



Ohio Sunset Review Committee
Agency Questionnaire

Agency Name Ohio Family and Children First/DCY

Point of Contact Bryan Stout, Office of Legislation, DCY

Agency's primary purpose and its various goals and objectives

In the early 1990s Governor Voinovich created county FCFCs to become the catalyst for bringing communities together to coordinate and streamline services for families and youth. County FCFCs were established in ORC 121.37 in 1993, with the specific purpose of helping families seeking government services by streamlining and coordinating existing services for families seeking assistance for their children.

Ohio Family & Children First Cabinet Council as outlined in ORC 121.37 (A)(1) is composed of the director of education and workforce, the executive director of the opportunities for Ohioans with disabilities agency, the medicaid director, and the directors of youth services, job and family services, mental health and addiction services, health, developmental disabilities, aging, rehabilitation and correction, children and youth, and budget and management. The chairperson of the council shall be the Governor or the Governor's designee and establishes procedures for the council's internal control and management. Locally, the commissioners establish the 88 county Family and Children First Councils (FCFCs) comprised of mandated membership to include the following representatives or designees: caregivers who have received services from the local council, mental health board, health district, job and family services, children services, developmental disabilities board, school districts, municipal corporation, board of county commissioners, early intervention collaborative, department of youth services, head start, juvenile courts, non-profit agencies, and other local members as identified by the commissioners.

Under the Cabinet Council's leadership, the state office of Ohio Family and Children First (OFCF) partners with state and local government, communities and families to enhance the well-being of Ohio's children and families by building community capacity, coordinating systems and services, and engaging families. OFCF's vision is for every child and family to thrive and succeed within healthy communities.

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

Ohio Family and Children First (OFCF) employs seven full time staff: (1) Executive Director, (1) Project Manager, (1) Financial Program Manager, (3) Regional Coordinators and (1) Business Analyst. These staff provide the following services:

Executive Director:

Leads Ohio Family and Children First's (OFCF) team; reports to the DCY, Outreach and Engagement, Deputy Director and the 12 Department Directors that comprise the OFCF Cabinet Council. Meets regularly with Deputy Directors from the cabinet departments to ensure OFCF's activities and strategic vision aligns with their expectations for OFCF and the 88 local FCFCs. Collaborates with staff and leaders within state and local departments and organizations. Regularly advocates on behalf of families and children served by the local family and children first councils.

Project Manager:

Manages Ohio Family and Children First projects and sub-projects, which regularly includes partnering with organizations/entities within the Departments of: Job and Family Services, Children and Youth, Medicaid, Mental Health and Addiction Services, as well as local partners; supervises OFCF's three regional coordinators, financial program manager and business analyst; establishes internal monitoring controls for budgeting related to OFCF and local FCFC's state and federal dollars; sources and manages third-party grantees and vendors to ensure deliverables are met and resources are fully utilized and efficient; assists the Executive Director with the vision of the FCFCs.

Regional Coordinators:

Responsible for developing, planning, and implementing program policy and activities to assist local Ohio family and children first councils; oversees the statewide implementation of service coordination for multi-system youth; supports development and implementation of statewide parent support programs; participates in the state Multi-System Youth (MSY) program (reviews cases; attends consultations; provides technical assistance); participates in system decision sessions as a subject matter expert; provides on-site technical assistance and delivers presentations to assigned local family and children first councils; and partners with state sister agencies on shared projects.

Financial Program Manager

Develops fiscal processes and procedures, review and approve documents; develops grant programs and inter-agency agreements for Ohio Family and Children First (OFCF); develops grant program plans and performance measures for evaluation of the grant program(s); and contracts; designs and utilizes tracking systems to assure cost effective and efficient use of federal and state funding, along with ensuring proper reconciliation of funds; monitors OFCF submission of identified data and reviews to evaluate program implications and/or interventions; manages and coordinates budget for the OFCF office; leads efforts on processing, submitting, and tracking invoices for the OFCF office utilizing SharePoint, the Ohio Administrative Knowledge System (OAKS), etc; monitors grantees and providers to ensure proper evaluation periods and measurements are completed; assists Administrative Agents and/or councils in understanding programmatic and financial responsibilities related to grant programs and grant agreements;

Business Analyst

Provides program technical assistance to information technology professionals in developing scope and requirements outlined in system requirements document and/or in reviewing design documents developed (e.g., general design document; detail design document) by information technology professionals and/or conducts system tests to ensure expected outcomes and/or assists in data conversion if current system exists and/or assists in implementation of new system with affected user entities and/or provides help desk customer service for assigned system and remains current in changes in program policies pertinent to assigned automated project (i.e., Ohio Automated Service Coordination Information System (OASCIS) and Ohio Family and Children First Website).



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

Ohio Family and Children First (OFCF) transitioned to ODJFS/DCY in July of 2021. OFCF has a designated state agency that oversees the state office's fiscal and administrative activities. In the council's history, OFCF has been with multiple state agencies, OhioMHAS being the most recent.

OFCF's budget is funded via two Inter-agency Agreements (IAA), an **Operations IAA** with 11 cabinet agencies (Ohio Departments of: Aging, Children and Youth, Developmental Disabilities, Education and Workforce, Health, Job and Family Services, Medicaid, Mental Health and Addiction Services, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities, Rehabilitation and Corrections, and Youth Services), and a **Program IAA** with 4 cabinet agencies (Ohio Departments of Children and Youth/Job and Family Services, Developmental Disabilities, Mental Health and Addiction Services and Youth Services). There are also GRF allocations in the budget that assist in funding training and best practice incentives and provide operations funds to the 88 local Family and Children First Councils.

Operations IAA funds: 7 positions (Executive Director, Project Manager, Financial Program Manager, Business Analyst and 3 Regional Coordinators); and Ohio Automated Service Coordination Information System (OASCIS) SFY24/25 *Operations IAA* - SFY24 - \$1,210,941; SFY25 - \$1,518,173

Program IAA funds: local dollars are provided to the 88 local FCFCs to fund Family Centered Services Supports (FCSS); which are non-clinical services and supports directly provided to youth and families to maintain youth in their homes and communities. The Family Support Specialist (FSS) Program also provides Parent Mentors/ Advocates to families in need of additional support as they maneuver through different systems and providers working with their children. SFY24/25 *Program IAA* - SFY24 and SFY25 - \$4,350,529; a combination of Title IV-B, MHBG and GRF(state match)

Budget Allocations (total is \$4,522,800):

- Each FCFC is provided \$30,750 in Operations Capacity Building Funds (OCBF) to support operations and administrative activities
- \$1,500,000 is available to the 88 local FCFCs to incentivize implementation of best practices and inclusion of family and youth voice
- \$3,600 is allocated to each of the 88 local FCFCs to offset some of the costs to their participating in the State MSY Program

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

The Family and Children First Cabinet Council is composed of the following 12 Ohio Departments: Aging, Children and Youth, Developmental Disabilities, Education, Health, Job and Family Services, Medicaid, Mental Health and Addiction Services, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities, Rehabilitation and Correction, Youth Services, and the Office of Budget and Management. All of the departments, except budget and management, fund the state Ohio Family and Children First office and corresponding operations through an Inter-agency Agreement.

The Cabinet Directors are not compensated for their participation on the Cabinet Council.

Additional notes

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