



*Crawford County Family &
Children First Council*

OFCFCA
**Promoting healthy children, strong families,
and thriving communities county by county.**



COUNTY: CRAWFORD

MISSION STATEMENT / LOCAL FOCUS:

Our vision is that we have strong, healthy families with hope for the future. Our mission is to provide opportunities to families and children to meet their own needs and fullest potential through a unified support system.

OPERATING STRUCTURE:

The Crawford County FCFC has 24 members total. Ten members sit on the Executive Council. The Executive Council meets monthly, and the Full Council meets every other month. The FCFC Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the meeting and its members, preparing the agendas for all meetings, taking minutes, and following up on all activities of the council.

LOCAL FCFC CORE RESPONSIBILITIES:

- **Community Capacity Building/Planning:** strategies and outcomes
The Crawford County FCFC works closely with the county's child servicing agencies and JFS to create programs and fill resource gaps in the community. The desired outcome of these efforts is increased communication and collaboration between systems of care to improve services for children and families.
- **Service Coordination:** strategies and outcomes
The Crawford County FCFC works directly with the Crawford-Marion ADAMH Board, the Crawford County JFS and Children Services agencies, the county and city Public Health Departments, the local MR/DD agency, the local Mental Health agency, the County Juvenile Court, the Public School Systems, the local Alternative School and other entities in order to build a strong support and referral system for families. The outcome of this service coordination provides a strong platform for the children of Crawford County to develop appropriately and have adequate care.
- **Family Empowerment:** strategies and outcomes
The Crawford County FCFC works closely with the community agencies and families through a Clinical Team Meeting setting. The families and children are invited to attend these meeting to help brainstorm ideas of how to help their children and family succeed and overcome the issues at hand. The outcome of this team is increased involvement and participation by the families in planning for services for their children.
- **Early Childhood System of Care:** strategies and outcomes
The Crawford County FCFC implements the Help Me Grow program through a contract with the local county Health Department. The local mental health provider delivers some early child hood mental health consultation services to families and HMG participants. The desired outcome is early identification of problem behaviors in young children.

LOCAL CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND RESPONSIBILITIES (As Applicable):

- **Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention:** strategies and outcomes
Crawford County FCFC was fortunate to have the Ohio Children Trust Fund Grant monies in FY08 & FY09, which enabled the county to provide education and training to all local school districts on child abuse and prevention. The Crawford County. FCFC has high hopes of receiving this funding for FY10 in order to continue the progress in awareness regarding child abuse and prevention by initiating a new Wraparound program.

OTHER LOCAL INITIATIVES: strategies and outcomes

The Crawford County FCFC is a supporter of the local Strengthening Families Program which is administered by the mental health agency. By providing the families of today with a solid parenting foundation, the county hopes the future generations of parents will respect and continue those parenting skills in order to provide children with a safe and stable home.

FUNDING:

The funding for the Crawford County FCFC comes from local funding and miscellaneous grants.

STAFFING:

The Family and Children First Coordinator is the only staff member of the Crawford County FCFC. The Crawford County FCFC is housed with the Crawford- Marion ADAMH Board.

CHALLENGES:

The challenge facing the Crawford County FCFC is the need for federal, state, and local funds to help support and establish the necessary programs in the area identified by our needs assessment. Due to the rural location, lack of transportation and small population of the county, establishing and retaining high quality services is a barrier to helping families and children succeed.

FUTURE PLANS:

The Crawford County FCFC's plans for the future are to build a larger awareness of the council in the community, continue to work on the implementation our HB289 Strategic Plan, and create a stronger community collaboration by inviting additional community agencies and parent representatives to the council.

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