES**

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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.

