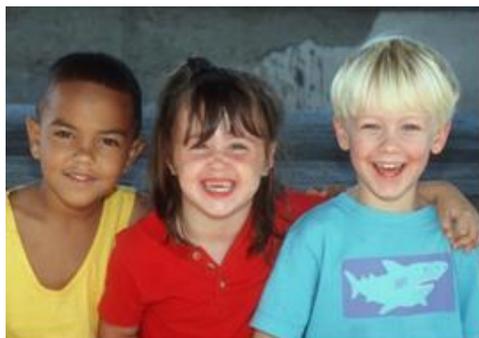


Lucas County *Children Services*

2015



Annual Report

Robin Reese, Executive Director



Acknowledgements

The Quality Assurance Department would like to acknowledge the LCCS Board of Trustees and the Executive Director for their support and allocation of resources for the production of the 2015 LCCS Annual Report.

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The 2015 Annual Report was prepared by the LCCS Quality Assurance Department, under the direction of the Associate Director of Quality Improvement. Quality Assurance was assisted in the creation of this report by the Assessment, Family Services, Placement, Fiscal, MIS and Public Information departments.

Patricia Daher - Manager, Quality Assurance

Rob Claypool - Data Analyst, Quality Assurance

*Term ended in 2015



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It is a privilege to present the Lucas County Children Services 2015 Annual Report to the Community.

This year, LCCS experienced its first change in leadership since 1997, with the retirement of longtime director Dean Sparks. I was humbled that the agency's Board of Trustees asked me to step into that role on an interim basis effective September 1, 2015. In the ensuing months, I have taken the time to listen to our employees, stakeholders and clients to learn what has been working – and what hasn't. My goal has been to make LCCS a better agency, and to help us do a better job of fulfilling our mission: To lead the community in the protection of children.

From a service perspective, 2015 was a challenging year. Compared to 2014, LCCS responded to six percent more referrals, involving six percent more children. We determined that eleven percent more children were victims of abuse or neglect. Eighteen percent more children came into agency custody, and even more (21 percent) children came into LCCS' permanent custody. This was due, in no small part, to the epidemic of opiate abuse that has taken hold in our community, but caseworkers also continued to see families struggling with domestic violence, mental health concerns, social isolation and other problems.

All of this has been happening as our network of agency foster homes has shrunk to well below 200. Many of our longtime caregivers have retired or adopted the children entrusted to them and stopped fostering. Too many foster parents have been caring for more children than intended, putting stress on both caregivers and the children. Recruiting 400 new foster families is one of my top priorities, and we have hit the ground running in the new year.

Fortunately, the agency ended 2015 on a positive financial note. Thanks to careful spending and some unexpected additional revenue, the agency concluded the year with a small increase in its fund balance, the first time this has happened since 2002. However, the fund balance remains dangerously low, leaving us with insufficient financial resources to respond to any kind of community crisis. Our current 1.4 mill levy is set to expire on December 31, 2016, and we anticipate asking voters to renew it at the November 2016 general election. Levies remain LCCS' primary source of funding, and voters will determine the level of service they want Lucas County's children to receive from this agency.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robin Reese". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robin Reese
Executive Director

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FINANCIAL SUMMARY

| | | |
|-------------------------|----|------------|
| FUND BALANCE @ 1/1/15 | \$ | 1,409,969 |
| REVENUE | \$ | 43,079,824 |
| EXPENSE | \$ | 41,225,806 |
| FUND BALANCE @ 12/31/15 | \$ | 3,263,987 |

| REVENUE | \$ | % |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Levy | \$ 23,281,439 | 54.0% |
| Federal | \$ 16,592,031 | 38.5% |
| State | \$ 2,796,529 | 6.5% |
| Other | <u>\$ 409,825</u> | <u>1.0%</u> |
| TOTAL REVENUE | \$ 43,079,824 | 100.0% |

| EXPENSE | \$ | % |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Salaries & Benefits | \$ 24,981,005 | 60.6 % |
| Placement Costs | \$ 10,027,864 | 24.3 % |
| Child Welfare Contracts | \$ 465,528 | 1.1 % |
| Daycare | \$ 1,029,404 | 2.5 % |
| Other Client Costs | \$ 847,381 | 2.1 % |
| Intergovernmental Contracts | \$ 1,002,500 | 2.4 % |
| Other Contracts | \$ 203,877 | 0.5 % |
| Other Operating Costs | <u>\$ 2,668,247</u> | <u>6.5%</u> |
| TOTAL EXPENSE | \$ 41,225,806 | 100.0% |

For 2015, revenue exceeded expenditures by \$1,854,018. This increased the fund balance to \$3,263,987 at year end.

Total revenue increased by \$843,147 (2.0%) from 2014 to 2015. The amount of levy funds received increased by \$306,198 from 2014 to 2015. The two Children Services levies totaling 3.25 mills remain the largest source of agency funds. The 1.4 mill levy expires at the end of 2016 while the 1.85 mill levy expires at the end of 2018. Both levies are five years in length. Federal funds increased by \$314,246 from 2014 to 2015. Increases in Title IV-E Foster Care Maintenance reimbursement and the amount of Title XX TANF Transfer received were contributing factors. Title IV-E remains the agency's largest source of federal funding with receipts of almost \$13 million in 2015. State funding increased by \$209,939 from 2014 to 2015. The State Child Protection Allocation remains the largest source of state fund funding at just under \$2.1 million in 2015.

Total expenditures decreased by \$1,227,921 (2.9%) from 2014 to 2015. Employee salaries and fringe benefits along with placement costs continue to be the largest expense categories accounting for 84.9% of total agency expenditures for 2015. Salaries and fringe benefits increased by \$177,893 (0.7%) from 2014 to 2015. Salary expenditures for the year included twenty-seven pay periods opposed to the typical twenty-six pay period year. The agency also experienced a 15% increase in the per employee cost of health care benefits. Agency headcount was 342 at the end of 2015 compared to 344 at the start of the year and 370 at the beginning of

2014. Placement costs increased by \$20,166 (0.2%). There were small increases in the average daily number of children in paid care and the average daily cost of care. There were decreases in the amount of adoption subsidies paid as well as kinship incentive payments. Child welfare and other contract expenditures decreased by \$213,754 primarily the result of decreased utilization and the reduction of several contracts. Daycare expenditures increased by \$67,620 (7.0%) as there were increases in the utilization of relative daycare. Other client costs consists of a various categories including food, clothing, transportation, respite, and other supports decreased by \$76,008 (8.2%) from 2014 to 2015. Intergovernmental contracts decreased by \$1,252,986 with the reduction and elimination of several contracts. Other operating costs increased by \$49,149 (1.9%) from 2014 to 2015.

The year end fund balance of \$3,263,987 equals only 28.9 days of average daily expenditures based on 2015 expenses.

KEY STATISTICS

| | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | Trend |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| New CA/N Referrals | 4959 | 4840 | 4271 | 4517 | +6% |
| <i>Traditional Referrals</i> | <i>1417</i> | <i>1823</i> | <i>1522</i> | <i>1863</i> | <i>+22%</i> |
| <i>Alternative Response Referrals</i> | <i>3542</i> | <i>3017</i> | <i>2749</i> | <i>2654</i> | <i>-3%</i> |
| New FINS Referrals* | 564 | 510 | 530 | 536 | +1% |
| Alleged Child Victims** | 7347 | 7323 | 6419 | 6825 | +6% |
| Substantiated Victims | 822 | 952 | 963 | 1072 | +11% |
| New Cases Opened | 455 | 527 | 443 | 455 | +3% |
| Children Entering Custody | 641 | 672 | 678 | 743 | +10% |
| Children Entering Agency Cust. | 419 | 425 | 372 | 440 | +18% |
| Children Entering Relative Cust. | 222 | 247 | 306 | 303 | -1% |
| Children Entering Relative Plmt. | 343 | 396 | 432 | 477 | +10% |
| Custodies Terminated*** | 337 | 384 | 361 | 360 | <-1% |
| Permanent Custodies Received | 116 | 149 | 82 | 99 | +21% |
| Adoptions Finalized | 108 | 105 | 130 | 58 | -55% |
| Children Served | 12435 | 12542 | 12116 | 12392 | +2% |
| Families Served | 5314 | 5370 | 5016 | 5079 | +1% |

* Family in Need of Services referrals are those in which voluntary services are provided to families whose reported concerns do not meet the criteria to screen in as abuse/neglect.

** Children on alternative response referrals are identified as “child subjects” rather than ACVs, although ACV will be used throughout this report.

*** This figure does not include custody terminations that were the result of temporary custody being transferred to a relative.

After decreasing for the last two years, new referrals for child abuse and neglect increased six percent. Substantiated victims of abuse and neglect increased 11 percent. New cases opened for ongoing services increased slightly (three percent), while the number of children entering custody of the agency or a relative increased 10 percent. Agency custodies increased 18 percent. The number of children leaving agency custody (custody terminations) remained almost the same as in 2014. The number of children entering permanent custody increased 21 percent (12 children), while adoption finalizations decreased 55 percent. Overall, the number of children and families served increased two percent and one percent, respectively.

The
number of
children
entering
LCCS
custody
increased
18% from
2014.



CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT ALLEGATIONS

New Referrals

LCCS screened in 4,517 new referrals for abuse and neglect in 2015, an increase of six percent over 2014. Fifty-nine percent of these referrals were assigned to the “Alternative Response” track and 41 percent were assigned to the traditional response track. The agency also responded to an additional 536 reports that were categorized as “Family in Need of Services” referrals, meaning that the reported concerns did not meet the criteria to screen in as abuse or neglect but the agency opened a referral for the purposes of support and prevention of maltreatment.

59% of CA/N referrals were screened in as “Alternative Response.”

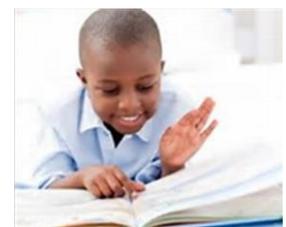
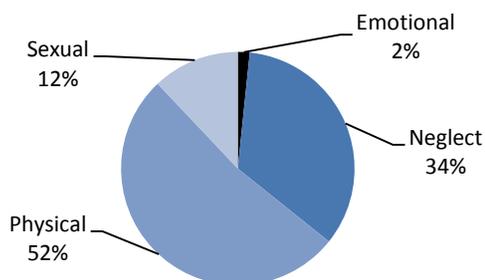
| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | Trend |
|----------------------|------|------|------|-------|
| New Referrals | 4840 | 4271 | 4517 | +6% |
| Traditional Response | 1823 | 1522 | 1863 | +22% |
| Alternative Response | 3017 | 2749 | 2654 | -3% |
| FINS | 510 | 530 | 536 | +1% |
| Alleged Victims | 7323 | 6419 | 6825 | +6% |

Response Times Assigned

The response time indicates how quickly the agency must attempt to make contact with parties on the referral in order to assess child safety. The majority of referrals screened in (99 percent) were assigned a non-emergency, 72-hour response time. The remaining one percent were assigned an emergency, one-hour response time.

Abuse Type

Physical abuse was the most prevalent type of abuse reported in 2015 at 52 percent, followed by neglect at 34 percent. Patterns in abuse types reported to LCCS changed only slightly from 2014. Nationally, neglect is the most common abuse type reported (at 75 percent in 2014), followed by physical abuse, but in Ohio only 45 percent of referrals in 2014 were for neglect and 44 percent were for physical abuse. Neglect had been the most frequently reported abuse type in Lucas County historically until 2008 when allegations of domestic violence and infants exposed to substances in utero began to be coded as physical abuse per revised Ohio screening guidelines.



Referral Sources

The table below shows the source of referrals made to LCCS during 2015. These have remained fairly consistent over the past three years.

| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|
| Social Services | 26% | 24% | 24% |
| Private | 25% | 23% | 20% |
| Legal/Law Enforcement | 16% | 17% | 20% |
| School | 13% | 13% | 13% |
| Anonymous | 12% | 14% | 13% |
| Medical | 5% | 6% | 5% |
| Other | 3% | 3% | 4% |

Social services, legal/law enforcement and private referral sources (relatives, friends, and neighbors) continued to be the most frequent sources of referrals during 2015. This data is consistent with national data on reporting sources, which shows 63 percent of reports being made by professionals.

Alleged Perpetrator Gender by Abuse Type

The table below shows the gender of alleged perpetrators for each type of abuse. Patterns were very consistent with previous years. Females were the predominant APs on neglect referrals (at 71 percent) while a majority of sexual abuse referrals had male perpetrators (74 percent). Gender ratios were about half male and half female for physical and emotional abuse referrals. Overall, 47 percent of perpetrators were male and 50 percent were female (3 percent were unknown).

| | Neglect | Physical | Sexual | Emotional |
|---------|---------|----------|--------|-----------|
| Female | 71% | 43% | 18% | 56% |
| Male | 29% | 54% | 74% | 42% |
| Unknown | 1% | 3% | 8% | 2% |

Referrals by Zip Code

The table below shows the rates of referral by zip code.

| Zip Code | Children on Incidents | Children in Zip Code | 2015 Rate/1,000* | 2014 Rate |
|------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------|
| 43604 | 332 | 2734 | 121.43 | 108.27 |
| 43605 | 836 | 8563 | 97.63 | 86.77 |
| 43609 | 647 | 6915 | 93.56 | 81.42 |
| 43608 | 436 | 4722 | 92.33 | 85.98 |
| 43620 | 115 | 1346 | 85.44 | 80.98 |
| 43610 | 112 | 1395 | 80.29 | 68.82 |
| 43607 | 365 | 5111 | 71.41 | 64.76 |
| 43611 | 278 | 4576 | 60.75 | 58.78 |
| 43612 | 427 | 7883 | 54.17 | 59.24 |
| 43613 | 347 | 7688 | 45.14 | 42.66 |
| 43606 | 213 | 4998 | 42.62 | 38.22 |
| 43615 | 356 | 8509 | 41.84 | 39.02 |
| 43614 | 195 | 5841 | 33.38 | 35.27 |
| 43528 | 127 | 3872 | 32.80 | 28.41 |
| 43616 | 124 | 4700 | 26.38 | 18.94 |
| 43623 | 90 | 4022 | 22.32 | 28.02 |
| 43537 | 104 | 6214 | 16.74 | 13.20 |
| 43560 | 105 | 8348 | 12.58 | 11.98 |
| All Others | 567 | N/A | N/A | N/A |

*Based on 2010 population from the U.S. Census

The rate of referral increased in all zip codes from 2014, except for 43612, 43614 and 43623.

The 43604 zip code had the highest rate of referral, followed by 43605 and 43609. The top five zip codes for CA/N referrals also have the highest poverty rates (ranging from 37%-60%), well above the 21% rate for Lucas County.

The highest *number* of referrals came from the 43605 zip code, but this zip code also has the largest child population of all zip codes represented, at 8,563.

Demographics of Children on Referrals

The age, gender and race of alleged child victims are provided below. Forty-two percent of ACVs were less than six years old. Seven percent were 16 years or older.

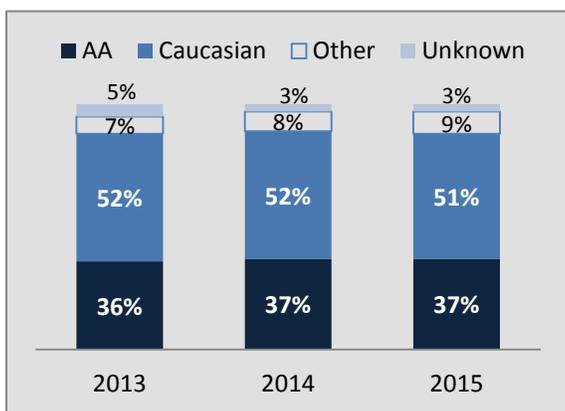
Age

| Age | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|-----------|------|------|------|
| 0-1 yrs | 17% | 16% | 16% |
| 2-5 yrs | 26% | 26% | 26% |
| 6-9 yrs | 24% | 23% | 25% |
| 10-12 yrs | 14% | 14% | 13% |
| 13-15 yrs | 12% | 12% | 13% |
| 16+ yrs | 6% | 7% | 7% |

Gender

| Gender | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|--------|------|------|------|
| Female | 50% | 50% | 49% |
| Male | 50% | 50% | 51% |

Race of ACVs



Caucasian children represented the highest percentage of children on referrals at 51 percent. African American children represented 37 percent of children on referrals. This racial distribution was largely the same as in 2014.

Eleven percent of ACVs were Latino, the same as in 2014.

Substantiation Rate of Referrals

Following an investigation of allegations of abuse or neglect, a finding or “disposition” is made as to whether the allegations are founded (substantiated or indicated). Only traditional response referrals receive a disposition; alternative response referrals do not unless they are changed to a traditional response referral during the course of the assessment. The table below shows substantiation rates overall and by abuse type.

| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|----------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| All Referrals | 36% | 43% | 40% |
| Physical | 33% | 40% | 38% |
| Neglect | 42% | 45% | 43% |
| Sexual | 38% | 45% | 40% |
| Emotional | 18% | 45% | 30% |

Of the traditional referrals investigated in 2015, forty percent were found to be substantiated or indicated. The highest substantiation rate was for neglect at 43 percent, followed by sexual abuse at 40 percent. Overall, the substantiation rate decreased three percent from 2014.

Case Openings

A total of 455 referrals investigated in 2015 resulted in an open case being transferred to the Department of Family Services, which is an increase of three percent from 2014 in the number of new ongoing cases opened for services. The case opening rate decreased from 10.4% to 10.1% from 2014. The following section provides information on ongoing case services provided during 2015.

ONGOING SERVICES

Following an investigation into allegations of abuse or neglect, if the potential risk and severity of future child abuse or neglect is judged to warrant LCCS intervention, a case will be opened to the Department of Family Services. The following provides information about ongoing services provided to children and families during 2015.

| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | Trend |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| New Cases Opened | 527 | 443 | 455 | +3% |
| Case Opening Rate | 10.9% | 10.4% | 10.1% | -0.3% |
| Cases Carried Over from the Prior Year | 624 | 606 | 610 | +<1% |
| Average Cases Open Per Month | 658 | 613 | 607 | -1% |
| Custody* | 308 (47%) | 286 (47%) | 301 (50%) | +3% |
| Non-custody | 350 (53%) | 327 (53%) | 306 (50%) | -3% |
| Average Number of Children on Cases | 1358 | 1288 | 1248 | -3% |
| Average Number of Children per Case | 2.06 | 2.10 | 2.06 | -2% |

*Agency custody only

The number of new ongoing cases increased three percent from 2014. The average number of cases open per month decreased one percent.

Fifty percent of new cases opened in 2015 were custody cases and 46 percent were non-cases at the time that they were opened; the remainder were protective supervision cases. On average during 2015, custody cases accounted for 50 percent of cases open; an increase of three percent in the proportion of cases that were custody compared to 2014. The average number of children on cases decreased three percent.

Cases Opened by Family Race

Forty-three percent (43%) of families on new cases opened in 2015 were Caucasian and 32% were African-American. One quarter (25%) of the new cases opened involved families that were multi-racial.

| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| African-American | 158 (30%) | 131 (30%) | 144 (32%) |
| Caucasian | 231 (44%) | 208 (47%) | 197 (43%) |
| Two or More Races | 128 (24%) | 104 (23%) | 114 (25%) |
| Unknown | 10 (2%) | - | - |

The
number of
new cases
opened
increased

3% in

2015.



Reasons for Case Opening

The table below provides information on the primary reasons that cases were opened in 2015. Substance abuse was the primary reason for case opening in 31% of cases. Parenting/neglect issues were identified as the primary reason for case opening in 20% of cases. This included supervisory neglect, environmental neglect (i.e., housing conditions), not providing basic needs and medical neglect. Domestic violence was the primary reason for case opening in 13 percent of cases.

| Primary Problem | 2014 | 2015 |
|-------------------|------|------|
| Substance Abuse | 35% | 31% |
| Parenting/Neglect | 16% | 20% |
| Domestic Violence | 12% | 13% |
| Physical Abuse | 12% | 10% |
| Mental Health | 8% | 7% |
| Child Behavior | 4% | 6% |
| History with LCCS | 5% | 3% |
| Sexual Abuse | 3% | 3% |
| Other | 5% | 7% |

Typically, there is not one single issue that resulted in an ongoing case being opened for services. The table below shows secondary problems identified for new cases opened.

| Secondary Problem | 2014 | 2015 |
|-------------------------|------|------|
| Mental Health | 34% | 22% |
| Parenting/Neglect | 15% | 16% |
| Substance Abuse | 15% | 13% |
| Domestic Violence | 7% | 8% |
| Child Behavior | 1% | 3% |
| History with LCCS | 2% | 1% |
| Other | 5% | 6% |
| No secondary identified | 23% | 31% |

The most prevalent secondary reason for case opening was mental health at 22 percent, followed by parenting/neglect at 16 percent. Substance abuse was a secondary problem in 13 percent of cases.

The table below shows the percentage of new cases where substance abuse, domestic violence and mental health were a presenting problem (whether primary, secondary or "other" identified problem).

| Presenting Problem | 2014 | 2015 |
|--------------------|------|------|
| Substance Abuse | 56% | 49% |
| Mental Health | 53% | 42% |
| Domestic Violence | 24% | 26% |

Substance abuse was an identified problem overall in 49 percent of new cases opened for ongoing services in 2015. Mental health was an identified problem in 42 percent of cases and domestic violence was an issue in 26 percent of cases.

Substances being Used

For cases where substance abuse was an identified problem related to case opening, data was collected on the types of substances being used (based on information known at the time of case opening). The table below provides this information. Heroin/opiates were the predominant substance being used at 59 percent. These percentages do not total 100 percent, as parents could have been using more than one substance.

| Substances being used | 2014 | 2015 |
|-----------------------|------|------|
| Heroin/Opiates | 54% | 59% |
| Marijuana | 42% | 34% |
| Cocaine/Crack | 26% | 29% |
| Alcohol | 25% | 27% |
| Other | 7% | 10% |

Custody Status of Children on Open Cases

The table below shows the custody status of children served during 2015. Fifty-five percent of children were being served while they were either in relative custody or in the custody of their parent. The percentage of children being served while in agency custody increased slightly in 2015 (by three percent).

| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|-------------------|------|------|------|
| Agency Custody | 41% | 42% | 45% |
| Relative Custody | 23% | 24% | 28% |
| Non-custody/PSUPP | 36% | 34% | 27% |

Placement of Children in Services

The table below shows the placement types for children receiving services. Sixty-five percent of children receiving services were living in their own home or a relative home while receiving services. Twenty-five percent were in an agency foster home. The percentage of children living in their own home while receiving services declined six percent from 2014, but the percent of children living in a relative home increased six percent.

| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|
| Own Home | 33% | 30% | 24% |
| Relative/Kinship Home | 33% | 35% | 41% |
| Agency Foster Home | 24% | 24% | 25% |
| Adoptive Home | 2% | 3% | 2% |
| Other Agency Foster Home | 4% | 4% | 4% |
| Group Home | 2% | 1% | 1% |
| Private/Public Institution | 1% | 2% | 2% |
| Other | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| TOTAL | 1358 | 1288 | 1248 |



PLACEMENT STATISTICS

If a child must enter substitute care, it is always the intent of LCCS to place that child in the least restrictive placement possible while maintaining the child's safety. The following table provides information on children in substitute care during 2015.

| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | Trend |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| Children Entering Custody | 672 | 678 | 743 | +10% |
| Agency Custody | 425 (63%) | 372 (55%) | 440 (59%) | +18% |
| Relative Custody | 247 (37%) | 306 (45%) | 303 (41%) | -1% |
| Children Entering Relative Placement | 396 (59%) | 432 (64%) | 477 (64%) | NC |
| Average Number of Children in Custody | 875 | 852 | 910 | +7% |
| % Agency Custody | 64% | 63% | 61% | -2% |
| % Relative Custody | 36% | 37% | 39% | +2% |

The percentage of children entering the custody of a relative versus LCCS custody decreased four percent from 2014. The percentage entering relative placement stayed the same at 64 percent. The average number of children in custody increased seven percent.

Placement Types of Children in LCCS Custody

The table below shows the placement types for children that were in the custody of LCCS during 2015. Fifty-seven percent of children in LCCS custody were placed in an agency foster home; Twenty-four percent were placed in a relative home.

| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | Trend |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|-------|
| Agency Foster Home | 59% | 57% | 57% | NC |
| Relative | 19% | 20% | 24% | +4% |
| Adoptive Placement | 4% | 6% | 3% | -3% |
| Other Agency Foster Home | 11% | 10% | 10% | NC |
| Group Home | 3% | 2% | 3% | +1% |
| Institution | 2% | 3% | 3% | NC |
| Other | 2% | 2% | 2% | NC |

64% of children that entered custody in 2015 were placed with a relative.



Custody/Placement by Child Race

The table below shows the initial placement/custody status for children entering custody in 2015 by child race.

| | African American | Caucasian | Bi-Racial | Other |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Relative Placement/Relative Custody | 99 (35%) | 175 (48%) | 24 (29%) | 5 (50%) |
| Relative Placement/Agency Custody | 71 (25%) | 83 (23%) | 19 (23%) | 1 (10%) |
| Foster Home Placement/Agency Custody | 88 (31%) | 91 (25%) | 30 (36%) | 1 (10%) |
| Other Placement/Agency Custody | 27 (9%) | 16 (4%) | 10 (12%) | 3 (30%) |
| Total Children Entering Subcare | 285 | 365 | 83 | 10 |

Demographics of Children in Agency Custody

The following shows the age, gender and race of children in LCCS custody during 2015.

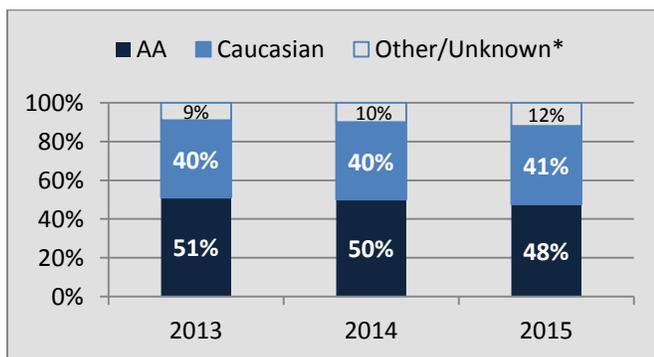
Age

| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|-----------|------|------|------|
| 0-1 yrs | 30% | 29% | 29% |
| 2-5 yrs | 25% | 25% | 24% |
| 6-9 yrs | 17% | 18% | 17% |
| 10-12 yrs | 9% | 9% | 9% |
| 13-15 yrs | 9% | 10% | 13% |
| 16 + yrs | 11% | 9% | 8% |

Gender

| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|--------|------|------|------|
| Male | 51% | 49% | 48% |
| Female | 49% | 51% | 52% |

Race



*The majority of children in this category are bi-racial.

**53% of
children in
LCCS custody
during 2015
were
between the
ages of zero
and five.**

Eleven percent (11%) of children in custody were Latino.

Foster and Adoptive Homes

The table below shows the number of foster and adoptive homes licensed/approved during 2015. The number of licensed foster homes decreased four percent by the end of 2015. The total number of newly licensed/approved families increased 32 percent compared to 2014. The number of new foster homes licensed increased 44 percent, while the number of new adoptive homes increased 14 percent.

| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Total Number of Licensed Foster Homes | 236 | 224 | 216 |
| New Foster Homes Licensed | 46 | 27 | 39 |
| New Adoptive Homes Approved | 46 | 35 | 40 |
| Total Families Licensed/Approved | 62 | 37 | 49 |
| <i>Foster Only</i> | <i>16 (26%)</i> | <i>2 (5%)</i> | <i>9 (18%)</i> |
| <i>Adopt Only</i> | <i>16 (26%)</i> | <i>10 (27%)</i> | <i>10 (20%)</i> |
| <i>Licensed/Approved for Foster and Adoption</i> | <i>30 (48%)</i> | <i>25 (68%)</i> | <i>30 (61%)</i> |

The number of dually licensed/approved homes increased during 2015, but the proportion of homes that were dually licensed out of all homes newly licensed/approved decreased seven percent.



Independent Living Outcomes

The Lucas County Children Services Independent Living program provides services to all teens who are 14 years of age or older who are in the custody of LCCS. The goal is to assist these youth in becoming prepared for self-sufficiency when they emancipate from custody. Self-sufficiency outcomes are tracked for these youth at the time of emancipation. There were a total of 26 youth who emancipated from custody in 2015, which is a decrease of 28 percent compared to 2014. The following table shows the self-sufficiency outcomes for all emancipating youth who received services through the Independent Living Unit.

| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Total youth emancipated | 34 | 36 | 26 |
| % of emancipated youth with a H.S. diploma, GED, or still attending school | 22 (65%) | 22 (61%) | 20 (77%) |
| <i>% of youth with a H.S. diploma or GED</i> | <i>16 (47%)</i> | <i>16 (44%)</i> | <i>12 (46%)</i> |
| <i>% of youth still attending school at the time of emancipation</i> | <i>6 (18%)</i> | <i>6 (17%)</i> | <i>8 (31%)</i> |
| % of youth who were enrolled in college (of those who had graduated or obtained a GED) | 8 (50%) | 3 (19%) | 2 (17%) |
| % of youth who were employed | 6 (18%) | 12 (33%) | 8 (31%) |
| % of youth not in school or attending college that were employed | 1 (05%) | 10 (37%) | 4 (25%) |
| % of youth with stable housing* | 26 (81%) | 33 (92%) | 24 (92%) |
| % of youth who were “whereabouts unknown” | 9 (26%) | 8 (22%) | 7 (27%) |
| % of youth who were incarcerated | 2 (06%) | - | - |
| % of youth with a support system | 29 (85%) | 34 (94%) | 25 (96%) |

*Incarcerated youth are not included in this measure.

Forty-six percent of youth completed their high school diploma or earned a GED by the time they emancipated; 31 percent were still attending school. Seventeen percent of emancipated youth that had graduated or had a GED were enrolled in college. Thirty-one percent of the youth were employed upon emancipation. Four of 16 youth that were not attending high school or in college were employed (25 percent). Ninety-two percent of the youth that emancipated had stable housing and 96 percent had a support system in place upon emancipation.

77% of youth leaving LCCS custody had a high school diploma or GED, or were still attending school.

Post Emancipation Program

The LCCS Post Emancipation Program is a voluntary program for young adults 18 to 21 years old who have emancipated from LCCS custody but need assistance from the agency to gain self-sufficiency skills. The program provides services to address eight domains critical to independence and healthy adult functioning: education, housing, employment, social functioning, self-care, daily living skills, support systems and freedom from legal/criminal involvement.

A total of 29 new referrals were made to the Post Emancipation program in 2015, with 17 young adults (59%) receiving Post Emancipation services and 12 (41%) receiving pre-Post Emancipation services. Pre-Post Emancipation services are supplemental services provided to youth that are still in LCCS custody who need additional assistance in attaining self-sufficiency prior to emancipation.

A total of 51 young adults were served during the year; 39 (76%) received Post-Emancipation services and 12 (24%) received pre-Post Emancipation services. The demographic makeup of the young adults served included 27 females (53%) and 24 males (47%). Over three-fourths (78%) of the young adults were African-American while 22% were Caucasian with 2 being of Latino ethnicity (4%).

There were 25 young adults whose Post Emancipation services ended in 2015. The following provides information on key self-sufficiency outcomes for those young adults whose services ended in 2015.

Housing: 14 (56%) of the young adults whose services ended were in stable housing for at least six months at the time of closing.

Employment: Five (20%) were employed full or part-time at the time of closing. Also during 2015, five young adults (20%) successfully completed a summer youth employment program.

Sustainable Income: Five (20%) were receiving Social Security Disability Income or other state benefits.

Ten youth in total were either employed or receiving some type of income benefits (40%).

Twelve young adults (48%) were either employed, receiving income benefits or were attending college.

Education: Ten young adults (40%) had graduated from high school or obtained a GED by the time of closing, with another five (20%) still in enrolled in high school or G.E.D. classes (for a total of 60%). Seven young adults (28%) were enrolled in college or vocational school.

Mental Health: Seventeen (17) of the young adults (68%) were actively involved in mental health services at the time of closing.



CASELOAD STATISTICS

| | Unit | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | Diff |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------|------|------|------|
| Assessments – New Referrals | Referral | 11 | 10 | 12 | +2 |
| Assessments – All Referrals | Referral | 13 | 12 | 14 | +2 |
| DFS | Case | 12 | 11 | 11 | NC |
| Family Foster Care | Foster Home | 20 | 20 | 20 | NC |
| Treatment Foster Care | Foster Home | 8 | 7 | 9 | +2 |
| Independent Living | Children | 11 | 11 | 11 | NC |
| Post Adoption | Case | 9 | 8 | 6 | -2 |
| Community Advocate | Case | 9 | 8 | 7 | -1 |
| Post Emancipation | Individual | 9 | 11 | 11 | NC |
| Parenting Program | Families | 7 | 9 | 8 | -1 |
| Health Services (full-time staff) | Children | 153 | 144 | 142 | -2 |
| Case Review | Conference | 48 | 44 | 46 | +2 |

Note: Caseload averages are based on the average number of staff available per month.

SUPPORT SERVICES

The LCCS Transportation Department provides transportation to children in agency custody for visits and appointments. The department made 9,983 trips during 2015 and logged 182,974 miles. This represents a 6 percent increase in the number of trips and an increase of 24 percent in the number of miles logged compared to 2014.

FAMILY VISITS

The Family Visits Department schedules and supervises visitation for parents and children at LCCS and the neighborhood resource centers. There were 12,208 visits scheduled in 2015. A total of 8,745 (or 72 percent) of those occurred as scheduled. This translates to an average of 28 visits being held per day (based on visits being held six days per week). This represents a three percent decrease compared to 2014.

OUTCOME ACHIEVEMENT

Child and Family Service Review Data Indicators

The table below shows LCCS performance on the federal Child and Family Service Review indicators for the time period from April to March for each year where data is available based on how the measure is calculated.

| Federal Measure | Standard | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
|---|----------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Maltreatment in Foster Care (rate) | <=8.5 | 12.4 | 18.1 | 19.3 | 10.8 |
| Recurrence of Maltreatment | <=9.1% | 4.5% | 10.5% | 8.4% | 8.4% |
| Permanency w/in 12 months for children entering foster care | >=40.5% | 49.3% | 50.4% | 53.1% | unavail |
| Permanency w/in 12 months for children in foster care 12 to 23 months | >=43.6% | 60.3% | 63.2% | 59.8% | 60% |
| Permanency w/in 12 months for children in foster care 24+ months | >=30.3% | 33.3% | 39.2% | 39.2% | 33.8% |
| Re-entry to foster care in 12 months | <=8.3% | 14.7% | 10.6% | 12.3% | unavail |
| Placement Stability (rate) | <=4.12 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.1 | 3.5 |

LCCS was in compliance with the recurrence of maltreatment indicator for three of the four years for which data is available. LCCS was in compliance with the placement stability indicator and all three of the permanency related CFSR indicators for all years between 2011 and 2014 for which data is available. Permanency rates for children entering care improved slightly in 2012 and 2013. Permanency for children that had been in care 12 to 23 months and 24 or more months fluctuated during this four year period but remained above the standard.

LCCS was not in compliance with the foster care re-entry and maltreatment in foster care measures for any of the years for which data is available, although performance greatly improved in 2014 on the maltreatment in foster care indicator. The maltreatment in foster care indicator measures substantiated or indicated abuse/neglect incidents for children in foster care regardless of the perpetrator. A review of incidents that were out of compliance for this measure determined that most did not involve a foster parent as the perpetrator. For federal fiscal year 2014, thirty-nine percent of these incidents (five) involved a foster parent as a perpetrator; this figure was thirty-six percent (nine incidents) for FFY 2013.

Data issues for the maltreatment in foster care indicator were also identified that are causing this measure to be inflated. The issue is with incidents of prior abuse being reported to LCCS after a child enters foster care that are being identified as maltreatment in foster care although the child was not in care at the time that the abuse actually occurred. The state created a means for these types of incidents to not be identified as maltreatment in foster care by creating an "incident date" field for the estimated date of the abuse to be entered into SACWIS, but this did not occur until January of 2015. For federal fiscal year (FFY) 2014, if corrected data was used to calculate LCCS performance (taking out incidents of abuse that occurred prior to a child's entry into foster care), LCCS performance would have been 7.0; the corrected figure for FFY 2013 is 13.1.

Other Permanency and Well-being Outcomes

The table below provides data for other indicators of permanency and well-being that are not part of the federal CFSR measures. The percentage of children that were removed and were initially placed with a relative caregiver in 2015 remained the same as 2014, at 64 percent. The percentage of children, on average, that were placed with a relative increased four percent.

| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|---|----------|----------|----------|
| Percentage of children removed who were initially placed with a relative | 59% | 64% | 64% |
| Percentage of children on average per month who were placed with a relative | 46% | 47% | 51% |
| Median length of time in temporary custody (children leaving care) | 430 days | 472 days | 420 days |
| Median length of time in care till adoption (those adopted during the year) | 629 days | 715 days | 613 days |
| Number of children entering the legal custody of LCCS (PPLA) | 29 | 16 | 13 |
| Percentage of children in agency custody in a group home or institution | 5% | 5% | 5% |
| Percentage of children in agency custody who are “whereabouts unknown” | <1% | <1% | <1% |

Visitation with Children and Parents

In 2015, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services received a federal sanction of \$3.8 million for failure to meet CFSR Round 2 program improvement goals regarding the “absence of recurrence of maltreatment” and “caseworker visits with parents and children receiving in-home and out-of-home care services.” In response, the state announced that it was withholding State Child Protection Allocation funding (for SFY 2016) from Ohio county child welfare agencies that failed to meet at least a 90 percent compliance rate with visits between children and parents. The state established two reporting periods during which county compliance with visit requirements would be measured and funds would be held back from counties on a tiered system based on their level of compliance. The first reporting period for determining county compliance was October through December, 2015. LCCS achieved a compliance rate of 97.72 percent for visits with children and 93.04 percent for visits with parents for this time period, and thus will receive all of its State Child Protection Allocation funds for this review period. In comparison, the State of Ohio as a whole had a compliance rate of 82.85 percent for visits with children and 61.90 percent for visits with adults for that same period. LCCS also was awarded additional incentive funds (\$5,458) for being in the “High Performer” category for visits with children (over 90 percent compliance for both the review period and the baseline period (October-December 2014)). The second period the state will use to determine county visitation compliance runs from January through March, 2016.

Longitudinal Outcome Data

The tables below provide longitudinal outcome data for a cohort of children that entered agency custody, left custody to reunification or entered permanent custody during the year identified.

The table below shows permanency outcomes for children entering agency custody between 2008 and 2013. With only one to two percent of children still remaining in care from 2008-2011 entries, we see that on average about 37 percent of children entering agency custody were reunified; 21 percent entered the legal custody of a relative. Thirty-one percent were adopted. Seven percent of children from 2012 entries and 14 percent from 2013 entries still remain in agency custody.

Permanency Outcomes of Children Entering Custody

| | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |
|-------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Number of Children | 359 | 322 | 283 | 339 | 410 | 421 |
| Reunification | 42% | 36% | 31% | 38% | 31% | 39% |
| Legal Custody to Relative | 20% | 23% | 22% | 22% | 25% | 31% |
| Adoption | 29% | 30% | 36% | 32% | 29% | 13% |
| Emancipation | 8% | 9% | 8% | 6% | 8% | 4% |
| Other | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | <1% |
| Still in Care/Have not Exited | 1% | 1% | 2% | 2% | 7% | 14% |

Number of Placements While in Care

The table below shows the number of placements children had while they were in care up to the two year point. If a child left care before two years, his or her total number of placements while in care is being represented in this data. The data is fairly consistent over the last six years, with an average of 49 percent of children having one placement and 30 percent having had two placements.

| Placements Per Child (within 2 yrs. in care) | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1 Placement | 47% | 48% | 51% | 49% | 50% | 50% |
| 2 Placements | 32% | 33% | 28% | 30% | 29% | 29% |
| 3 Placements | 13% | 10% | 11% | 10% | 13% | 14% |
| 4+ Placements | 8% | 9% | 10% | 11% | 8% | 7% |

Foster Care Re-entry

The table below shows rates of foster care re-entry following reunification for children that were reunified with a biological or non-custodial parent during the year identified. An average of 10 percent of children who were reunified between 2008 and 2014 re-entered custody within twelve months reunification. Fourteen percent of children (on average between 2008 and 2013) re-entered custody within two years of reunification.

| | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| # of children who left custody to reunification | 339 | 235 | 225 | 222 | 207 | 234 | 246 |
| % re-entering custody within 6 months | 8% | 9% | 6% | 7% | 9% | 4% | 6% |
| % re-entering custody within 12 months | 11% | 11% | 9% | 10% | 16% | 8% | 8% |
| % re-entering custody within 2 years | 14% | 15% | 13% | 11% | 19% | 14% | N/A |
| % NOT re-entering custody within 2 years | 86% | 85% | 87% | 89% | 81% | 86% | N/A |

Length of Time from Permanent Custody until Adoption

The table below shows the length of time until adoption for children entering permanent custody (PC) during the year identified. On average, 74 percent of children were adopted within 12 months of permanent custody over this seven year period. Full data is not available for 2014 because not all of the children had been in permanent custody for 24 months by the time of review (January 2016). An average of 94% of children entering PC between 2008 and 2013 had been adopted within 24 months.

| | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Number of Children | 107 | 114 | 101 | 92 | 116 | 150 | 81 |
| % adopted in 6 months (from date of PC) | 43% | 32% | 46% | 44% | 54% | 35% | 49% |
| % adopted in 9 months | 61% | 52% | 61% | 61% | 60% | 49% | 68% |
| % adopted in 12 months | 85% | 72% | 76% | 74% | 68% | 66% | 74% |
| % adopted in 15 months | 91% | 77% | 90% | 84% | 78% | 76% | |
| % adopted in 18 months | 94% | 83% | 90% | 88% | 84% | 88% | |
| % adopted in 21 months | 94% | 85% | 93% | 89% | 88% | 90% | |
| % adopted in 24 months | 97% | 94% | 93% | 95% | 91% | 92% | |
| % Not Adopted within 24 months | 3% | 6% | 7% | 5% | 8% | 8% | |

HIGHLIGHT OF AGENCY SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

Crossover Youth Project

The Crossover Youth Project provides joint assessment and case planning services for youth involved with both LCCS and the Juvenile Court. The goals of the program are to reduce congregate care placements, improve inter-agency information sharing, increase the use of joint assessments, case management and case planning, to enhance youth and family engagement, decrease lengths of stay in detention and placement, and to reduce recidivism for these youth. Since the program’s inception in 2012, 106 youth have been served. Currently, there are 25 youth being served by the program.

Imagination Station Partnership

For the past several years, LCCS has worked in partnership with Imagination Station to provide access to the science center to help parents visiting with their children learn to play together, and to use the center’s facilities as a tool to improve socialization and bonding. Imagination Station brings workshops to the LCCS Family Visits department, and provides discounted passes and memberships to LCCS families in the process of reunifying.

In October 2015, the downtown Toledo science center received the “Nonprofit Innovation Award,” sponsored by the Toledo Community Foundation, the Center for Nonprofit Resources, The Blade, Buckeye CableSystem and 13abc. For the past few years, the partnership has been funded by Lockrey Manufacturing; moving forward, a new funder, Jerl Machine of Perrysburg, will be the underwriter.

The Northwest Ohio Regional Training Center

The Ohio Child Welfare Training Program (OCWTP) is a comprehensive, competency-based in-service training system for staff, managers, and resource families in Ohio’s 88 county Public Children Services Agencies. Designed as a state/county, public/private collaboration, the OCWTP develops and provides an array of training activities to promote mastery of the complex knowledge and skills needed to assure protection and permanence for Ohio’s abused and neglected children. For child welfare training purposes, the OCWTP divides Ohio into eight Regional Training Centers, each of which is responsible for the budgeting, scheduling, registration, and administration of child welfare related training within its region. Each Regional Training Center collaborates with its constituent agencies regarding the identification of training needs, the implementation of training, transfer of learning, and other training-related issues.

The Northwest Ohio Regional Training Center (NWORTC) is hosted by Lucas County Children Services. The Northwest Ohio Regional Training Center proudly services child welfare staff and foster parents in the following counties:



The NWORTC hosted the following in 2015:

- Seven rounds of pre-service training for potential foster or adoptive parents in Lucas County, with 3,711 people attending.
- Five rounds of pre-service in five outlying counties, with 746 people attending.
- 1,656 foster parents/caregivers attended 150 different ongoing trainings at the Conference and Learning Center.
- 520 foster parents in the 15 outlying counties attended 45 ongoing trainings
- 2,038 staff/guests attended 181 ongoing trainings
- 1,182 trainings/meetings were held in the Conference and Learning Center

Multiethnic Placement Act (MEPA) Compliance Review

During 2015, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services conducted a site review of case records to evaluate the agency's compliance with the Multiethnic Placement Act. MEPA is a federal law that prohibits the use of race and/or ethnicity as a factor in making placement and adoption decisions. The reviewers found LCCS to be in 100% compliance with the MEPA requirements and no corrective action plans were required.

Parent Partnership Program

The LCCS Parent Partnership Program (P-3) engages parents who have been through the child welfare system in the past and are now in a stable position with their lives. In 2015, LCCS had the privilege of partnering with five Parent Partner volunteers. The Parent Partners serve in three different supportive capacities within P-3: Parent Representatives, Parent Facilitators, and Parent Advocates.

Parent Representatives are volunteers who may sit on agency committees, participate in speaking engagements at the agency and in the community, and who may assist with other agency activities/events. All five Parent Partners participated in multiple activities in 2015, including Services and Programs Committee, the trauma training kickoff event, presented at agency department meetings and various agency unit meetings, presented at the LCCS new employee training unit, participated in Reunification Readiness Committee and sub-committee meetings (creating the curriculum for the Reunification Readiness workshop), assisted with the filming of the Building a Better Future video, and attended various in-services throughout the year at LCCS.

Parent Facilitators teach a five-week, four module workshop called Building a Better Future (BABF), which aims to help parents whose children have been removed from their care. The workshop is designed to provide parents with a better understanding of how to navigate through the child protection system by offering them information about their rights, responsibilities, how the child protection system works, advocacy, and healthy communication skills. In 2015, the Parent Partners and LCCS staff facilitated six BABF workshops resulting in 39 parents successfully graduating from BABF.

Parent Advocates are linked with families/parents who have graduated from the BABF workshop. The purpose of this role is for the Parent Partner to provide further support and encouragement to selected families while they remain involved with LCCS. There were three Parent Partner Advocates who were linked with seven families in 2015.

Pathways to Success

In 2015, LCCS continued its partnership with the Lucas County Juvenile Court and Toledo Public Schools (TPS) to implement the final grant-funded year for the Pathways to Success Initiative (PtSi). The LCCS Education Unit worked closely with Court and TPS staff and administrators to build team relationships, maintain school stability for children in foster care, and advocate for trauma-informed behavioral interventions instead of suspensions and expulsions. Other LCCS staff members contributed to the initiative through participation in cross-system committees that worked to break down long-standing systemic barriers such as transportation to school of origin, foster parent recruitment, trauma training for teachers and other school staff, and data sharing. The goal of these efforts is to help children in foster care be successful in school.

LCCS Education staff presented at a meeting attended by all of the TPS Principals and Assistant Principals to offer educational support at the start of the new school year. In June, LCCS staff and PtSi partners developed, planned, and implemented trauma training at Scott High School for school staff, including teachers, counselors, bus drivers, and others. Practical strategies for teachers and other school staff were offered to help them respond to trauma reactions at school.

PtSi offered enrichment opportunities for foster children as well. For the second consecutive year, youth participated in a scholarship program offered by Toledo Bikes that allowed the youth to build their own bicycles. A new and exciting opportunity developed and begun in 2015 was a partnering with Joe Sczafarowicz, ArtWorks Coordinator, to offer glassblowing classes at the Toledo Museum of Art for youth in foster care. The relationship with Mr. Sczafarowicz opens the door to LCCS for art and other enrichment scholarship opportunities for foster youth into the future.

Although the federal grant has now ended, the vision and work of PtSi will continue through the collaborative framework that was created between LCCS, Lucas County Juvenile Court, and Toledo Public Schools.

Trauma-Informed Child Welfare Initiative

In November 2014, LCCS applied for, and was awarded, an "Efficiency and Innovation" grant through the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services for the purpose of transforming the agency into a trauma-informed child welfare system. Utilizing grant funding, the agency has been able to implement several strategies to build capacity for recognizing and addressing the far-reaching implications of unresolved trauma. Trauma training sessions have been held for all LCCS staff, parent partners, Juvenile Court staff, CASA/GALs and 48 school staff (including teachers, counselors and support staff) at Toledo Public Schools. Eight LCCS foster parents completed the "Becoming a Trauma Competent Caregiver" training. In collaboration with the Lucas County Board of Mental Health, twenty-five mental health clinicians received training in the Intergenerational Trauma Treatment Psychoeducational model and forty-seven mental health clinicians were trained in Cognitive Processing Therapy for adults. LCCS has implemented a Reunification Readiness workshop designed to provide support and equip parents with tools that will help during the time of family reunification, which includes a component on trauma. Plans have been made to pilot the use of a screening tool in order to identify children who are at risk for experiencing negative outcomes as a result of trauma and who require a referral for trauma-focused mental health treatment. The agency will also continue to participate as a member of the Lucas County Trauma Coalition in an effort to enhance system wide collaboration and more successfully attend to the trauma related needs of the community.

Reunification Readiness Workshop

As part of the agency's trauma informed care initiative, five week Reunification Readiness Workshops are being offered to parents anticipating the return of their children to their care. These groups are designed to provide support and education to parents on a number of topics including fears related to the reunification process, the necessity of planning and preparing for reunification, and the effects of trauma on the parent/child relationship and on children's behaviors. Group activities encourage parents to explore healthy relationships, develop positive coping skills, and practice self-care strategies for long-term, overall well-being. Selected areas of focus are aimed at complementing skills and knowledge gained from case plan services with the goal of highlighting and addressing the issues many parents may face during this exciting, yet challenging time.

Workshops are primarily facilitated by LCCS Parent Partners with the assistance and support of selected agency staff. Five parents participated in a pilot group in late 2015 and successfully completed the program. The groups are being continued in 2016.



Appendix A
Child and Family Service Review (CFSR) Outcome Measure Definitions

| Data Indicator | How measured | National Standard |
|---|---|---|
| Maltreatment in Foster Care (Rate of victimization per day in foster care) | Total number of substantiated or indicated reports of maltreatment for children in foster care during a 12-month period divided by the total number of care days for all children in foster care during that 12-month period. Maltreatment by any perpetrator is included in the numerator for this measure. | <= 8.5 victimizations per 100,000 days in foster care |
| Recurrence of Maltreatment | The percentage of children with at least one substantiated or indicated report of maltreatment within a 12-month period who have another substantiated or indicated report of maltreatment within 12-months of their initial report. Reports that are screened in within 14 days of the initial report will not be counted as recurrence. | <= 9.1% |
| Permanency in 12 Months for Children Entering Foster Care | The percentage of children entering foster care in a 12-month period who are discharged to permanency within 12 months of entering foster care. Permanency includes discharge from foster care to reunification, living with a relative, guardianship or adoption. This measure does not include children in care less than 8 days. | >= 40.5% |
| Permanency in 12 Months for Children in Foster Care Between 12 and 23 Months | Percentage of children in foster care on the first day of a 12-month period (who had been in foster care between 12 and 23 months) that are discharged to permanency within 12 months of the first day of the review period. | >= 43.6% |
| Permanency in 12 Months for Children in Foster Care for 24 Months or More | Percentage of children in foster care on the first day of a 12-month period (who had been in foster care for 24 months or more) that were discharged to permanency within 12 months of the first day of the review period. | >= 30.3% |
| Re-entry to Foster Care in 12 Months | Percentage of children entering foster care who achieve permanency within 12 months of entering care that re-enter foster care within 12 months of discharge from foster care. This measure does not include children in care less than 8 days. | <= 8.3% |
| Placement Stability (Rate of placement moves per day in foster care) | Total number of placement moves for children who entered foster care within a 12-month period divided by the total number of days these children were in foster care as of the end of that 12-month period. | <= 4.12 moves per 1,000 days in foster care |

2015 Annual Report Glossary

Alternative Response - Child Protection practice that allows for more than one method of initial response to reports of child abuse and neglect. Also known as "dual track," "multiple track," or "differential response." Alternative response is usually applied in low-and moderate-risk cases and involves an assessment of the family's strengths and needs and offering of services to the family, without the assignment of a formal determination or substantiation of child abuse or neglect.

Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) - Bi-annual monitoring, conducted by the Children's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, of the extent to which safety, permanency and well-being is achieved by child welfare agencies.

Emancipation - Legal status granted by the court that terminates LCCS custody of a child in foster care, typically when the child reaches the age of majority.

Emotional Maltreatment - Chronic attitude or acts that result in significant, verifiable psychological damage or impairment to the social development of a child.

Foster Care - Placement of a child in a family-like setting certified by ODJFS. Foster parents are licensed and must participate in the agency's training and orientation program, undergo medical, financial, and criminal background checks, and obtain fire and other inspections of their home.

Indicated Child Abuse/Neglect (CA/N) - CA/N is said to have been indicated when there is insufficient evidence to substantiate, but there are circumstantial or other isolated indicators of child abuse or neglect lacking confirmation.

Institutional Setting - A facility authorized to provide either secure or non-secure care for 11 or more children whose mental, physical, or emotional needs cannot be met in some other less-restrictive placement setting.

Legal Custody - Legal status which vests in the custodian the right to have physical care and control of the child and to determine where and with whom he/she shall live, and the right and duty to protect, train and discipline him/her and to provide the child with food, shelter, education and medical care, all subject to any residual parental rights, privileges and responsibilities.

Permanent Custody (PC) - Legal status which vests in a public child protective agency all parental rights, duties and obligations, including the right to consent to adoption, and divests the natural or adoptive parent of any and all parental rights, privileges, and obligations, including all residual rights and obligations.

Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (PPLA) - An order of a juvenile court pursuant to which the court gives legal custody of a child to a Public Children Services Agency without the termination of parental rights and permits the agency to make an appropriate placement of the child.

Protective Supervision - Disposition pursuant to which the court permits an abused, neglected, dependent, unruly or delinquent child to remain in the custody of his/her parent, guardian, or custodian and stay in his/her home, subject to any conditions and limitations upon the child, his parent, guardian, or custodian, or any other person that the court prescribes.

Referral - An allegation of child abuse or neglect meeting established criteria for assessment made, either orally or in writing, to a public child protective agency from any person in the community with first or second-hand knowledge.

Relative Custody - Refers to cases in which a relative holds temporary custody of the child(ren) placed in the relative's home by the agency.

Substantiated CA/N - CA/N is typically substantiated through an admission by the person(s) responsible, an adjudication of child abuse and/or neglect, other forms of confirmation deemed valid by the agency, or a professional judgment made by agency staff that child abuse or neglect has occurred.

Temporary Custody (TC) - The pre-dispositional legal status of a child placed in temporary custody of a public children services agency, a private child-placing agency, either parent, a relative residing within or outside the state, or a probation officer for placement in a certified family foster home or in any other home approved by the court.

Treatment Foster Care - Foster home based treatment services for children whose special or exceptional needs cannot be met in other settings. The focus is on providing rehabilitative services to children with special or exceptional needs, with the primary location of treatment being in the treatment foster home. Treatment foster parents are required to complete specialized training.