



What are Family and Children First Councils?

Every county in Ohio has a Family and Children First Council. Each council includes public and private agencies, as well as families. Council members work collaboratively to enhance the well-being of their county's children and families. Local councils identify and address the ongoing needs of children and families planning, implementing effective strategies, monitoring and reporting, and evaluating progress toward achieving desired outcomes. The mission of council is to increase the access, capacity, and effectiveness of services to youth and families who may need multiple services.

The Purpose:

to streamline and coordinate existing publicly funded services to help families seeking assistance for their children. The initiative is a partnership of government agencies and community organizations committed to improving the well-being of children and families. Locally, councils evaluate and prioritize services, fill services gaps where possible, invent new approaches to achieve better results, and ensure ongoing input from a broad representation of our communities.

We aim to simplify a family's experience and help access needed supports so the child's services are aligned.

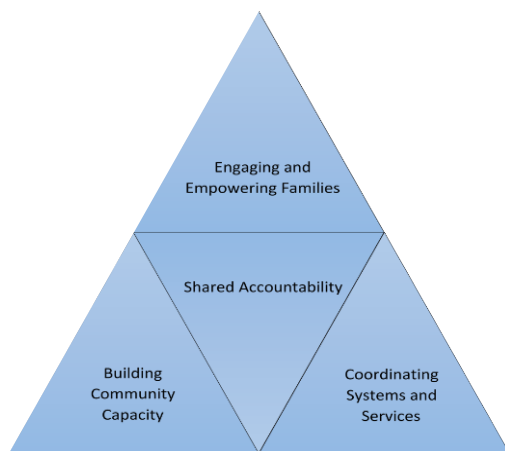
We Believe

- Every family deserves a sense that things are getting better.
- All families deserve to feel safe.
- No family should fall between the cracks and should have the resources of more than 1 system.
- Each family deserves to be heard and understood.

Service Coordination/Wraparound

1. Families will be asked their perspective and planning will reflect preferences.
2. Planning identifies knowledge, skills, and assets of youth/family/team/community.
3. Focus will be on the need/root of the situation to understand the true cause.
4. The team will share ideas, perspectives, and resources to develop and implement plan.

The 4 FCFC Core Functions/Responsibilities



The Council serves to bring service providers together, cut through the red tape, increase local flexibility, and strive to support its members in their efforts to promote strong and stable individuals and their families as well as a safe social environment that will encourage the success and resiliency of children, families and communities.

Ohio Revised Code 121.37 Mandated Members

*COUNTY COMMISSIONERS *3 FAMILY REPRESENTATIVES *ADAMHS BOARD
 *GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT/CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT *COUNTY DEPT. OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES/PUBLIC CHILDRENS SERVICES AGENCY *BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES *LARGEST SCHOOL DISTRICT *SCHOOL DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE OTHER DISTRICTS *LARGEST MUNIICIPAL CORPORATION REPRESENTATIVE *DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE *HEAD START REPRESENTATIVE *HMG/EARLY CHILDHOOD COLLABORATIVE GROUP REPRESENTATIVE *NON-PROFIT AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE