

Department of Children & Youth

November 8, 2023



MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO

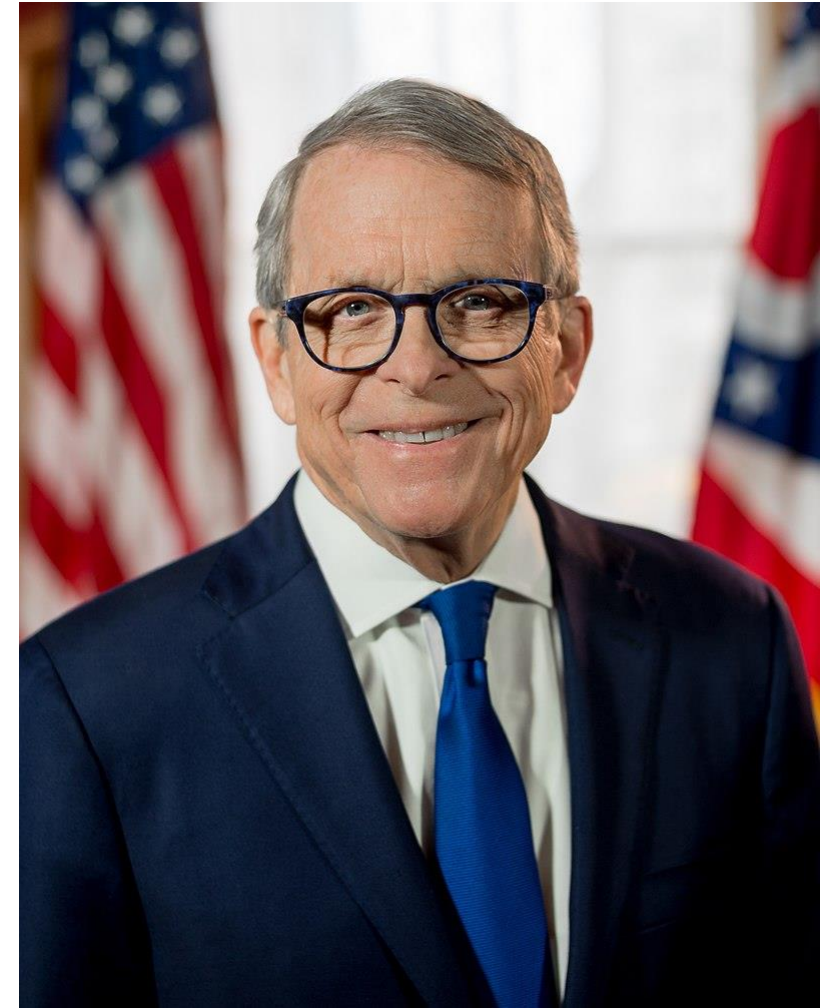


GOALS FOR THE DAY

- Provide an Overview of the New Department.
- Where do you see opportunities to improve process, policy and program?
- What concerns do you have as we transition?
- Hear feedback on the draft goals, 90-day Building Blocks, Strategic Pillars.

“Our goal for each Ohioan is for them to be able to live up to their full potential and for each one to have the opportunity to live up to their version of the American dream.”

- Governor Mike DeWine



INTRODUCING THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & YOUTH

The Department will promote the efficient and effective delivery of services to Ohio's more than 2.5 million children and their families by:

WHAT

- combining functions and programs from six different state agencies
- reducing duplicative programs from across state government
- increasing administrative efficiency
- improving the delivery of services to families depending on these essential state programs

WHY

- Expanded investments; strengthened focus; falling rankings
- Must do something different:
 - #1: **Public Awareness:** Ensure that parents, caregivers, helping agencies know about and can access child and youth services.
 - #2: **Ease of access:** by integrating and individualizing services to fit the family.

WHEN

- The Department was established on **July 3, 2023**. Over the next several months the Directors of the respective agencies, or their designees, will develop a detailed plan to implement the transfer of duties, functions, programs, and staff.
- Full transition of all programs to occur no later than **January 1, 2025**.

PRINCIPLES AND GOALS

DCY has established the following **DRAFT principles** that will serve as the foundation for its approach and operations.



Transparency

Create transparency across programs utilizing cross-program data



Accountability

Create accountability to ensure children are receiving services when needed with the intended outcomes



Focus & Prioritization

Continue to prioritize children from birth to age 21, both in policy and funding



Local Structure

Foster collaboration to ensure strong child and family outcomes but local structure remains a local decision

GOALS

Reduce Infant Mortality. *Help more children thrive and reach their first birthday.*

Reduce Learning Gaps. *Ensure continuity of care across the spectrum of ages, stages, and services to help children and youth succeed.*

Reduce Involvement with Child Welfare. *Help provide families with needed resources and supports proactively, before a crisis within the family occurs.*

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & YOUTH



Identification:

- Children Services
- Home Visiting
- Ohio Children's Trust Fund
- Maternal and Infant Vitality Programming



Early Education:

- Early Intervention
- Publicly Funded Child Care
- Early Childhood Education
- Preschool Special Education
- Licensing
- Dolly Parton Imagination Library



Support:

- Ohio Fatherhood Commission
- Ohio Family Children First Council
- Healthy Beginnings at Home
- Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation
- Strong Families, Safe Communities

The Department will place children at the core of its mission to promote positive, lifelong outcomes for all Ohio youth.

AGENCY LAUNCH FOCUS AREAS

As the Agency Launches, the following topics have been prioritized and escalated as central efforts to standing up the new agency.



90-Day Building Blocks

- Central Intake Infrastructure
- Licensing Alignment
- Early Childhood Education Expansion
- Step Up To Quality – Equal Access
- Home Visiting Expansion



Strategic Pillars

- Continuum of Care
- Workforce
- Service Coordination



Data Driven Focus



Stakeholder/Community Engagement

- Regional Forums
- Stakeholder Plan – 90 days

90 Day Building Blocks Update

BUILDING BLOCKS FOR THE NEW AGENCY

It is important that we take time to understand the building blocks of DCY as the foundation of our work

Central Intake and Referral Infrastructure



Licensing Alignment



Early Childhood Education Expansion



Step Up To Quality Early Access



Home Visiting Expansion



CENTRAL INTAKE INFRASTRUCTURE



Goal(s):

- Develop a seamless system for families to access information about services and supports that are available across the children and youth service continuum.
- Expand the *Ages and Stages Questionnaire* (ASQ) additional children (3-5) (5-8) (8+).



Recommendations:

- Convene central intake and referral providers quarterly to increase collaboration and to identify gaps in the system.
- Expand access to ASQ for families with 3–5-year-olds through the helpmegrow.org website.
- Encourage state agencies and key partners to promote the use of the on-line ASQ to increase utilization.
- Increase utilization of community directories.



Actions to Date:

- ✓ CI&R inventory
- ✓ HMG CI&R Draft Amendment for ASQ 3-5



Meetings:

- 9/13 - 1:00-2:30 PM
- 10/12 - 1:00-2:30 PM



LICENSING ALIGNMENT



Goal(s):

- Develop a plan for the full integration of all aspects of licensing for early care and education, school-age and foster care that includes: Policy (statute/rules), monitoring, communications, training
- Implementation of tiered foster care licensing and payments.



Meetings:

- 9/18 - 9:00 -10:30 AM
- 10/20 - 9:30-11:00 AM



Actions to Date:

- ✓ Drafted a proposed timeline.



Recommendations:

- Develop a core set of rules that are accessible and focused on basic health and safety
- Engage internal and external stakeholders throughout the process
- Create a culture that blends regulatory responsibilities with continuous quality improvement and support
- Retain: Technical assistance and support, annual inspections, health and safety as the core, flexible training options.
- Revise: Review paperwork requirements for volunteers and speakers, day camp requirements, prohibitive offenses, additional ways (outside of the formal process) to gather comments on drafts.
- Develop core licensing rules for out of home settings.
- Develop a timeline that allows for adequate training and planning for both providers and state staff.



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION EXPANSION



Goal:

- Increase access to high quality preschool services, including full day options, through grant-based allocations and provide the continuation of ECE supports and services for families exiting PART C and entering Part B beginning with the next school year.



Recommendations:

- Keep the application & pilot simple.
- Do not limit by income eligibility.
- Start small and keep manageable.
- Make funding easier (fund classroom instead of slot).
- Provide a fiscal alignment/ braided funding pilot.



Actions to Date:

- ✓ August: ECE Awards made (31,000 additional slots).
- ✓ 10/6: Early Intervention Pilot Invitation to Apply sent (11/1 anticipated award date).



Meetings:

- 8/21 - 9:00-10:30 AM
- 8/29 - 2:00-4:00 PM

Early Childhood Education Expansion



STEP UP TO QUALITY EARLY ACCESS

Step Up To Quality Early Access



Goal(s):

- Develop sustainable financing strategies for Publicly Funded to meet federal compliance, stabilize capacity and improve access to high quality early care and education services.
- Modify quality standards based on staff and stakeholder feedback and national best practices in order to focus on what makes the greatest difference for children and families.



Recommendations:

- Provide additional round of stabilization grants to assist providers.
- Increase the market rate to the 50th percentile in order to meet federal compliance.
- Revise the Career Pathways to support the revised SUTQ benchmarks.
- SUTQ revised benchmarks, proposal is still being revised.



Actions to Date:

- ✓ ODJFS/DCY prepping for possible actions.



Meetings:

- 8/16 - 10:00-11:30 AM
- 8/31 - 11:30-2:30 PM
- 9/19 - 1:30-3:30 PM
- 10/23 - 12:30-2:00 PM

HOME VISITING EXPANSION



Goal(s):

- Increase access to evidence-based home visiting for expectant and new families in order to support parent's confidence and parenting knowledge.



Actions to Date:

- ✓ Expansion applications released, review and notification occurring now.
- ✓ Draft Request for Information being reviewed for FCI implementation.



Meetings:

- 8/24 - 2:00-3:30 PM
- 8/31 - 9:00-10:00 AM
- 9/13 - 10:00-12:00 PM

Home Visiting Expansion



Recommendations:

- Prioritize counties with a wait list of over 50 families, as of July 23, for expansion funding.
- Priority #2 for expansion grants should reflect counties with high infant mortality rates and low kindergarten readiness scores.
- Expansion funding should be based on what the program believes they need until position can be supported with Fee for Service funding. (Ok to consider a cap)
- Leverage existing infrastructure to support the implementation of Family Connects(FCI) (i.e. central intake for the birth hospital recruitment).
- Gather information, through a competitive process, from communities who may be interested. in implementing FCI in SFY 24

CHILDREN SERVICES WORKING SESSIONS

Goal:

As communities continue to work to build capacity to care for children with complex needs through a number of initiatives, including but not limited to OhioRISE, tiered foster care (with efforts to increase access to treatment foster care), and the development of ICF beds for youth with intensive behavioral health needs, there is an immediate need to develop additional solutions to support children entering our system to ensure all children have an appropriate placement to meet their needs. It is critical that additional solutions deliver near-term support while contributing to the progress of longer-term capacity-building initiatives.

Meetings:

- 8/7 - 2:00-3:30 PM
- 9/18 - 9:00-10:00 AM
- Next Meeting: 11/20

Recommendations:

- **Data Review**
 - 2,088 in Congregate Care
 - 1,243 more than 1 year
 - 225 more than 2 year
 - 72 more than 5 years
 - **State Care Team** – PCSA, Residential, OhioRISE Rep., DCY, DODD, OhioMHAS, ODM
 - **Master Facility Planning** – informed by Data Review
- **Telehealth** – (\$1.9M) January 2024 launch (ECMH & Children Services)
- **Bed Bulletin Board/Incentives** - (\$875,000)
- **Substitute Pool** – (\$250,000)

DRAFT

DRAFT

AWARENESS
Universal

- ASQ-Online & ASQ- SE (Birth to 5)
- Mental & Behavioral Health Awareness & Stigma Reduction
- Family Connects

PREVENTION

- Triple P
- Home Visiting
- Motivational Interviewing
- Family Success Networks
- Early Childhood Education
- Child Care

INTERVENTION

- Preschool Special Education
- Early Intervention
- Family Functional Therapy
- Multi Systemic Therapy
- Intensive Home-Based Treatment
- Evidenced Based Mobile Response
- Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility
- Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation

WELLNESS
Universal

- Peer Support (Kin, Adoptive, Biological)
- Oh Baby Kits
- Imagination Library
- Respite

STABILIZATION SUPPORTS

- WIC
- SNAP
- Medicaid
- Healthy Beginnings at Home/Housing

LIVED EXPERIENCE/TIERED FAMILY SERVICE COORDINATION/GUIDE

1. KRA-R – language & literacy
2. 3rd Grade - Reading
3. Graduation Rates

4. ASQ – Online/SE
5. Infant Vitality
6. Absenteeism

OUTCOME METRICS

7. DYS Commitments
8. Consecutive Working Quarters



FAMILY & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT RECAP

DCY EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT FAST FACTS

640+

Stakeholders Engaged

146

Family Stories Heard

60

Hours of Stakeholder Meetings Held

10+

Hours of Family Listening Sessions

5

Key Regions of the State Represented

Key Themes from our Stakeholders

Along with families sharing their stories and challenges, stakeholders shared a variety of recommendations:

Program Navigation



- Stand Up Parent Concierge/Navigator Program
- Coordinate Data/Information Across Programs
- Create Transition Supports for Youth Aging Out of Programs

Workforce Supports



- Increase Training and Education Across Programs
- Focus on Retention of Providers
- Expand Professional Development Opportunities

Awareness Campaign



- Launch a Multi-Channel Marketing Effort
- Stand Up a One-Stop Website for All Programs
- Standardize Messaging/Program Information

Community Building



- Launch Peer-Peer and Provider-Provider Support Lines
- Build Trust in Communities/Counties Through Events, Information Sharing, and Coordinated Programming

Accessible Child Care



- Increase the Number of Programs Statewide
- Focus on Making Child Care More Affordable
- Encourage Programs to Serve Non-Standard Working Caregivers (3rd shift, sleep coverage, transportation, etc.)

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT - THEMES FROM LISTENING SESSIONS



General Lack of Awareness



Trust Among Families



Backlogged Evaluation / Diagnosis – Treatment Pipeline



Insufficient Supports for Children with Special Needs



Preventative Support for Parents



Child Care Accessibility



Streamlining Services



Workforce Training and Education



Program Eligibility



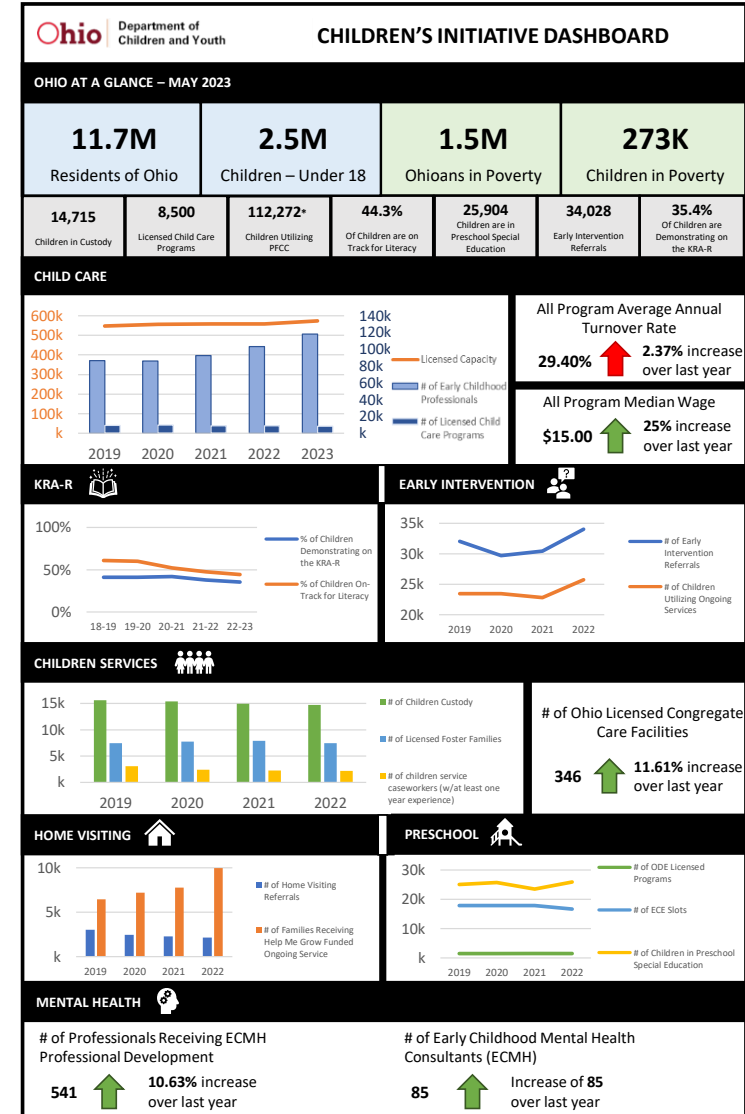
Lack of Cohesion Between Local Government and K-12 System

DATA-DRIVEN INITIATIVES AND OUTCOMES

Children's Initiative Snapshot

- Data driven approach toward outcomes
- Comprehensive view of key performance indicators
- Track progress, trends and impacts

“What gets measured, gets managed”



* = March 2023 data

Data is current as of 5/3/23

AGENCY INFRASTRUCTURE

- Team Members/Notification
- Emails
- Website
- Fiscal

THANK YOU!

