

Report to the

COMMUNITY

June 2021

Child & Adult
Protective Services

WORKFORCE
Development

Child **Support**
Enforcement

COMMUNITY
Services



Safe Children • Stable Families • Strong Community

A Word of

Welcome



Corey Clark

Director, Fairfield County Job and Family Services

COMMITTED TO SERVICE COMMUNITY DRIVEN

It is my pleasure to present our annual Job & Family Services Report to the Community. The last year has presented challenges and transitions the likes of which we never imagined. Without exception, our staff answered the call and ensured that we never stopped providing the exceptional customer service that has become our standard. Throughout health orders and everchanging mandates, we remained focused on providing vital services to our community while adapting to a new teleworking environment for the majority of our staff.

This report reflects not only the deep dedication of our staff but also the extraordinary efforts of our community partners who work along side of us to serve the children and families of Fairfield County. The statistics in this report may appear as numbers but represent so much more. They are the children, parents, elderly, and families whose lives are deeply impacted by the services they receive. They are why we are committed to the agency vision of safe children, stable families, and a strong community.

Sincerely,

Corey B. Clark
Fairfield County Job and Family Services Director

Customer Service Ambassador

Fairfield County Job and Family Services offers a Customer Service Ambassador to any customer who has questions, comments and or complaints about the services which we provide. If you need this specialized service, please feel free to contact us at (740) 652-7685.

Our Mission Statement

To protect children and elderly, encourage family stability, and promote self-reliance for a stronger community.

Administration

Corey Clark,
Director

Patrick Welsh,
Deputy Director
Child Support Enforcement Agency

Krista Humphries,
Deputy Director of Community Services

Bart Hampson,
Deputy Director of Finance

Heather O'Keefe,
Deputy Director of Protective Services



COMMUNITY Services Snapshot

15,400

individuals received food assistance (SNAP) - of those, **6,455** were children.



Publicly Funded Childcare

519

Families

1,021

Children

34,793



individuals participated in the Medicaid program. **49%** were children/elderly. 1,678 individuals on Medicaid are either on waiver (in home services) or in a long term care facility.



662 Households with
1,044 Children

received cash assistance.
Of that, 78% were kinship households.

765

children were issued a **\$250** voucher for school clothing/supplies in 2020.



1,885

families were given help with housing/utility assistance, food, hygiene items and toiletries through our PRC program totaling \$732,000.



Meet Brittany

Brittany and her two children came to our agency in February 2020. She recently left a bad relationship and was living at a shelter for victims of domestic violence. Brittany had a good work history, her high school diploma and a driver's license. Brittany just needed help to get her back on her feet.

Brittany was approved for cash assistance, food assistance, Medicaid, and publicly funded child care. Brittany volunteered at a county agency in exchange for her assistance and enrolled her children into a local daycare. Being able to afford daycare had always been a struggle for Brittany in the past and made it difficult for her to maintain employment. Community Services assisted her with gas money to get to and from her assignment. Brittany soon found stable income-based housing in a neighboring town. Community Services paid her deposit through the PRC Program to help her and the children get into their own place. Brittany was responsible to pay \$41 per month for rent and utilities. Community Services also assisted with school clothes for her child that was enrolled in school.

By March 2020, Brittany had already gained employment at a local restaurant. She was working 25 hours a week and then the pandemic hit, and the restaurant temporarily closed. Brittany was off work until June when businesses started to reopen, and she returned to her job. Brittany worked at that job over a year until she recently obtained a new job in healthcare while working with her Success Coach. She is now working 30-35 hours per week at \$13.50 per hour.

*Brittany and her two children have lived in the same apartment for over a year now and are enjoying the **stability** of housing and employment.*

*Names have been changed for privacy. Photos are for illustrative purposes only.



WORKFORCE Development

17

customers successfully completed occupational training programs in 2020.



254

new customers registered in 2020.

Jon began his journey with the OhioMeansJobs Center in the summer of 2017. He and his family moved here from their home in Uzbekistan and became permanent residents of the United States the same year. He was the father of three children with a fourth on the way. He was working through a staffing agency as an Assistant Machine Operator. Jon was motivated to find permanent and stable employment with a higher rate of pay to support his family. He decided that obtaining his Class A CDL would provide just that as well as the opportunity to see more of the United States with his travels. Although, Jon did have some language barrier, he was very determined to understand all of the necessary paperwork to be completed. Jon was approved for WIOA funding and started his training on October 14, 2017. He continued to work at a manufacturing company while he completed his CDL training on the weekends. Jon finished his training in early December of that year and passed his Commercial Driver's License test on December 16, 2017. Due to some unforeseen circumstances, Jon was not able to leave his manufacturing employment to begin driving. For the next year, he continued to maintain his Assistant Machine Operator position.

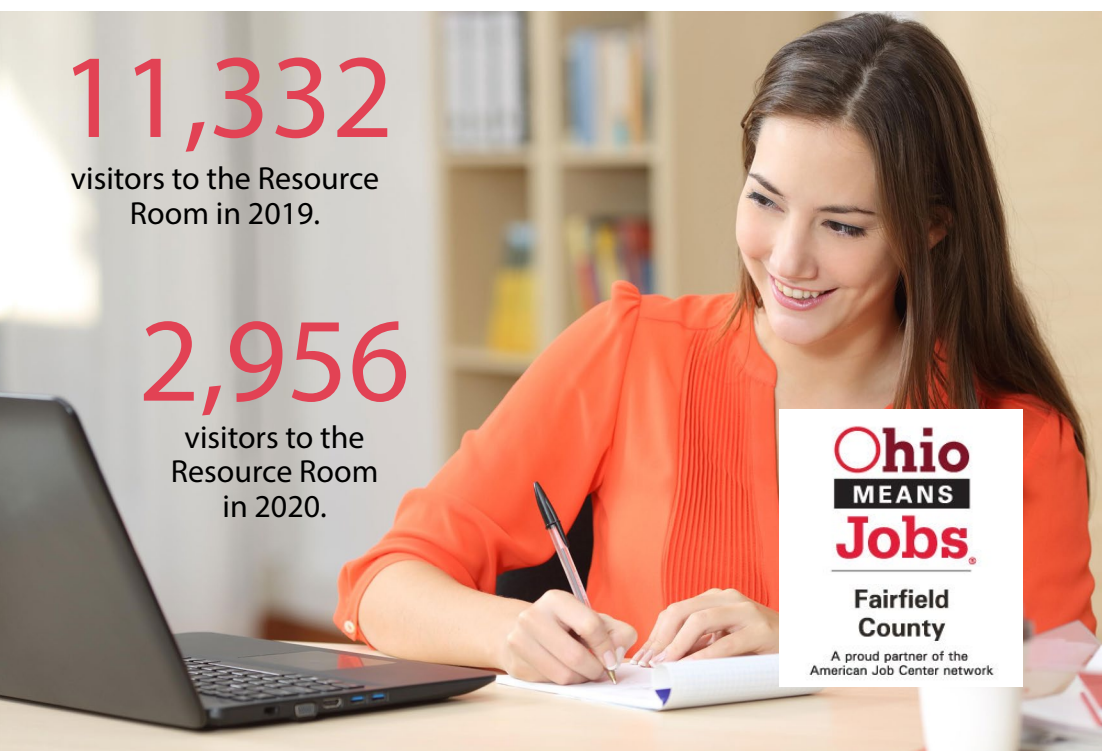
Recently, Jon stopped in the OhioMeansJobs Center to ask for our assistance in posting a job opportunity on our website. Jon has successfully started his own Truck Driving business and is in need of an employee. Jon stated, "I want to thank you for helping me with this. It is because of your help and giving me a chance that I am able to have my business."

11,332

visitors to the Resource Room in 2019.

2,956

visitors to the Resource Room in 2020.



Ohio
MEANS
Jobs

Fairfield
County

A proud partner of the
American Job Center network



Hosted 22
HIRING EVENTS in
2020 where **77**
people were
interviewed and
29 hired.

Child Support Enforcement

Dan is a non-custodial parent with a past due child support balance that once exceeded \$25,000. Substance abuse issues and their resulting criminal consequences served to exacerbate Dan's inability to comply with his child support order. Via a Misdemeanor Nonsupport filing initiated by the CSEA, our Agency was able to locate Dan and convince him to engage. While on probation for this Nonsupport Misdemeanor, Dan's CSEA Case Manager, the CSEA Attorney who prosecuted Dan's case, and the Juvenile Court official, all remained focused on Dan's ability to pay child support in the long-term, while also helping him develop a firm sense of accountability. With the encouragement and understanding of the involved parties, Dan completed a comprehensive drug rehabilitation program and secured stable employment during the probation process. As a result, Dan has made full monthly child support payments for nearly two years and has reduced his past due balance by more than \$3,000. Dan's success also led to he and his son's mother completing an Agreed Entry, approved by Domestic Relations Court, that now grants Dan regular parenting time with his child.

9,500 open child support cases in Fairfield County.



1 in 3 Ohio Children are involved in Ohio's Child Support Program.

Over \$23 Million collected in support payments in Fairfield County in 2020.

The agency spent
\$1 for every \$11.02
in support collected in 2020.



Ohio's child support program serves **1,091,074** children statewide.

Child Protective Services

Meet Callie

Average of **ONE** new licensed foster home per month.

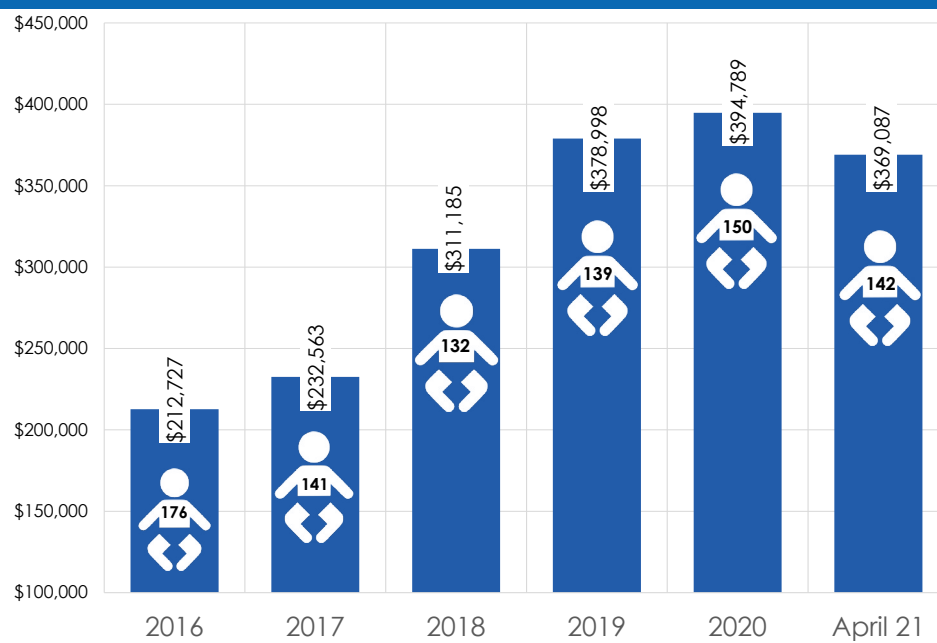
Callie was a pregnant mother who was actively using methamphetamine. After learning about Protective Services Prenatal FINS program and realizing she met the qualifications, Callie reached out to the Protective Services team for assistance. Callie was in her second trimester of pregnancy, had no other children residing in her home and was actively using substances. FINS prenatal Services is designed to assist families with active substance use issues to provide up front prevention services to assist mother and baby in a healthy, substance free delivery. The goal is to help parents address addiction and substance abuse use prior to the birth of the baby, and in most cases prevent the need for Protective Services Intervention. The assigned caseworker worked with Callie and various providers (OhioGuidestone, CompDrug, Step Clinic at OSU) to help develop a Plan of Safe Care. Callie worked her plan and went into recovery. The Plan of Safe Care was provided to the birth hospital with Callie's permission. Callie maintained communication with her service providers and Protective Services caseworker, and with the Plan of Safe Care in Place, the agency was able to close Callie's prevention services case prior to the birth of her child. Following the birth, Protective Services received a referral regarding the birth of her substance exposed infant, but due to a specific Plan of Safe Care in place that Callie was following, the agency did not have to become involved. Callie and her child continue to receive support from her providers, and she was able to give birth to a healthy baby and avoid any need for Protective Services intervention after her child was born.



10 finalized adoptions in 2020.



Placement Costs Per Month and Number of Children in Placement



7 out of 10
impacted by
substance abuse.

Average age of kids in custody as of April 30, 2021 is **9.37** years.

Adult Protective Services

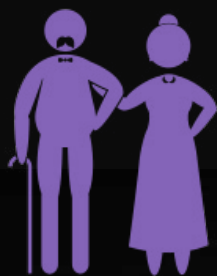
Elder abuse most frequently occurs in the **home** where the senior resides.

1 in 10

elder adults experience some form of abuse in their lifetime.

In 2020, Fairfield County received a total of **782** referrals of abuse, neglect and exploitation. Our Protective Services Levy allows the agency to maintain staffing levels to investigate and assist older adults.

The most common form of elder abuse both nationally and in Fairfield County is **exploitation**.



Over 85%

of perpetrators of elder abuse in Fairfield County are relatives.

Meet Barb

Barb is an APS client who was diagnosed with dementia and cancer while living in her own home with a family member she identified as a support. Barb had an additional family member, not in her home, assigned as her Power of Attorney. Adult Protective Services became involved when concerns were reported for Barb not receiving recommended treatment for her cancer. Adult Protective Services worked with Barb, identifying conflict between Barb's family members that created a barrier to Barb accessing cancer treatment she wanted to receive. As a result of missing medical appointments, Barb

lost weight, had a significant reduction in her mobility, and an overall decline in her health. Adult Protective Services was able to work with the Fairfield County Guardianship Board to access a guardian for Barb. After her guardian's appointment, barriers to her treatment were eliminated and Barb was able to receive the care she so desperately needed. As a result, Barb's health has significantly improved, and she quickly gained weight and the ability to be ambulatory again. Today, Barb is grateful for her overall improvement in her quality of life and attributes that to Adult Protective Services intervention.





Fairfield County
Job & Family
Services

239 West Main Street
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

(740) 652-7889
(800) 450-8845 • fcjfs.org

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- Follow us to keep up-to-date on PUBLIC ASSISTANCE offerings.

OhioMeansJobs Fairfield County Page:

- View our OhioMeansJobs **LOCAL JOB OPPORTUNITY OF THE DAY** post.
- Connect with employers and apply for jobs.
- Browse our **HIRING EVENTS** located on the 3rd Floor of FCJFS in the Resource Room.



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County**

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American Job Center network



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Fairfield County Board of Commissioners:
Steven A. Davis • Jeff Fix • David L. Levacy