Public Children Services Association of Ohio

Meeting Date/Audience
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.
Mission

safe children

stable families

supportive communities
State-Supervised, County-Administered
Sister Associations

County Commissioners’ Association of Ohio

Ohio Job and Family Services Directors’ Association

Ohio Child Support Enforcement Agency Directors’ Association
A Diverse Membership
Size
Levy Funding
47 Counties/80% of Child Population
Agency Structure

61 Combined, 22 Separated, 2 Hybrid
Multi-County Agencies
Child Welfare Funding

National

- State: 43%
- Federal: 46%
- Local: 11%

Ohio

- State: 9%
- Federal: 39%
- Local: 52%
Child Welfare Funding

2013 Total Cost: $1,006,793,629

State contributes 9% to the total cost
- 4.7% goes to PCSAs for child welfare expenditures
- 5.3% for Adoption Subsidies, SACWIS, trainings, other

Federal funding contributes 39%:
- Title IV-E - TANF
- Title IV-B - Medicaid
- Title XX
The Opioid Epidemic's Impact on Children Services in Ohio
Impact of Opioid Epidemic on Children

PCSAO surveyed county PCSAs to determine the impact of opiates on children in custody (out-of-home care). 74 PCSAs responded and revealed:

- 50% of children taken into custody in 2015 had parental drug use

PCSA: county Public Children Services Agencies

Source: PCSAO Opiate Survey, April 2016
Impact of Opioid Epidemic on Children

PCSAO surveyed county PCSAs to determine the impact of opiates on children in custody (out-of-home care). 74 PCSAs responded and revealed:

- 28% of children taken into custody in 2015 had parents who were using opiates, including heroin, at time of removal.

Source: PCSAO Opiate Survey, April 2016
In-Depth Analysis of the Impact of Opioid Epidemic on Children

- 70% of children in custody under the age of 1 had parents who used opiates, including heroin.

- 60% of children in custody under the age of 5 spend at least one birthday in foster care!

Source:
Ohio’s Children Services System Today

More children are in PCSA custody requiring a foster care placement

63% of children in custody are under the age of 12

Source: ODJFS SACWIS special data run, October 2016. Additional calculations by PCSAO.
Ohio’s Children Services System Today
Children are staying in foster care longer due to opiate recovery timelines and relapses

Median Days in Temporary Custody (July 1)

Within 1 year of recovery from opiates, 85% will relapse

Source: ODJFS SACWIS special data run, October 2016.
Ohio’s Children Services System Today

Placement costs have increased due to more children in care and their needs being more complex.

Placement Costs for Foster Care & Residential Care (SFY)

- $250,000,000.00
- $260,000,000.00
- $270,000,000.00
- $280,000,000.00
- $290,000,000.00
- $300,000,000.00
- $310,000,000.00
- $320,000,000.00
- $330,000,000.00

2013: $275 million
2016: $321 million

17% increase

$138m (42%) were drug-related cases

75% paid with local dollars, 25% paid with federal dollars

Source: ODJFS SACWIS special data run, January 2017. Additional calculations by PCSAO.

This data is provisional and will be verified by PCSAO.
Ohio’s Children Services System Today

More relatives are caring for children impacted by the opioid epidemic

Children in Custody Placed with Relative (July 1)

Access to affordable child care is the greatest need among kinship families.

Source: ODJFS SACWIS special data run, October 2016. Additional calculations by PCSAO.
Ohio’s Children Services System Today
Caseworkers are first responders in these opioid-related case, leading to secondary trauma in our workforce.

In 2016 ......

- PCSAs were operating with a 76.6% caseworker capacity who are responsible for removing children from unsafe homes, reunifying children with their parents or finding permanent homes with other loving caregivers.

Loss of staff = $24.3 million to cover recruitment, training, overtime costs

Source: Caseworker data from PCSAO Caseload Survey, 2016.
Ohio’s Children Services System Today
State funding is not keeping up with the demands on Ohio’s children services system

21% decrease in State funding to counties since 2008 while cases have increased

Source: ODJFS SACWIS special data runs for unduplicated count, October 2016. SCPA from ODJFS, reported in PCSAO Factbook 11th, 12th editions, ODJFS special data run, January 2017. Additional calculations by PCSAO.
Ohio Ranks 50th in Nation for State Share of Children Services Total Expenditures

If Ohio’s state investment doubled, we would still be 50th in the nation

What Ohio Needs

$30 million/year added to the State Child Protection Allocation (ODJFS Line-600523) so that PCSAs can:

- Recruit additional foster and adoptive homes
- Provide additional support to kinship and foster families
- Pay rising placement costs (foster care, group homes, residential care)
- Recruit and retain a vital workforce
Contact PCSAO for More Information

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