



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



Licking County Children & Families First

Kathy McLeish, Coordinator

COUNTY: Licking

MISSION STATEMENT / LOCAL FOCUS: Building community capacity, coordinating systems and services, and engaging and empowering families

OPERATING STRUCTURE:

Operates as a department of Licking County Commissioners with Licking County Board of M.R.D.D. serving as the administrative and fiscal agent.

LOCAL FCFC CORE RESPONSIBILITIES:

- **Community Capacity Building/Planning:** strategies and outcomes
Provide a voice to the community through a variety of services including training for community service providers to increase knowledge and skills, using evidence-based practices, in working with youth and families. Maintain baseline data for community initiatives.
- **Service Coordination:** strategies and outcomes
Offer services that promote self-sufficiency and family stability for children with multi-needs and their families, using pooled funding and pooled professional resources.
- **Family Empowerment:** strategies and outcomes
Provide programs for building resiliency, protective factors and assets and opportunities for practice of skills. System success is achieved when families are heard and supported.
- **Early Childhood System of Care:** strategies and outcomes
The Early Childhood Collaborative Group of Licking County serves as the early childhood advisors to the Licking County Children and Families First Council providing regular reports and updates. This committee deals directly with issues and concerns of both parents and providers of young children birth to three. Help Me Grow provides service coordination for children 0-3 years of age.

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

- **Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention:** strategies and outcomes
Two target areas are to reduce substance abuse and family violence.
 - A. The PAXIS Institute PAXIS/Licking County Prevention Impact Initiative is specifically designed to meet the needs of Licking County. The initiative incorporates appropriate parent discipline and monitoring, establishes community norms that do not tolerate substance abuse. The community expectation is that pro-social behavior does not tolerate substance abuse or family violence.
 - B. Triple P Parenting Program is a multi-level, parenting and family support strategy that aims to prevent severe behavioral, emotional and developmental problems in children by enhancing the knowledge, skills and confidence of parents. family to define their needs and how those should be met in respect to reducing Substance Abuse and Family Violence.

OTHER LOCAL INITIATIVES: strategies and outcomes

Based on the PAXIS initiative in Licking County the community is committed to the following:

- a. Reduction in youth substance abuse
- b. Reduction in discipline problems in schools
- c. Reduction in juvenile crime and youth violence

- d. Reduction in child abuse and neglect.

Prepare contents of PRIDE community report as a result of the PRIDE survey completion by Licking County Public School Students.

FUNDING:

Licking County Children and Family First has an annual operating budget of \$1,030,016. Funding sources include the Ohio Capacity Building Grant, SAMSHA Funding, Licking County United Way, Licking County Commissioners, Member Contributions, FAST, ABC Non-Behavioral Health, Pooled Funding from the community. A variety of special funding is also obtained to fund specific programs or projects in the community.

STAFFING:

One Part-time Council Coordinator and a Full Time Clinical System Service Director.

CHALLENGES:

Securing discretionary funding to support special projects.

FUTURE PLANS:

We will continue our alliance with the United Way and partner agencies by working cooperatively to bring greater alliance between the public and private sectors of the community around common issues.

Contact Information:

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