Ohio Sunset Review Committee
Agency Questionnaire

Agency Name Children's Trust Fund Board

Point of Contact Bryan Stout, Office of Legislation, DCY

Agency's primary purpose and its various goals and objectives

The Ohio Children's Trust Fund (OCTF), statutorily created in 1984, is dedicated exclusively to funding primary and secondary child abuse and neglect prevention programs and services. The mission of OCTF is to prevent child abuse and neglect through investing in strong communities, healthy families and safe children. OCTF is governed by Ohio Revised Code (ORC) sections 3109.13 through 3109.179, which outlines the agency's primary purpose and functions as described below:

The primary purpose of OCTF is to fund primary and secondary child abuse and neglect prevention programs both at the local and statewide level. A fifteen-member children's trust fund board, consisting of three agency directors, eight public members, and four members of the general assembly, oversees the work of OCTF. Additionally, until October 2023, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, and as of October 2023, the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY), serve as the administrative agent for OCTF. The OCTF board approves the employment of an executive director who, along with a team of dedicated staff, administers the programs of the board.

The OCTF board establishes a strategic plan for child abuse and neglect prevention. Through the development and implementation of the plan, the board ensures that funding is allocated for the provision of both local and statewide child abuse and neglect prevention programs and that those programs are made available to persons of various social and economic backgrounds who seek the assistance of such programs. Additionally, the board establishes reporting requirements for Ohio's regional child abuse and neglect prevention councils; provides education and training for the public and professionals for the purposes of child abuse and neglect prevention; allocates start-up funds for Ohio's children advocacy centers; collaborates with appropriate persons and government entities for the purpose of child abuse and neglect prevention; prepares a biennial report delineating the expenditure of money from the children's trust fund; and provides oversight and accountability for all funded programs, including monitoring, reporting, etc.

The OCTF board may apply for and accept federal and other funds for the purpose of funding child abuse and child neglect prevention programs; solicit and accept gifts, money and other donations from any public or private source, including individuals, philanthropic foundations or organizations, corporations, or corporation endowments; and develop private-public partnership to support the mission of the children's trust fund.

Agency's past and anticipated workload, number of staff required to complete workload, and total number of staff

OCTF employs nine full time staff. These staff provide the following services on behalf of the OCTF board:

Executive Director (1 FTE):
Leads the OCTF's team of dedicated staff; dually reports to the DCY, Outreach and Engagement, Deputy Director and the Chairman of the OCTF Board, who is a member of the General Assembly. Reports to and works closely with the 15-member Board of Directors, to seek their input and involvement in policy and programmatic decisions, fundraising, allocation of funds, and to increase the overall visibility of the OCTF. Serves as the OCTF liaison with the Ohio Ethics Commission. Plans and oversees the OCTF's operational budget. Oversees the following: development and implementation of the OCTF board's strategic plan; delivery of statewide child abuse and neglect prevention services; technical assistance and oversight for Ohio's eight regional child abuse and neglect prevention councils; and the development and maintenance of application processes such as Requests for Proposals (RFPs) and Request for Grant Agreements (RFGAs). Collaborates with state and local systems to facilitate the planning and delivery of effective preventive services at the local level. Reviews and approves all the OCTF service contracts. Ensures ongoing local programmatic excellence and regularly evaluates program components, so as to measure successes that can be effectively communicated to the board, funders, and other constituents. Represents OCTF at the national level as a member of the National Children's Trust Fund Alliance, Prevent Child Abuse America, and Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) state lead. Collaborates with system-level partners at other state agencies.

Administrative Professional (1 FTE):
Provides administrative support to the executive director, OCTF Board, and program staff; facilitates OCTF correspondence, communication, and planning; prepares materials and information for OCTF.

Assistant Executive Director (classification ODJFS Program Administrator 1) (1 FTE):
Seeks federal and state grant opportunities; develops and maintains OCTF rules and forms; assists with OCTF Ohio Biennial Budget language and financial requests; subject matter expert in child abuse and neglect prevention; manages financial program managers; serves as backup to Executive Director.

Project Manager (1 FTE):
Project Director for the five-year Family Support Through Primary Prevention federal discretionary grant; Manages all components of grant, including evaluation, demonstration sites, cross collaborative team, and Parent and Family Advisory Council (PFAC); provides subject matter expertise to partners; engages in cross-system alignment of prevention efforts; facilitates connections between prevention partners.

Program Managers (classification Training Development Analysts) (3 FTE):
Provides subject matter expertise and technical assistance to OCTF grantees pertaining to specific child abuse and neglect prevention efforts; participates in the development and implementation of OCTF's strategic plan; plans, develops, and implements April Child Abuse Prevention Month events and activities (i.e. supporting local April events, activities and campaigns; monitoring, reporting, and analysis).

Financial Program Managers (2 FTE):
Establishes and implements fiscal management processes; develops, administers, and monitors competitive opportunities procuring vendors/grantees in alignment with state policies; provides fiscal guidance and technical assistance to vendors/grantees; manages all OCTF contracts/grant agreement modifications; processes invoices; manages statewide grantees; provides subject matter expertise.

Agency's past and anticipated budgets and its sources of funding

The OCTF receives revenue from three sources:

1. Public dedicated funds: Vital statistics fees collected for birth certificates, death certificates, divorce decrees and dissolution decrees. (1980 Fund - state special revenue, approximately $4M annually).
2. Federal funding: OCTF is Ohio's State Lead Agency for the federal formula Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) grant as outlined in CAPTA Title II; Additional ARPA funds through 9/30/2025 were awarded through the CBCAP grant during the pandemic; OCTF received the federal discretionary Community Collaborations to Strengthen and Preserve Families grant in 2019, set to terminate September 2024; OCTF received the federal discretionary Family Support Through Primary Prevention grant in 2021, set to terminate September 2026 (3D30 Fund - federal grants). OCTF also received a Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) earmark in the SFY 2020/2021 biennial budget ($1,000,000 per year) through SFY 2024, which will conclude June 30, 2024.
3. Private funding as a result of OCTF's ability to solicit and accept donations from private sources as well as engage in public-private partnerships. (1980 Fund - state special revenue).

In the most recent completed fiscal year (SFY 2023) for OCTF payroll, 46% of staffing expenditures is paid from 3D30 - federal funding, and 54% of staffing expenditures is paid from 1980 - state special revenue.

OCTF revenues are invested in child abuse and neglect prevention programs at the state and local level through the regional model, statewide grant applications, and board initiatives.

SFY 2020
1980 State Appropriation: $7,992,060
3D30 Federal Appropriation: $2,000,000
TANF Earmark: $1,000,000

SFY 2021
1980 State Appropriation: $6,000,000
3D30 Federal Appropriation: $2,000,000
TANF Earmark: $1,000,000

SFY 2022
1980 State Appropriation: $6,000,000
3D30 Federal Appropriation: $7,000,000
TANF Earmark: $1,000,000

SFY 2023
1980 State Appropriation: $6,000,000
3D30 Federal Appropriation: $7,000,000
TANF Earmark: $1,000,000

SFY 2024

Number of members of its governing board or other governing entity and their compensation, if any

The Ohio Children's Trust Fund (OCTF) is a quasi-public entity governed by a board of 15 members representing a broad public-private partnership. Eight members are appointed by the Governor to represent the citizens of Ohio, four members are legislative appointees and three members are agency directors (Ohio Departments of Health, Children and Youth, and Mental Health and Addiction Services) or their designees.

Current OCTF board members reflect a diversity of expertise. The board consists of representatives from the following fields: social work and child abuse and neglect services; expertise in government relations and advocacy; the healthcare industry and the private sector; expertise in higher education; the legal community and the medical community; and expertise in mental health and non-profit executive leadership. The board supervises the policies and programs of OCTF and the Ohio Department of Children and Youth serves as OCTF's administrative agent in that it provides for procurement and budgeting functions.

Per Ohio Revised Code (ORC) section 3109.15, each member of the board serves without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for all actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duties. During the last five years, board members have received a total reimbursement for mileage and parking expenses of $2,575.02

2019 - $874.92
2020 - $407.68
2021 - $0.00
2022 - $155.48
2023 - $663.08
YTD 2024 - $473.86

Additional notes

During the COVID-19 pandemic, OCTF's community-based service providers struggled to expend their allocated funds. Additionally, OCTF received a one-time, federal allotment through the Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention grant totaling $8,598,722 to be liquidated by September 30, 2025.