



Faced with unique challenges, Trumbull County Children Services staff continued...



ANNUAL REPORT

SERVICES OFFERED TO CHILDREN IN 2020

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 2020.

Children Services

Provided services to **3,565** children in **1,783** families.

Intake/Assessment Department

Assessed and provided services to **1,135** referrals of child maltreatment (i.e., abuse, neglect, dependency, other) concerning **2,616** children.

Sexual Abuse and Investigation Unit

Conducted **156** investigations of serious sexual abuse, physical abuse, neglect and dependency allegations concerning **392** children.

Ongoing In-Home Protective Services

Provided to **324** children.

Recovery Services

Provided to **59** families.

Children's Center

Served **43** children; **7,679** days of care in the Children's Center.

Therapeutic Paid Placements

72 children received **12,516** days of care in therapeutic foster care and other residential settings.

Foster Care / Out-of-Home Care

140 children were cared for in Agency foster homes for a total of **28,146** days of care; a monthly average of **75** children were served. The Agency had **89** licensed foster homes during **2020**.

Adoption Services

15 children were placed and **16** adoptions were finalized.

Family Support Services

Provided to **54** families.

Independent Living Initiatives

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

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

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 and the County Job and Family Services Agency.

2020 HIGHLIGHTS



St. John the Baptist Church



Second Baptist Church



Warren Trumbull County Public Library



Project Making Kids Count



Air Base thanks CSB employees for making masks



Marine Corps Toys for Tots & Warren Rotary Club

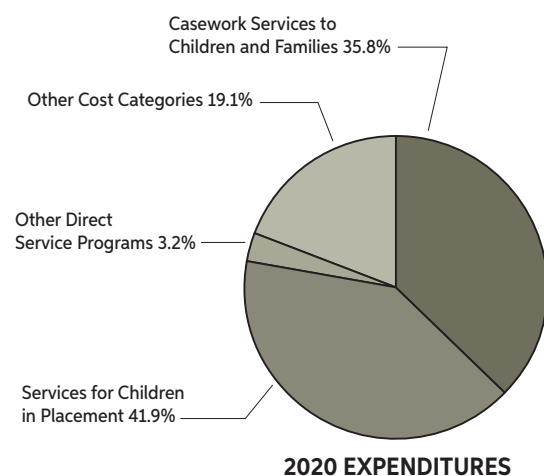
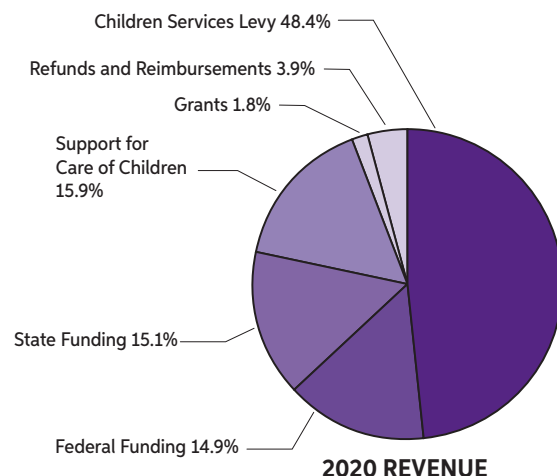


You are not alone in the journey when you are in a family. Consider fostering and adoption.

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 two grant programs designed to address the intersection of child welfare and parental substance abuse. The Trumbull County Substance Use Disorder (T-SUDE) Initiative is a federal initiative funded by the US Department of Health and Human Services and evaluated by the Institute for Human Potential. The START (Sobriety, Treatment, & Reducing Trauma) program is funded by the Office of the Ohio Attorney General and evaluated by Ohio State University. Both programs pair a child welfare caseworker with a peer recovery advocate to provide intensive case management services.
- **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.
- **Ohio's Differential Response System:** Trumbull County Children Services is leading the state in sustaining Differential Response (DR). DR allows our staff the ability to offer either a traditional response or an alternative response to accepted reports of child maltreatment. The Agency develops a variety of family-centered practices that best serve the needs of families and children. Alternative Response focuses on working with families to identify strengths and build in safety networks that ensure child safety.
- **Residential Services:** The Agency partners with Valley Counseling, Cadence Care Network, Belmont Pines, Valley Home Health Care, Warren City Schools and CRN Healthcare 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 a fulltime WWK Recruiter. The Agency's WWK Recruiter focuses exclusively on removing obstacles to permanency and finding adoptive homes for the Agency's hardest to place children.
- **Permanency Roundtables:** All children and youth deserve permanency and permanent connections. Toward that goal, Permanency Roundtables (PRTs) are structured case consultations focused on the goals of expediting legal permanency for the child, stimulating thinking and learning about ways to accelerate permanency, and identifying and addressing systemic barriers to timely permanency. The values guiding PRTs include youth empowerment, the relentless persistency of permanency, sound prep for adulthood, a supportive team environment and the development of strategies that increase hope.



Howland FCCLA



April is Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month. Each year, pinwheels displayed on the lawn of Warren City Hall during the month of April help to raise awareness of child abuse and neglect in Trumbull County.



Ms. Nicolette Darkangelo
President



Ms. Loree Richardson
Vice-President



Mr. Kevin Gavitt
Secretary



Atty. Thomas Carey



Mr. Keith Easton



Sister Jean Orsuto



Mr. Luther Stubbs

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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.



Things did not really go as planned...

2020 will be remembered by all who have survived it, and it is also likely that those memories will be a mix of sadness, hope and gratitude. We mourn with those who have lost loved ones in the global pandemic or who continue to suffer the long-term effects of COVID 19. We will remember our other challenges and will continue to stand for racial equality and an end to violence at home and in our community. While our memories may be painful, we hope to never forget and to learn from them.



Timothy Schaffner

There are other events and experiences brought on by this challenging year that we can not only learn from but also can celebrate. I often share in crisis intervention trainings that the truest test of one's skills, of one's therapeutic alliances, of one's team functioning AND one's system of care occurs when confronted by a crisis. The longer the duration and the more serious the intensity of the crisis, the truer the test. As we responded to unprecedented events and measured our effectiveness, we are left with two things: a plan for future occurrences and, maybe more importantly, gratitude that our teams, our agency, our stakeholders and our community survived and thrived when faced with these immense challenges.

I am grateful first and foremost to our staff, their leadership, and our foster parent partners. While certainly confronted daily with fear of the unknown, our casework staff, their support staff and systems and our residential staff never missed a beat in continuity of their high-quality service provision. With the simple goals of "keep our staff and clients safe and seamlessly continue to provide our core services," each individual showed grit and tenacity in responding to the rapid changes in the work environment, resources and supports and got the job done. On all measures, all staff performed at or better than our customary high levels during the pandemic. Our foster parents continued to be 100% there for our children and families. They graciously handled frequent changes in our visitation policy and NEVER turned down a placement of a child in need. A significant number of families even stepped forward and VOLUNTEERED to take children exposed to or infected by the virus!

Our community partners also rose to the occasion beyond anyone's expectations. Our school superintendents and principals took a "whatever you need" approach, especially exemplified by Warren City Schools' responsiveness to our unique needs (thank you Superintendent Chiaro). First responders (police and EMT), our hospitals and every one of our crisis response partners never missed a beat. We all continued to go wherever needed, whenever needed, to assure the safety of children and respond to our families in need.

And a final special thanks to the kids in our care. Adding to their existing history of trauma, COVID presented uncertainty, unpredictability, and further distance from their families. It's a tribute to their resilience and the expertise of their caretakers that they continued to heal and to thrive. We will be forever inspired by them.

2020 REVENUE

Revenue Sources:

Children Services Levy	\$9,252,603
Federal Reimbursement	
• Title IV-E	2,537,991
• Title IV-B	162,195
• Medicaid	14,701
• Emergency Services Assistance and Kinship Care	120,644
• Caseworker Visits	6,088
Total Federal Funding	\$2,841,619
State Reimbursement	
• Child Welfare Subsidy (SCPA)	1,942,505
• Multi-System Youth Funding	562,422
• Foster Parent Recruitment Funding	150,149
• Children Services Best Practices Funding	92,189
• Post Finalization Adoption Subsidy	74,637
• Non-Recurring Adoption Subsidy	11,396
• State Match Funding	39,421
• Foster Parent Training	19,000
• State Graduation Allocation	1,600
Total State Funding	\$2,893,319
Support for the Care of Children	
• Foster Care and Paid Placements	1,732,961
• Residential Care	1,065,498
• Behavioral Health	115,287
• Independent Living	122,826
Total Support for the Care of Children	\$3,036,572
Grants	\$348,575
Refunds and Reimbursements	\$739,228
TOTAL 2020 REVENUE	\$19,111,916

2020 EXPENDITURES

Service Categories:

Casework Services to Children and Families

• Intake and Assessments	1,658,041
• Investigations	390,194
• In Home Services	816,546
• Substitute Care Services	1,296,357
• Recovery Services	546,037
• Resources and Permanency Planning	1,469,428
• Family Support Team	187,170
• After Hours Emergency Team	85,898
• Family Unity Meetings	89,166
Subtotal	\$6,538,837

Services for Children in Placement

• Children's Center	2,760,541
• Foster Care and Adoption Subsidy Payments	1,432,762
• Paid Placements	2,585,858
• Transportation Services	404,321
• Independent Living Initiatives	235,313
• Foster Child Daycare	228,065
Subtotal	\$7,646,860

Other Direct Service Programs

• Child Assault Prosecution Funding	324,263
• Runaway and Homeless Youth Funding	5,656
• Family Emergency Support	153,783
• Family Dependency Treatment Court	16,517
• Family & Children First Council Funding	85,289
Subtotal	\$585,508

Other Cost Categories

• Maintenance and Custodians	388,539
• Human Resources and Administration Costs	1,064,257
• Fiscal, Quality Assurance and Support	1,214,643
• Legal Services	625,810
• Staff Training and Education	61,191
• Community Education and Recruitment Activities	56,788
• Wendy's Wonderful Kids	88,305
Subtotal	3,499,533

TOTAL 2020 OPERATING EXPENSES **\$18,270,738**