



2019
ANNUAL REPORT

Focus on
Youth



As Focus on Youth continues its mission to improve the lives of the children, families, and young adults, our focus this year has been on new and continued collaborations with public and private partners and stakeholders who align with our mission and goals to achieve permanency, safety, and well-being for those we serve. These include partnerships with our public partners and other service providers, churches, and the Coalition of Care; membership in the Child and Family Health Collaborative of Ohio and Cincinnati Foster Care; participation on several statewide committees and workgroups; and collaboration with our stakeholders through an active Foster Parent Advisory Board and Youth Advisory Board. We believe partnerships and collaborations with other groups committed to these shared goals are essential to effectively helping the growing number of children, families, and young adults in need of the services we provide. With the highest number of placements in our foster care program in the past seven years and the highest number of children and families served through our behavioral health program in our history, the 2018-2019 fiscal year has proved the value of this approach.

Along with our mission comes a commitment and dedication to providing evidenced-based, effective treatment and achieving positive outcomes for those we serve. This is why I am especially proud that 84% of the children who discharged from our foster care program this fiscal year achieved their permanency plan, and we achieved accessibility on 89% of all urgent referrals to our behavioral health program. I am also very pleased to report completion of EMDR training for one of our clinicians and completion of a year-long training program with all direct service-staff in Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI). These, combined with the evidenced-based treatment of TF-CBT, SITCAP, and play therapy we already provide, are helping to achieve the right kind of outcomes for our clients. We remain dedicated to continuous improvement and further growth of partnerships as we look to FY 2019-2020. Thank you for your interest in Focus on Youth and please consider ways you can partner with us as we continue to help children, families, and young adults throughout southwest Ohio and beyond.

Bryan Forney
Executive Director

OUR VISION:

Focus on Youth is the chosen provider of quality foster care, adoption, and mental health services to children, families, and helping professionals.

OUR MISSION:

Improve the lives of children by providing strengths-based foster care, adoption, and mental health services that promote the permanency, safety, and well-being of youth.

BOARD MEMBERS:

Daryl Nelson

Board Chairperson
Board Member Since: 2014
Committees: Executive, Policy

Bill Hensley

Vice Chair
Board Member Since: 2015
Committees: Executive, Audit

Annie Roettker

Treasurer
Board Member Since: 2014
Committees: Executive, Audit, Finance

Sharline Martin

Secretary
Board Member Since: 2015
Committees: Policy, Fundraising

Debra Meyer

Board Member Since: 2017
Committees: Policy

Will Davis

Board Member Since: 2018
Committees: Policy, Audit, Finance

Steve Connell

Board Member Since: 2018
Committees: Fundraising



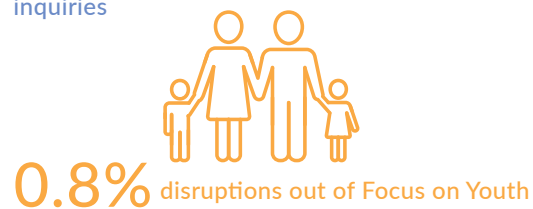
Program Manager
Christina Kappen

[Foster Care and Adoption]

Our Foster Care and Adoption program finds, trains, and thoroughly supports foster families to provide safe, stable, nurturing homes for children who have been abused and neglected. Foster parents rely on our 24-hour support from licensed social workers and the Foster Parent Advisory Board as well as ongoing training. This fiscal year, the program served 201 children with a total of 108 placements, up 37% from last year.

One of the measures we value most is permanency. This year, 84% of our youth achieved a permanency plan, 47% of those occurred within 12 months. Focus on Youth helped find permanency for children on the Ohio Waiting Children list. Our foster parents remain satisfied with 97% of them reporting a positive experience and they would recommend Focus on Youth to others. During the 2018-2019 fiscal year, the program:

- Continued to participate in the Bridges program, supporting former foster youth transition to adulthood and achieve healthy independence.
- Implemented the Youth Advisory Board.
- Expanded foster parent support by providing Community Psychiatric Supportive Treatment (CPST) for families.
- Helped the youth in our care resolve needs and build strengths using the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment to help with level of care decisions, risk behaviors, and functioning.
- Increased the number and diversity of foster parents.



“ An incredible agency that works hard in the best interest of the child while partnering with the parents and the rest of the team. We have had many crises and they have been there helping in person and lining up new resources for us. I would never be licensed with another agency. ”

- FOSTER PARENT



Clinical Director
Tracy Faber

[Behavioral Health]

Our Behavioral Health program provides comprehensive mental health services to children ages 3 and up, along with their families. Whether from our foster care program or the community, these children receive mental health assessments, individual counseling, crisis intervention, family therapy, group therapy, and more.

One of four people in Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, and Warren Counties have experienced four or more adverse childhood experiences by age 18 (Wright State University Applied Research Institute, 2016). To help families in our community address and overcome these kinds of trauma, we specialize in Trauma-Informed Care throughout our organization and send a licensed counselor to the EDGE Teen Center in Liberty Township two days each week.

Over the fiscal year, we have:

- Improved health outcomes and prevented hospital readmissions by following up after a hospitalization.
- Improved quality, efficiency, and value of services by improving systems and productivity.
- Implemented Eye Movement Desensitization and Preprocessing (EMDR), an interactive psychotherapy technique.
- Secured grant for expansion of trauma certifications.
- Received grant for continued collaboration with the EDGE Teen Center.

[331 children served]

87% clients reached service target

89% of urgent clients seen in less than 14 days

[94% agree that staff is knowledgeable about trauma and interact with trauma sensitivity.]



“ **Helpful and answer questions we may have regarding treatment, behavior, etc. Easy to talk to and very friendly. Makes all of us feel good and trusted, very comfortable about treatment plan.** ”

- BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CLIENT

“ **Regular communication between therapist and caregivers has been so helpful! Caring attitude, willing to help find solutions and offer support.** ”

- BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CLIENT



Training Manager
Alicia Ajiboye

[Training]

31%

increase in trauma-informed trainings

97%

foster parents satisfied that our trainings are useful, relevant, and helpful

100%

caregiver satisfaction with training department.



More than

2,000

training attendance

As advocates for youth who have experienced trauma, we work to equip caregivers and social service professionals with tools to handle trauma-related challenges. Our Training Institute provides evidence-based, trauma-informed, and thoroughly researched training that covers a wide range of topics. These classes are for parents, foster parents, and social service professionals, including counselors, social workers, marriage and family therapists, psychologists, childcare providers, and teachers.

This year, we continued expanding our staff's knowledge and skill in Trauma-Informed Care (TIC). Our third TIC self-assessment showed improved trauma specific education and increased TIC practices throughout the organization. This included another successful two-day Child Welfare Conference for caregivers and professionals and having our staff trained in Trust Based Relational Intervention (TBRI), an evidence-based approach to helping children heal who have experienced trauma. We also work collaboratively with other social service agencies working with TIC.



225
trainings

“I love the webinars. They are so convenient and easy for my schedule.”

-FOSTER PARENT

[Administration and Finance]

Financial
Manager
Penny Dougan



“ We are a family.
Good day or bad day,
the support everyone
gives each other is
amazing to me. ”

- FOCUS ON YOUTH EMPLOYEE

“ The most important
aspect of FOY is its
willingness to consider
and value my opinions
and be open to change
in directions that will
help create a better
environment for clients. ”

- FOCUS ON YOUTH EMPLOYEE

The Finance and Administrative department is responsible for establishing and maintaining the systems and procedures that keep our organization running smoothly. The team manages everything from daily business details like billing and staffing to business relationships and building maintenance. It keeps the lights on, the doors open, and the highest level of service for our youth and families.

This department continued its excellent support of the entire organization this fiscal year. Maintaining our high standard of customer service and employee care and achieving compliance with various state requirements are just a few of its many accomplishments this year.

The team also:

- Earned 94% satisfaction in the safety and trauma sensitive nature of our facility.
- Maintained agency compliance with Ohio transfer of Medicaid billing to MCOs.
- Secured Ohio Medicaid payments using Billingbuilder.
- Increased visibility of the agency and partnership with the business community through involvement with West Chester/Liberty Chamber of Commerce.
- Moved toward paperless recordkeeping and reporting by increasing the agency data now stored in our electronic health records system, AWARDS.
- Kept staff turnover rate a low 5.7%.
- Successfully billed all five Managed Care Organizations for behavioral health services.

FINANCIAL

Total Public Support and Revenue \$3,133,003

Breakdown of expenses:

Program expenses (88.8%) \$2,861,846

Management & General (11.1%) \$359,189

Fundraising (00.1%) \$3,929

Total Expenses: \$3,224,964

Year End Assets: \$775,506



PQI Manager
Jeanie Kleiber

To further improve the quality, efficiency, and value of our services this fiscal year, the PQI department:

- Advanced technology by adding important forms to our website and helping implement text message confirmation and reminders for Behavioral Health appointments.
- Tracked Ohio Scales Assessment scores and utilized additional resources from the MyOutcomes data program in Behavioral Health.
- Improved case records review audit process and implemented audits for HIPAA security risk/EHR Access.
- Identified key outputs versus key outcomes, then added new performance measures to the PQI analysis.
- Improved staff and stakeholder involvement and communication with PQI.

[Performance and Quality Improvement]

The Performance and Quality Improvement (PQI) department ensures we are effectively delivering services and achieving our goals. Using quantitative and qualitative data, we can identify and address areas of needed improvement. Focus on Youth incorporates the Child and Family Service Review (CFSR) Outcome Measures and Systemic Factors into its performance and quality improvement program. These measures support permanency, safety, and well-being of youth. This year, to promote better outcomes for children and families, the PQI department continued to monitor behavioral health HEDIS measures and secured membership in these key committees/groups:

- Ohio's CQI Statewide Subcommittee, which will be responsible for establishing a mechanism for ODJFS, counties, and private agencies to share CQI policies, protocols, tools, resources, and recommendations to support a statewide "CQI Community of Practice."
- The Child and Family Health Collaborative of Ohio Collaborative Quality Committee promoting performance on outcomes included in value-based payment agreements.
- Ohio Children's Alliance CQI Affinity Group for better serving children and families by sharing ideas and experiences with a community of peers in Continuous Quality Improvement.

“ I've been a foster parent with Focus on Youth for 20 years and it has been a very positive experience. ”

-FOSTER PARENT



Focus on Youth

Within each of us is the power to change a child's life forever. Focus on Youth is committed to meeting our community's growing need for foster care, behavioral health services, and parent training. Will you join us?



513-644-1030



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