

# What's the WRAP

*News and Information from the Lucas County  
Family Council on Wraparound Development in  
Lucas County*



## Special points of interest:

- What is Wraparound?
- Introducing “*What’s the Wrap*”
- Introducing the Core Team and Wraparound Planning Team Members
- How did we get here in Lucas County?
- Frequently Asked Questions

## What is Wraparound

Wraparound is an organizing process to organize formal and informal services and supports around a child/youth and their family and is grounded in a philosophical framework that respects the strengths and assets that each family brings to the table, as individuals, family, and as part of a larger community, e.g., extended family, friends, neighbors, local community leaders. In an article titled “History of the Wraparound Process”, VanDenBerg, Bruns, and Bruchard state the following:

*The wraparound process is a collaborative, team-based approach to service and support planning. Through the wraparound process, teams create plans to meet the needs—and improve the lives—of children and youth*

*with complex needs and their families. The wrap-around team members—the identified child/youth, parents/caregivers and other family and community members, mental health professionals, educators, and others—meet regularly to design, implement, and monitor a plan to meet the unique needs of the child and family. As is described in depth in other sections of this Resource Guide, the wraparound process can be described as one in which the team:*

- *Creates, implements, and monitors an individualized plan using a collaborative process driven by the perspective of the family;*
- *Develops a plan that includes a mix of profes-*

*sional supports, natural supports, and community members;*

- *Bases the plan on the strengths and culture of the youth and their family; and*
- *Ensures that the process is driven by the needs of the family rather than by the services that are available or reimbursable.*

VanDenBerg, J., Bruns, E. J., & Burchard, J. (2008). **History of the wraparound process.** In E. J. Bruns & J. S. Walker (Eds.), *The resource guide to wraparound.* Portland, OR: National Wrap-around Initiative, Research and Training Center for Family Support and Children’s Mental Health.

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## INTRODUCING “WHAT’S THE WRAP”

“*What’s the Wrap*” is a Newsletter that will be distributed at least monthly to help keep the community of managers, leaders, practitioners and professionals in Health, Education and Social Services informed and up to date as we work to develop Wraparound in Lu-

cas County. It is important that we help you all keep informed as we transition from a traditional Cluster Model (now called Creative Options) to Wraparound as our County wide Coordination Mechanism.

You may also find more information and resources

on Wraparound in general and what is happening in Lucas County at our website at [www.lucascountyfamilycouncil.org](http://www.lucascountyfamilycouncil.org)

We will also soon have a function at our site for you to be able to submit questions you may have regarding this transition. We will be regularly updating our Frequently Asked Questions on our website (see inside).



## Introducing the Lucas County Wraparound Core Team and Planning Team

Upon notification of award of the Behavioral Health and Juvenile Justice Grant for Lucas County, we worked to develop a two-tiered approach to planning and development for Wraparound Services – a larger Wraparound Planning Team with broad public system representation and community representation; and a Core Team made up of the original core that submitted the grant proposal. This was our strategy for dealing with tight timelines to get up and running while yet ensuring broad input with attention to more global and long-term issues. The Core Team serves more as the “rapid deployment force” of the project while the Planning Team plays a role reviewing plans, providing input and feedback and as we move into implementation – monitoring the implementation and fidelity of Wraparound development.

### Core Team –

*Karen Olnhausen*, Director of Child/Adolescent Behavioral Health Services – Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County

*Deborah Hodges*, Administrator of Probation Services – Lucas

County Juvenile Court

*Marci Dvorak*, Executive Director – NAMI of Greater Toledo

*David Kontur*, Director – Lucas County Family Council

**Wraparound Planning Team –**  
*Jovita Lucas*, Parent

*Laura Draheim*, Lucas County Children Services

*Carol Rehm*, Lucas County Department of Job and Family Services

*Rick Balin*, Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities

*Greg Braylock*, United Way of Greater Toledo

*Effi Theiss*, Lucas County Edu-

cational Services Center

*Deborah Hodges*, Lucas County Juvenile Court

*Marci Dvorak*, NAMI of Greater Toledo

*Karen Olnhausen*, Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County

*Robert Kaspyrzak*, Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County

*Dawn Kerschner*, Ohio Department of Youth Services

*David Kontur*, Lucas County Family Council

*Kristen Kanja*, Lucas County Family Council

## Wraparound Facilitators now working with Behavioral Health & Juvenile Justice Population

*“Wraparound is a planning **process** that follows a series of steps to help children and their families realize a life that resembles their hopes and dreams”*

*Neil Brown,  
Wraparound Consultant*



**Rachael Vandall-Hurley** is a graduate of Bowling Green State University. She has 12 years of experience in Social Services and Mental Health and was most recently at Harbor. She is very excited to be a part of this opportunity.



**Keith McWhite** is a graduate of Central State University in Wilberforce, Ohio. He has 8.5 years of experience in Social Services and Mental Health and most recently was at Zepf Community Mental Health Center. He is ready to “wraparound the community!”



**Rachael Cobb, LSW**, is a graduate of the University of Toledo. She has over 4 years experience in Mental Health and was most recently with the FAST program at NAMI. Rachael is looking forward to the next step in serving families.



### Lucas County Family Council

John Trunk, Chairperson  
Deborah Ortiz, Chair-Elect  
David Kontur, Director

## How did we get here in Lucas County?

Over the last 10 years, the Publicly Funded Family and Child Serving Systems in Lucas County have had ongoing discussions about developing Wraparound as a process for serving inter-system involved children/youth and their families in Lucas County. This discussion has also dovetailed with discussions about developing a well coordinated “System

of Care.” In May 2009, Neil Brown, a Wraparound Consultant associated with the National Wraparound Initiative was brought to Lucas County to do a presentation on Wraparound for public system leaders, staff and other stakeholders. Neil Brown gave an overview on Wraparound in terms of “What is it?” “How is it done?” and “How could we do

it?” Additionally, we had presentations from Stark County and Butler County that gave us a practical look at how it has been implemented in two different counties.

In May 2009, the Ohio Departments of Mental Health, Youth Services and ODADAS jointly issued a Request for Proposals called the Behavioral Health and Juvenile Justice Grant

## How did we get here? (Continued)

(BHJJ). The focus of this grant is specifically to reduce commitments of children and youth to the Ohio Department of Youth Services. Mental Health and Recovery Services of Lucas County (MHR SB), Lucas County Juvenile Court (LCJC), NAMI of Greater Toledo, and the Lucas County Family and Children First Council (LCFCFC) worked together to develop and submit a proposal, with MHR SB serving as the lead applicant agency and fiscal agent. We saw this grant as a tremendous opportunity to accomplish two objectives:

1. Develop Multi-systemic Therapy for children/youth with identified and diagnosed mental health challenges and involvement with juvenile court. This is very intensive in-home therapeutic services that address the whole family situation.
2. Develop Wraparound on a smaller scale – addressing the BHJJ population – with the long-term goal of expanding Wraparound as our coordination model for intersystem involved children/youth and their families (with the goal of replacing the traditional Cluster model by July 1, 2010).

The implementation of Wraparound has already begun for the BHJJ population with trained Wraparound Facilitators working out of NAMI of Greater Toledo and we are diligently working to plan and prepare for the transition from the traditional Cluster Model (currently called Creative Options) to Wraparound.

## Frequently Asked Questions—

**Greetings:** As we continue to work on the current implementation of Wraparound and the expansion of Wraparound later this year, we will continue to make a concerted effort to address your questions and concerns that may arise. The following are a couple of the most common questions and concerns we have heard so far, though certainly not an exhaustive list. We will maintain an ongoing list that will be periodically updated at the Family Council website at [www.lucascountyfamilycouncil.org](http://www.lucascountyfamilycouncil.org) - go to the Wraparound Page on the site. Please note that the Wraparound page is currently “under construction” but should be available by no later than February 5, 2010. We also hope to have the ability for you to submit questions directly at the website. David Kontur, Director—Lucas County Family Council

## Questions—

### **What will happen with Creative Options (Cluster) once Wraparound is expanded beyond the Behavioral Health and Juvenile Justice Grant population?**

**RESPONSE:** While there are still many details that will need to be addressed over the next five-months, it is our intent, to transition to Wraparound as the coordination process for multi-system involved children/youth and their families. We are planning to have four full-time Wraparound Facilitators, hired, trained and ready to receive referrals by July 1, 2010. Currently we have 2.5 FTE Wraparound Facilitators in place working with the BHJJ population. The Cluster process, as it currently exists, will no longer continue after the full transition.

### **What if a child/youth who is multisystem involved needs placement?**

**RESPONSE:** This is one of three core functions that the Cluster has served over the years. The other two core functions are

*Coordination and Special Assistance Funding.* We recognize the importance of all three functions and are diligently working on ensuring that there is an identified process and structure to support all three functions. Coordination will continue through the implementation of the Wraparound Model. The functions of Placement and Special Assistance Funding will continue as key functions of our overall Intersystem Coordination Strategy though we have not yet completed work on identifying what the processes will be and the structure to support them. We will post key developments on these functions on this website.

### **What if I am working with a child/youth and their family and wanted to make a referral to Creative Options (Cluster)?**

We would encourage you to make sure to work with your supervisor/manager within your agency and ask if it would be truly beneficial to the child/youth and their family to make the referral, and to be clear on which of the three functions identified above you are trying to access. If after this consideration you still think that it would be

beneficial to make the referral, you can proceed through the normal process within your agency with the referral. There will be no cutoff date on referrals, but you need to be clear, especially with families, that the coordination process or how you seek assistance for a placement or special assistance funding will be changing. It is not our intent to throw any curve balls to those of you in the trenches and so we will continue to get clear and up-to-date information out to you as quickly as possible to make sure you are well-informed on the processes and structure for the functions of Coordination, Placement, and Special Assistance Funding.

### **THANK YOU!!**

With special thanks we acknowledge the Ohio Department of Youth Services; Ohio Department Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services; and the Ohio Department of Mental Health for funding through the Behavioral Health and Juvenile Justice Grant that has made it possible for us to move forward on the Wraparound Development in Lucas County