Public Children Services
Association of Ohio

CCAO New Commissioners Training
February 13, 2019
Mission

PCSAO is a membership-driven association of Ohio’s county Public Children Services Agencies that advocates for and promotes child protection program excellence and sound public policy for safe children, stable families, and supportive communities.
Overview of County Public Children Services Agencies
State vs. County Administered

Ohio is 1 of 9 states that are county-administered

**FEDERAL-MONITORED:**
- US Dept of Health & Human Services

**STATE-SUPERVISED:**
- ODJFS

**COUNTY-ADMINISTERED:**
- County Public Children Services Agency (PCSA)
Agency Structure

62 Combined with JFS, 21 Separated, 2 Hybrid
Multi-County Agencies
With Children Services Levies

51 Counties, 81% of Child Population
CONTEXT OF CHILDREN SERVICES IN OHIO
Children Services Mandates

- Screening
- Investigations
- Safety Assessment
- Family Assessment
- Case Plan
- Visitation

- Behavioral & Physical Health
- Developmental Disabilities
- Education
- Delinquency/Unruly
- Independent Living
- Normalcy

- Reunification
- Kinship Care
- Adoption
- Emancipation
How Children Services Is Funded in Ohio

Counties fund over 50% of children services expenditures by relying on local government funds and dedicated levies.

Only half of the state share is distributed to counties.

Source: SFY 2016, from ODJFS SACWIS special data runs for unduplicated count. Additional calculations by PCSAO.
National Comparison of States’ Investment in Children Services

42% vs. 10%*

Other States’ share of children services expenditures

Ohio’s share of children services expenditures

Ohio ranks 50th in the nation for SFY 16 state’s share in funding


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Severe Crisis in Ohio’s Children Services System
Opioid Epidemic → Tsunami of Need

Children entering foster care at higher rates than ever before

17% more kids or 2,385 in the last 24 months

Source: ODJFS SACWIS special data run
Point in Time Data for July 1, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018
Opioid Epidemic → Tsunami of Need

Skyrocketing foster care placement costs

12% increase in just 2 years or $39m more; $95m more in 5 years

Source: ODJFS SACWIS special data run
State Fiscal Years, 2013, 2016, 2018
The rising costs of children services has resulted in a surge in local levies.

51 out of 88 counties have a dedicated children services levy.

Source: PCSAO internal tracking
State Responded in SFY2018-19

➢ Attorney General granted $6 million and Dept. of Mental Health and Addiction Services granted $2 million for Ohio START pilot in 33 counties since March 2017

➢ Legislators reestablished state general revenue fund appropriation to counties at $60 million/year (up from $45 million/year)

BUT ... placement costs alone had increased $39m in SFY2018
Tsunami is Here ➔ Reform is Needed

If current conditions continue, Ohio will have nearly 19,000 children in foster care by 2020

Only 7,400 foster homes available; not increasing at the same pace

Source: ODJFS SACWIS special data run, received Nov. 2018. Point in Time Data for July 1, 2016, 2017, 2018
Additional calculations by PCSAO.
Tsunami is Here → Reform is Needed

Skyrocketing foster care placement costs require more State resources

Estimated Placement Costs by 2020

- At least $44m more will be needed in 2020 just for placement costs!

Source: ODJFS SACWIS special data run, received Dec. 2018. SFY13, 16, 18. Additional calculations by PCSAO.
Our Priorities

➢ Meeting Today’s Needs:
  o Increase the state’s investment in children services via the State Child Protection Allocation Line

➢ Reforming for Tomorrow:
  o Improve foster care placement and service options
  o Identify multi-system solutions for families in crisis
  o Meet the needs of kinship caregivers
  o Leverage innovative technology and practice
How You Can Help

➢ Reach out to your PCSA Director to learn more about county, state and federal requirements

➢ Consider a ride-along with a caseworker

➢ Encourage local partnerships to strengthen services for children and families

➢ Support our Reform Plan!
Contact PCSAO for More Information

Angela Sausser, Executive Director
614-507-3113; Angela@pcsao.org

www.pcsao.org

@PCSAOhio  PCSAO

#FosterHope4OHKids