

# Lucas County Children Services 2016 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 2016 Annual Report.

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The 2016 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, Community Development, Fiscal, and MIS departments.

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Report Design: LCCS Public Information

\*Term ended in 2016



## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am pleased to present Lucas County Children Services' 2016 Annual Report.

This is my first report as the agency's permanent executive director, having been appointed to the position after serving on an interim basis from September 2015 through March 2016. It has been my honor to serve the community. Over the past year, I have met with civic, faith, government, and law enforcement leaders to build partnerships and engage the community in the protection of children.

Lucas County's opiate epidemic had a profound impact on this agency in 2016. Fifty-six percent of cases we opened involved one or more parents who were substance dependent; of that group, 62 percent were dependent on heroin or other opiates. These cases were more challenging for LCCS caseworkers, as children experienced high levels of trauma and parents experienced multiple relapses and were often unable to regain custody within mandated timeframes.

Undaunted, LCCS was one of the leading Ohio counties for completing and documenting monthly visits to children and families. Caseworkers made 98.13 percent of visits to children, and 95.21 percent of visits to adults on cases, even as the agency head count dropped to 336 employees and caseloads increased. This far exceeded the state average of 88.24 percent of visits to children, and 68.55 percent of visits to adults.

The increased number of children coming into care was the driving force behind a campaign to train and license 400 new foster homes. We achieved nearly one-quarter of that goal in 2016, and continue to work diligently to recruit new families to care for children. The agency doubled the number of adoptions in 2016, compared to 2015.

Other changes impacted the agency, as well. Juvenile justice reform placed children with more profound behavioral needs into LCCS' care. A number of longtime employees retired as a result of changes in the Public Employees Retirement System. Hiring new caseworkers became more difficult, as the market for social workers became more competitive. We continue to seek solutions to these challenges.

The year ended on a positive note. In November, voters approved, by nearly a two-to-one margin, a renewal and increase of one of the agency's two property tax levies. The additional funds generated by this levy place the agency on more solid financial footing for 2017. In 2017, the Board will determine the timing to replace and renew the agency's other property tax levy, which expires at the end of 2018. Local tax dollars represent 53.6 percent of the agency's operating funds.

Looking ahead to 2017, we are off to a strong start, having achieved reaccreditation from the Council of Accreditation in February. LCCS employees are working harder and smarter, and I am committed to positioning this agency as the most capable and progressive child protection agency in the state.

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

Robin C. Reese  
Executive Director

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# Financial Summary

FUND BALANCE @ 1/1/16	\$	3,263,987
REVENUE	\$	42,979,086
EXPENSE	\$	40,875,474
FUND BALANCE @ 12/31/16	\$	5,367,599

REVENUE	\$	%
Levy	\$ 23,043,468	53.6%
Federal	\$ 16,821,830	39.1%
State	\$ 2,730,057	6.4%
Other	\$ 383,731	0.9%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 42,979,086	100.0%

EXPENSE	\$	%
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 24,071,094	58.9%
Placement Costs	\$ 10,573,292	25.9%
Child Welfare Contracts	\$ 428,072	1.0%
Daycare	\$ 984,387	2.4%
Other Client Costs	\$ 980,589	2.4%
Intergovernmental Contracts	\$ 1,060,776	2.6%
Other Contracts	\$ 233,214	0.6%
Other Operating Costs	\$ 2,544,050	6.2%
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 40,875,474	100.0%

For 2016, revenue exceeded expenditures by \$2,103,612. This increased the fund balance to \$5,367,599 at year end.

Total revenue decreased by \$100,738 (0.2%) from 2015 to 2016. The amount of levy funds received decreased by \$237,971 from 2015 to 2016. There was an increase of \$147,001 in the real estate settlement. However, that could not offset the \$361,096 decrease from the elimination of HB 66 State Replacement dollars.

The two Children Services levies totaling 3.25 mills remained the largest source of agency funds. The 1.4 mill levy expired at the end of 2016, while the five-year, 1.85 mill levy expires at the end of 2018. In November 2016, Lucas County voters renewed the five-year, 1.4 mill levy with a 0.4 mill increase for a total of 1.8 mills.

Federal funds increased by \$229,799 from 2015 to 2016. Increases in the amount of Title XX TANF Transfer funds and Title IV-E Foster Care maintenance reimbursement were contributing factors. Title IV-E remains the agency's largest source of federal funding with receipts of over \$13 million in 2016.

State funding decreased by \$66,742 from 2015 to 2016. The State Child Protection Allocation remains the largest source of state fund funding at just under \$2.1 million for 2016.

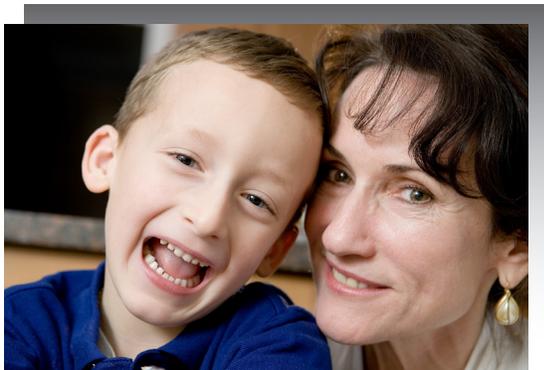
Total expenditures decreased by \$350,332 (0.8%) from 2015 to 2016. Employee salaries and fringe benefits, along with placement costs, continue to be the largest expense categories, accounting for 84.8 percent of total agency expenditures in 2016. Salaries and fringe benefits decreased by \$909,911 (3.6%) from 2015 to 2016. Agency headcount was 338 at the end of 2016 compared to 342 at the start of the year.

Placement costs increased by \$545,428 (5.4%) from 2015 to 2016, with increased expenditures in all foster care categories. The average daily number of children in paid care increased by 5.8% from 2015.

Total contract expenditures, including child welfare, intergovernmental, and other contracts increased by \$50,157 (3.0%) from 2015 to 2016. Daycare expenditures decreased by \$45,017 (4.4%), while other client costs increased by \$133,208 (15.7%). Other client costs include clothing, food, client supports, respite care, and client transportation.

Other operating costs decreased by \$124,197 (4.7%). Other operating costs include supplies, equipment purchases and leases, maintenance agreements, building occupancy costs, parking, mileage and travel, advertising, telecommunications, and liability insurance.

The year-end fund balance of \$5,367,599 equals 48.1 days of average daily expenditures, based on 2016 expenses.



# Key Statistics

	2013	2014	2015	2016	Trend
New Child Abuse/Neglect Referrals	4840	4271	4517	4564	+1%
<i>Traditional Referrals</i>	1823	1522	1863	2770	+49%
<i>Alternative Response Referrals</i>	3017	2749	2654	1794	-32%
New FINS Referrals*	759	797	790	568	-28%
Alleged Child Victims**	7323	6419	6825	6822	-<1%
Substantiated Victims	952	963	1072	1465	+37%
New Cases Opened	527	443	455	514	+13%
Custody Entries (Initial Removals)	608	619	646	809	+25%
Children Entering Agency Custody (Initial and Custody Changes)	477	427	475	599	+26%
Total Children Entering Relative Custody (Initial and Custody Changes)	270	320	306	332	+8%
Custodies Terminated***	384	361	360	444	+23%
Permanent Custodies Received	149	82	99	110	+11%
Adoptions Finalized	105	130	58	117	+102%
Children Served	12542	12116	12392	12421	+<1%
Families Served	5370	5016	5079	5043	-<1%

\* Family in Need of Services referrals include those in which preventative services are provided to families whose reported concerns do not meet the criteria to screen in as abuse/neglect, homestudies, courtesy supervision for other jurisdictions, unruly/delinquent and emancipated youth referrals.

\*\* 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 a six percent increase in 2015, new child abuse and neglect (CA/N) referrals remained relatively stable in 2016, increasing one percent. However, the categorization of these referrals changed significantly from previous years. Traditional referrals were up 22 percent in 2015, but increased by 49 percent in 2016, with Alternative Response referrals decreasing by 32 percent in 2016.

Family in Need of Services (FINS) referrals decreased by 28 percent in 2016, after relatively little change since 2013.

Substantiated victims increased by 37 percent in 2016. The number of children entering agency or relative custody increased by 25 percent in 2016.

The number of finalized adoptions more than doubled in 2016, after a significant decrease in 2015.

# Child Abuse and Neglect Allegations

## NEW REFERRALS

LCCS screened in 4,564 child abuse and neglect referrals in 2016, a one percent increase from 2015. Sixty-one percent of these referrals were assigned to a Traditional Response (TR) track and 39 percent were assigned to the Alternative Response (AR) track. This is a reversal in assignment percentages from previous years, when approximately 60 percent or more referrals were assigned to the Alternative Response pathway. New guidance for assigning referrals to the AR or TR pathway was provided to staff in April of 2016 through a "Pathway Assignment Tool."

	2014	2015	2016	Trend
New CA/N Referrals	4271	4517	4564	+1%
Traditional Response	1522	1863	2770	+49%
Alternative Response	2749	2654	1794	-32%
FINS Referrals	797	790	568	-28%
Alleged Victims	6419	6825	6822	<-1%

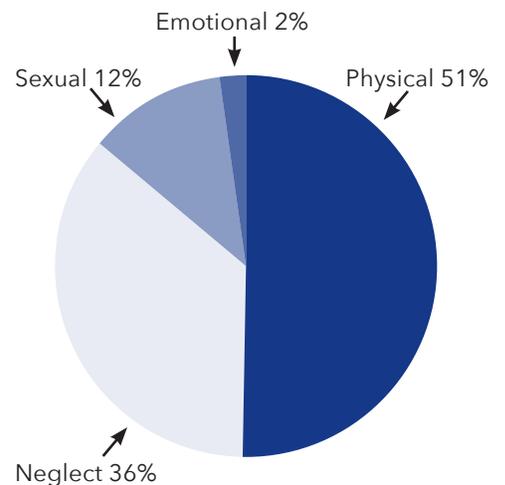
**61 percent of child abuse and neglect referrals were screened in as "Traditional Response."**

## 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 (99%) were assigned a non-emergency (72 hour) response time. Only one percent were assigned an emergency (one-hour) response time.

## ABUSE TYPE

A majority of the referrals received involved an allegation of physical abuse (51%). Allegations of domestic violence and infants being exposed to illicit substances in utero are included in the physical abuse category.



## REFERRAL SOURCES

The table below shows the source of referrals made to LCCS during 2016. These figures have remained relatively consistent over the past three years.

	2014	2015	2016
Social Services	24%	24%	25%
Private	23%	20%	21%
Legal/Law Enforcement	17%	20%	19%
School	13%	13%	14%
Anonymous	14%	13%	12%
Medical	6%	5%	6%
Other	3%	4%	3%

## DEMOGRAPHICS OF CHILDREN ON REFERRALS

Forty-three percent of children on referrals were under the age of six. These figures have changed little over the last three years.

### AGE

Age	2014	2015	2016
0-1 yrs	16%	16%	17%
2-5 yrs	26%	26%	26%
6-9 yrs	23%	25%	24%
10-12 yrs	14%	13%	13%
13-15 yrs	12%	13%	12%
16+ yrs	7%	7%	6%
Unknown	1%	1%	1%

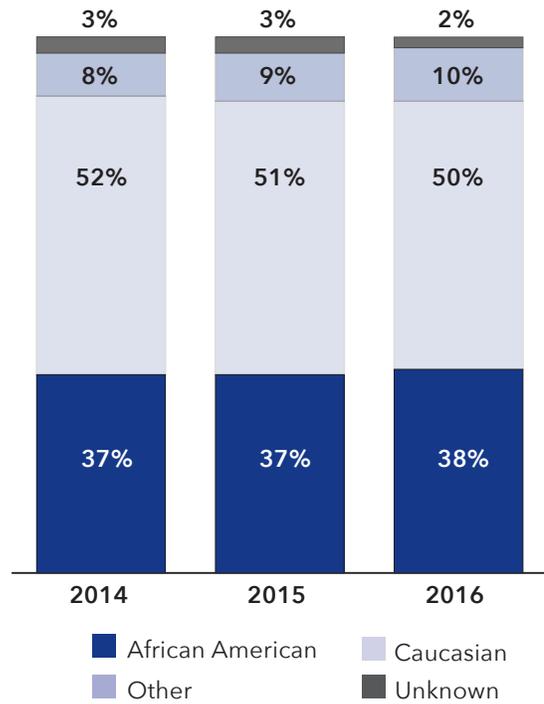
### GENDER

	2014	2015	2016
Female	50%	49%	50%
Male	50%	51%	50%

## RACE

Caucasian children represented the highest percentage of children on referrals, at 50 percent. African American children represented 38 percent of children on referrals. This racial distribution was largely the same as in 2015.

Twelve percent of ACVs were Latino, an increase of one percent from 2015.



## DEMOGRAPHICS OF ALLEGED PERPETRATORS ON REFERRALS

There were a total of 4,729 unduplicated alleged perpetrators (APs) identified on screened-in child abuse or neglect referrals in 2016. A majority of APs were either Caucasian (52%) or African American (37%). Sixty-four percent were age 35 or under.

The gender of these alleged perpetrators was relatively evenly split (49% female, 48% male, and 3% unknown). The table below reflects the gender of alleged perpetrators for each type of abuse. Females were the predominant APs on neglect referrals (70%), while a majority of sexual abuse referrals had male perpetrators (76%). Gender ratios were about half male and half female for physical abuse and emotional abuse referrals. These figures remain largely unchanged from previous years.

	Neglect	Physical	Sexual	Emotional
Female	70%	45%	17%	51%
Male	29%	53%	76%	48%
Unknown	1%	2%	8%	1%



## REFERRALS BY ZIP CODE

Zip Code	Children on Incidents	Children in Zip Code	2016 Rate per 1,000	2015 Rate
43604	374	2734	136.8	121.43
43605	867	8563	101.2	97.63
43608	442	4722	93.6	92.33
43609	645	6915	93.3	93.56
43620	124	1346	92.1	85.44
43607	372	5111	72.8	71.41
43610	96	1395	68.8	80.29
43612	422	7883	53.5	54.17
43611	243	4576	53.1	60.75
43606	253	4998	50.6	42.62
43613	340	7688	44.2	45.14
43615	312	8509	36.7	41.84
43614	171	5841	29.3	33.38
43623	116	4022	28.8	22.32
43616	119	4700	25.3	26.38
43528	87	3872	22.5	32.80
43537	97	6214	15.6	16.74
43560	103	8348	12.3	12.58
All Others	579	N/A	N/A	N/A

The zip codes that experienced the most significant increases in rates of referrals were 43623 (29%), 43606 (19%), and 43604 (13%). The most 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.

The rate of referral decreased from 2015 to 2016 in several zip codes. The most significant decreases occurred in 43528 (-31%), 43610 (-14%), and 43611 (-13%).

## SUBSTANTIATION RATE OF REFERRALS

Following an investigation of an allegation of abuse or neglect, a finding, or “disposition,” is made as to whether or not the allegations are supported by the information gathered during the course of the assessment (substantiated or indicated). Only Traditional Response referrals receive a disposition. The table below provides the substantiation rates overall and by abuse type.

	2014	2015	2016
All Referrals	43%	40%	37%
Physical	40%	38%	36%
Neglect	45%	43%	38%
Sexual	45%	40%	40%
Emotional	45%	30%	26%

Substantiation rates have decreased for all abuse types since 2014. Thirty-seven percent (37%) of all referrals were substantiated or indicated. The highest substantiation rate was for sexual abuse, at 40 percent, followed by neglect, at 38 percent.

## CASE OPENINGS

A total of 514 referrals investigated in 2016 resulted in an open case being transferred to the Department of Family Services, which is an increase of 13 percent from 2015. The case opening rate increased by 1.2 percent.

The following section provides information on ongoing case services provided during 2016.



# 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 2016.

	2014	2015	2016	Trend
New Cases Opened	443	455	514	+13%
Case Opening Rate	10.4%	10.1%	11.3%	+1.2%
Cases Carried Over From Prior Year	606	610	585	-4%
Average Cases Open Per Month	613	607	617	+2%
Custody*	286 (47%)	301 (50%)	316 (51%)	+1%
Non-custody	327 (53%)	306 (50%)	301 (49%)	-1%
Average Number of Children on Cases	1288	1248	1339	+7%
Average Number of Children per Case	2.10	2.06	2.17	+5%
Cases Closed	578	497	523	+5%
Average Length of Time Cases Were Open**	392 days	414 days	412 days	- <1%

\* Agency custody only.

\*\* Of those closed during the year.

**The number of new cases opened increased by 13 percent in 2016.**

Overall, 2016 saw an increase in the number of children and cases open to ongoing services. The number of new ongoing cases increased 13 percent from 2015. The average number of cases open per month increased by two percent, and the average number of children on open cases increased by seven percent. The average number of cases open to DFS increased steadily during 2016; in December 2016 there was an average of ten percent more cases open than in December 2015 (56 more cases).

## CASE OPENED BY FAMILY RACE

Forty-eight percent of families on new cases opened in 2016 were Caucasian and 31 percent were African-American. Twenty-one percent of families were bi-racial.

	2014	2015	2016
African-American	131 (30%)	144 (32%)	157 (31%)
Caucasian	208 (47%)	197 (43%)	246 (48%)
Two or More Races	104 (23%)	114 (25%)	110 (21%)
Asian	-	-	1 (<1%)

## ZIP CODES OF CASES OPENED

The table below shows the number of cases opened by zip code. The zip code with the highest volume of referrals (43605) had the highest percentage of cases opened (15%).

Zip Code	Number	%
43605	79	15
43609	58	11
43612	46	9
43604	41	8
43608	34	7
43611	31	6
43607	30	6
43615	26	5
43613	24	5
43614	23	5
43620	16	3
43606	15	3
Other	91	<3% per zip

## REASONS FOR CASE OPENING

The table that follows provides information on the reasons that cases were opened in 2016.

Substance abuse was the most frequently identified reason for case opening (56 percent of cases).

Mental health was the second-most identified reason for case opening (37%), followed by parenting/neglect issues. These include situations such as failure to provide basic needs, lack of supervision, medical neglect, etc.

The percentage of cases opened with substance abuse as a presenting problem increased seven percent in 2016.

Problem	2015	2016
Substance Abuse	49%	56%
Mental Health	42%	37%
Parenting/Neglect	42%	32%
Domestic Violence	26%	32%
Physical Abuse	12%	14%
History with LCCS	6%	9%
Child Behavior	9%	8%
Housing	<1%	7%
Dependency	4%	4%
Sexual Abuse	4%	3%
Other	7%	6%

Note: Percentages will not equal 100 as cases typically have more than one reason for opening.

## 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). All substances showed an increase in reported use from 2015.

Substance	2015	2016	%Change
Heroin/Opiates	59%	62%	+3%
Marijuana	34%	38%	+4%
Cocaine/Crack	29%	31%	+2%
Alcohol	27%	28%	+1%
Other	10%	23%	+13%

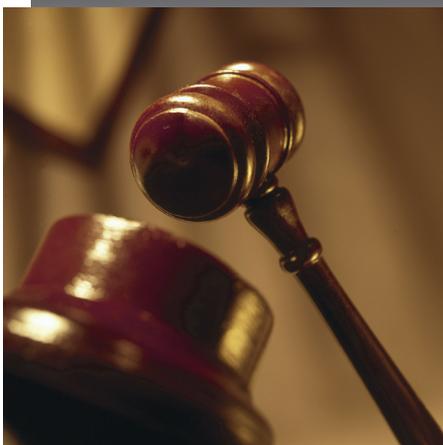
Overall 62 percent of cases initially opened as custody cases. Cases involving substance abuse concerns were more likely to open as custody cases. Seventy-three percent of cases where substance abuse was a concern were custody cases compared to only 47 percent of cases where substance abuse issues were not an identified concern.

Seventy-nine percent of cases where heroin was an identified substance being used were custody cases; this compared to 64 percent for cases where substance abuse concerns were identified but heroin was not an identified substance being used.

### CUSTODY STATUS OF CHILDREN ON OPEN CASES

The following table shows the custody status of children on open cases during 2016. Fifty-five percent of children were being served while they were either in relative custody or in the custody of their parent. These figures did not change from 2015.

	2014	2015	2016
Agency Custody	42%	45%	45%
Relative Custody	24%	28%	28%
Non-custody/ Protective Supervision	34%	27%	27%



### PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN ON OPEN CASES

The table below shows the placement types for children on open cases. Sixty-five percent of children receiving services were living in their own home or a relative home. Although the average number of children residing in private or public institutions increased by five children, the proportion of children in this placement setting declined by one percent.

	2014	2015	2016
Own Home	30%	24%	24%
Relative/Kinship Home	35%	41%	41%
Agency Foster Home	24%	25%	26%
Adoptive Home	3%	2%	2%
Other Agency Foster Home	4%	4%	4%
Group Home	1%	1%	1%
Private/Public Institution	2%	2%	1%
Other	1%	1%	1%
TOTAL	1288	1248	1339



## 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. Placement with relatives is the first placement option to be pursued, if possible. The following table provides information on children in substitute care during 2016.

	2014	2015	2016	Trend
Custody Entries (Initial Removals)	619	646	809	+25%
Agency Custody	405 (65%)	439 (68%)	549 (68%)	+25%
Relative Custody	214 (35%)	207 (32%)	260 (32%)	+26%
Percentage of Children Entering Relative Placement	60%	60%	59%	-1%
Average Number of Children in Custody	852	910	979	+8%
% Agency Custody	63%	61%	62%	+1%
% Relative Custody	37%	39%	39%	NC

The number of new children entering agency or relative custody increased 25 percent in 2016. The average number of children in custody increased eight percent in 2016.

### PLACEMENT TYPES OF CHILDREN IN LCCS CUSTODY

The table below shows the placement types for children that were in the custody of LCCS during 2016. Fifty-seven percent of children in LCCS custody were placed in an agency foster home; twenty-three percent were placed in a relative home.

	2014	2015	2016	Trend
Agency Foster Home	57%	57%	57%	NC
Relative	20%	24%	23%	-1%
Adoptive Placement	6%	3%	4%	+1%
Other Agency Foster Home	10%	10%	8%	-2%
Group Home	2%	3%	3%	NC
Institution	4%	3%	3%	NC
Other	2%	2%	2%	NC

**59 percent of children that entered custody in 2016 were placed with a relative.**



## DEMOGRAPHICS OF CHILDREN IN AGENCY CUSTODY

The following shows the age, gender and race of children in LCCS custody during 2016. This data is based on all children who were in agency custody at any time during 2016.

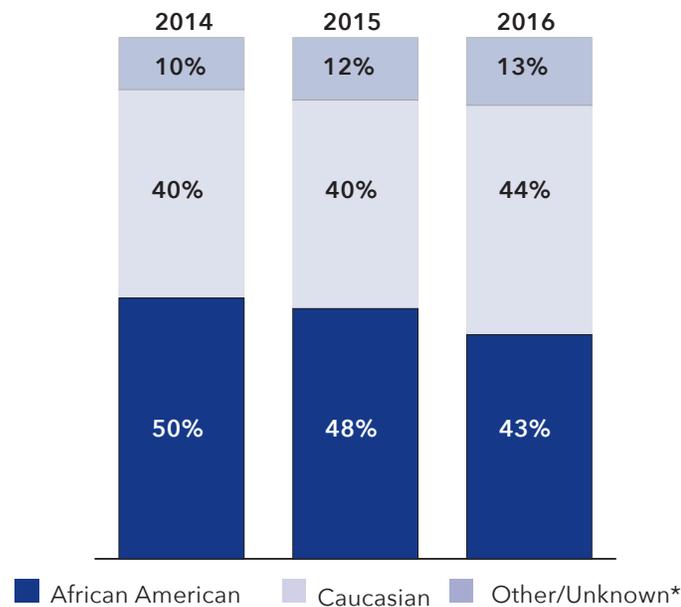
### AGE

	2014	2015	2016
0-1 yrs	29%	29%	28%
2-5 yrs	25%	24%	24%
6-9 yrs	18%	17%	18%
10-12 yrs	9%	9%	10%
13-15 yrs	10%	13%	10%
16 + yrs	9%	8%	9%

### GENDER

	2014	2015	2016
Male	49%	48%	50%
Female	51%	52%	50%

### RACE



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

**52 percent of children in LCCS custody during 2016 were between the ages of zero and five.**

Eleven percent of children in custody were Latino, unchanged from 2015.

Demographics of children in agency custody have remained largely the same as in previous years, except for the racial distribution. African-American children in agency custody decreased five percent from 2015. The percentage of children in LCCS custody that were African-American has decreased 12 percent since 2011, when African American children constituted 55 percent of children in agency custody. The percentage of children in custody that were Caucasian increased six percent during this same timeframe. Some, but not all, of the changes in racial distribution of children in agency custody can be accounted for by improvements in categorizing children as bi-racial, when appropriate.

## FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE HOMES

The table below shows foster home licensing activity during 2016. There were 215 licensed foster homes at the end of 2015. By the end of 2016, there were 254 licensed foster homes, a net increase of 39 homes. Twenty-four homes closed or transferred out to other foster care agencies during 2016.

### Foster Home Statistics 2016

Number of Homes Open on 12/31/15	215
New Homes Certified	59
Homes Transferred from Other Agencies	4
Homes Closed	23
Homes Transferred Out	1
Homes Open on 12/31/16	254
Net Increase	39

The table below shows foster and adoptive home licensing or approval activity for the last three years. The number of new foster homes licensed increased 51 percent from 2015; the number of new adoptive homes approved increased 75 percent.

	2014	2015	2016
Total Number of Licensed Foster Homes	224	215	254
New Foster Homes Licensed	27	39	59
New Adoptive Homes Approved	35	40	70
Total Families Licensed/Approved	37	49	81
<i>Foster Only</i>	2 (5%)	9 (18%)	11 (14%)
<i>Adopt Only</i>	10 (27%)	10 (20%)	22 (27%)
Licensed/Approved for Foster and Adoption	25 (68%)	30 (61%)	48 (59%)

Overall, there was a 65 percent increase in the number of homes licensed/approved for foster care or adoption. Fifty-nine percent of the newly licensed/approved homes were dually certified in foster and adoptive care.

**The number of newly licensed foster homes increased by 51 percent in 2016.**



## INDEPENDENT LIVING OUTCOMES

The LCCS 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 29 youth who emancipated from custody in 2016, which is an increase of 12 percent (three youth) compared to 2015.

Fifty-nine percent of youth completed their high school diploma or earned a GED by the time they emancipated, an increase of 13 percent compared to 2015. Fourteen percent were still attending school at the time of emancipation.

Thirty-five percent of emancipated youth that had graduated or had a GED were enrolled in college, an increase of 18 percent compared to 2015. Forty-one percent of youth were employed upon emancipation. Of the 19 youth not attending school (high school or college), six (32%) were employed.

	2014	2015	2016
Total youth emancipated	36	26	29
% of emancipated youth with a H.S. diploma, GED, or still attending school	22 (61%)	20 (77%)	21 (72%)
% of youth with a H.S. diploma or GED	16 (44%)	12 (46%)	17 (59%)
% of youth still attending school at the time of emancipation	6 (17%)	8 (31%)	4 (14%)
% of youth who were enrolled in college (of those who had graduated or obtained a GED)	3 (19%)	2 (17%)	6 (35%)
% of youth who were employed	12 (33%)	8 (31%)	12 (41%)
% of youth <b>not in school or attending college</b> that were employed (N=19)	10 (37%)	4 (25%)	6 (32%)
% of youth with stable housing*	33 (92%)	24 (92%)	26 (90%)
% of youth who were "whereabouts unknown"	8 (22%)	7 (27%)	7 (24%)
% of youth who were incarcerated	-	-	-
% of youth with a support system	34 (94%)	25 (96%)	29 (100%)

\*Types of stable housing include Adult Group Home, family home, or own home.



## 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 function, self-care, daily living skills, support systems and freedom from legal/criminal involvement.

A total of 21 new referrals were made to the Post Emancipation program in 2016. A total of 40 young adults were served during the year; 30 (75%) received Post Emancipation services and 10 (25%) received 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. The demographic makeup of the young adults served included 20 females (50%) and 20 males (50%). Over three-fourths (80%) of the young adults were African-American while 15 percent were Caucasian and five percent were multi-racial. None of the participants were of Latino ethnicity.

There were 25 young adults whose Post Emancipation services ended in 2016. The following provides information on key self-sufficiency outcomes for those young adults whose services ended in 2016.

**Housing:** Seventeen (68%) of the young adults whose services ended were in stable housing for at least six months at the time of closing.

**Employment:** Seven (28%) were employed full or part-time at the time of closing.

**Sustainable Income:** Nine (36%) were receiving Social Security Disability Income or other state benefits.

Sixteen young adults (64%) were employed, receiving income benefits or attending college.

**Education:** Fifteen young adults (60%) had graduated from high school or obtained a GED by the time of closing. Three young adults (12%) were enrolled in college or vocational school.

**Mental Health:** Eighteen of the young adults (72%) were actively involved in mental health services at the time of closing.



# Caseload Statistics

## Average Caseload by Department

	Unit	2014	2015	2016	Difference
Assessments - New Referrals	Referral	10	11	10	-1
Assessments - All Referrals	Referral	10	13	11	-2
DFS	Case	11	11	12	+1
Family Foster Care	Foster Home	20	20	19	-1
Treatment Foster Care	Foster Home	7	9	9	NC
Independent Living	Children	11	11	14	+3
Post Adoption	Case	8	6	10	+4
Community Advocate	Case	8	7	8	+1
Post Emancipation	Individual	11	11	10	-1
Parenting Program	Families	9	8	8	NC
Health Services (full-time staff)	Children	144	142	169	+27
Case Review	Conference	44	46	49	+3

Note: Caseload averages are based on the average number of staff available per month; some figures have changed from previous reports.

## SUPPORT SERVICES

The LCCS Transportation Department provides transportation to children in agency custody for visits and appointments. The department made 9,892 trips during 2016 and logged 191,358 miles. This represents a one percent decline in the number of trips and a five percent increase in the number of miles logged, compared to 2015.

## FAMILY VISITS

The Family Visits Department schedules and supervises visitation for parents and children at LCCS and the neighborhood resource centers. There were 13,443 visits scheduled in 2016. A total of 9,495, or 71 percent, of those occurred as scheduled. This translates to an average of 30 visits being held per day, based on visits being held six days per week. This represents an 11 percent increase compared to 2015.



# 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	2012	2013	2014	2015
Maltreatment in Foster Care (rate)	<=8.5	17.7	19.1	10.3	19.6
Recurrence of Maltreatment	<=9.1%	10.2%	<b>8.4%</b>	<b>8.4%</b>	<b>7.9%</b>
Permanency w/in 12 months for children entering foster care	>=40.5%	<b>50.4%</b>	<b>53.1%</b>	<b>56.5%</b>	unavail
Permanency w/in 12 months for children in foster care 12 to 23 months	>=43.6%	<b>63.5%</b>	<b>59.8%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>59.6%</b>
Permanency w/in 12 months for children in foster care 24+ months	>=30.3%	<b>39.2%</b>	<b>39.2%</b>	<b>33.8%</b>	22.5%
Re-entry to foster care in 12 months	<=8.3%	10.6%	12.3%	10.9%	unavail
Placement Stability (rate)	<=4.12	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.7</b>

Note: Some figures were updated from previous reports.

LCCS was in compliance with the recurrence of maltreatment indicator for three of the last four years for which data is available. The agency was also in compliance with the placement stability indicator and two of the three permanency related data indicators for all years between 2012 and 2015 for which data is available.

Permanency rates for children entering care improved slightly since 2013 (by 3 percent). Permanency rates declined for those children in care over 24 month and fell below the standard for the first time since 2011 (when data became available for this indicator). LCCS was not in compliance with the foster care re-entry indicator for any of the years for which data is available. This measure includes both re-entries occurring after a child is reunified with his or her parent(s) and also re-entries that are the result of children entering agency custody after being placed in the temporary or legal custody of a relative.

The maltreatment in foster care measures substantiated or indicated abuse/neglect incidents for children in foster care regardless of the perpetrator. Although performance greatly improved in 2014, in 2015 this rate returned to a rate similar to that of 2012 and 2013. A review of incidents that led to non-compliance with this measure determined that for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2015, 21 percent (8 incidents) involved a foster parent as a perpetrator; this figure was 39 percent (five incidents) for FFY 2014. Four (10%) incidents coded as maltreatment in foster care in FFY 2015 involved an estimated incident date that was incorrectly entered as occurring within the time of the child's custody episode. Upon review, it was determined that the incident actually occurred prior to the child's entry into substitute care. If corrected data had been used to calculate LCCS' performance (taking out incidents with erroneous incident dates), the maltreatment in foster care rate for FFY 2015 would have been 17.6.

## 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.

	2014	2015	2016
Percentage of children on average per month who were placed with a relative	47%	51%	55%
Median length of time in temporary custody (of those leaving TC)	267 days	290 days	268 days
Median length of time in care until adoption (those adopted during the year)	715 days	613 days	612 days
Number of children entering the legal custody of LCCS (PPLA)	16	13	17
Percentage of children in agency custody in a group home or institution	6%	6%	6%
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 from Ohio county child welfare agencies that failed to meet at least a 90 percent compliance rate with visits between children and parents for SFY 2016.

The state established two reporting periods during which county compliance with visit requirements would be measured, and funds would be awarded to counties on a tiered system based on their level of compliance. The first reporting period for determining county compliance was October through December 2015, and the second was January through March 2016. LCCS achieved a compliance rate of over 90 percent for visits with children and parents during both of the reporting periods and received all of its State Child Protection Allocation funds for those review periods. LCCS was also awarded an additional \$9,790 in incentive funds for both reporting periods for being in the "High Performer" category for visits with children (over 90 percent compliance for both the review period and the baseline period).



Overall, the agency was a leader in the state for visitation compliance in 2016. The 2016 overall average compliance rates for all LCCS cases were 98.13 percent for children and 95.21 percent for parents. Both of these percentages exceed the state and federal standards of 90 percent and 95 percent, respectively. In comparison, the State of Ohio 2016 overall averages were 88.24 percent for children, and 68.55 percent for parents. LCCS caseworkers made a total of 23,831 required visits to children and parents in 2016.

## LONGITUDINAL OUTCOME DATA

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

### Permanency Outcomes of Children Entering Custody

The table below shows permanency outcomes for children entering agency custody between 2008 and 2014. With only one to three percent of children still remaining in care from 2009-2012 entries, the data shows that on average about 34 percent of children entering agency custody were reunified; 23 percent entered the legal custody of a relative; and 32 percent were adopted. Six percent of children from 2013 and 23 percent from 2014 entries remain in custody.

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Number of Children	322	283	339	410	421	372
Reunification	36%	31%	38%	31%	39%	29%
Legal Custody to Relative	23%	22%	22%	25%	32%	29%
Adoption	30%	36%	32%	31%	18%	16%
Emancipation	9%	8%	6%	10%	4%	3%
Other	1%	1%	1%	<1%	<1%	1%
Still in Care/Have not Exited	1%	2%	2%	3%	6%	23%

### 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 50 percent of children having one placement and 30 percent having had two placements.

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
1 Placement	48%	51%	49%	50%	50%	50%
2 Placements	33%	28%	30%	29%	29%	31%
3 Placements	10%	11%	10%	13%	14%	11%
4+ Placements	9%	10%	11%	8%	7%	8%

## 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 years identified. An average of 10 percent of children who were reunified between 2009 and 2015 re-entered custody within twelve months of reunification. Fourteen percent of children (on average between 2009 and 2014) re-entered custody within two years of reunification.

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
# of children who left custody to reunification	235	225	222	207	234	246	269
% re-entering custody within 6 months	9%	6%	7%	9%	4%	6%	4%
% re-entering custody within 12 months	11%	9%	10%	16%	8%	8%	6%
% re-entering custody within 2 years	15%	13%	11%	19%	14%	12%	
% NOT re-entering custody within 2 years	85%	87%	89%	81%	86%	88%	

## 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, 71 percent of children were adopted within 12 months of permanent custody over this seven-year period. Full data is not available for 2015 because not all of the children had been in permanent custody for 24 months by the time of the review (January 2017). An average of 93 percent of children entering PC between 2009 and 2014 had been adopted within 24 months.

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Number of Children	114	101	92	116	150	81	94
% Adopted in 6 months (from date of PC)	32%	46%	44%	54%	35%	48%	28%
% Adopted in 9 months	52%	61%	61%	60%	49%	66%	51%
% Adopted in 12 months	72%	76%	74%	68%	66%	73%	67%
% Adopted in 15 months	77%	90%	84%	78%	76%	77%	
% Adopted in 18 months	83%	90%	88%	84%	88%	79%	
% Adopted in 21 months	85%	93%	89%	88%	90%	83%	
% Adopted in 24 months	94%	93%	95%	91%	92%	90%	
% Not adopted within 24 months	6%	7%	5%	8%	8%	10%	

# Highlights of Agency Services and Programs

## COA REACCREDITATION

In February 2017, Lucas County Children Services was reaccredited by the New York-based Council on Accreditation (COA), an independent, not-for-profit international accreditor of community-based behavioral health care and human service organizations. After submitting the agency's "self-study" in 2016, COA reviewers conducted a site visit at LCCS during January 2017 as a part of the agency's re-accreditation process. The reviewers evaluated the agency's level of compliance with COA standards during the site visit by reviewing documentation on agency policies and procedures, reviewing case files and interviewing staff, board members, community stakeholders and service recipients. The COA reviewers provided initial feedback on the agency's performance during an exit meeting at the end of the review. The COA analysis was overwhelmingly positive about the agency, its staff, and its work processes. The agency received notice shortly thereafter that it was being expedited through the reaccreditation process without any corrective action planning needed, as it was in compliance with all fundamental COA standards.

## THE NORTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER

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 Service 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.

In 2016, The Ohio Child Welfare Training Program won the President's Award for Pioneering Impact in the Field of Health and Human Services Training and Development from the National Staff Development and Training Association.

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: Defiance, Erie, Fulton, Hancock, Henry, Huron, Lucas, Ottawa, Paulding, Putnam, Sandusky, Seneca, Van Wert, Williams, Wood, and Wyandot.

The NWORTC hosted the following in 2016:

- Seven rounds of pre-service training for potential foster or adoptive parents in Lucas County, with 4,141 people attending, an increase from 2015 of over 430 attendees.
- Six rounds of pre-service in five outlying counties, with 705 people attending.
- 1,479 foster parents/caregivers attended 153 different ongoing trainings at the Conference and Learning Center.
- 482 foster parents in the 15 outlying counties attended 48 ongoing trainings.
- 1,870 staff/guests attended 161 ongoing trainings.
- 731 trainings/meetings were held in the Conference and Learning Center - Main Rooms.
- 281 trainings/meetings were held in the Conference and Learning Center - Side Rooms.

## PARENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

The LCCS Parent Partnership Program (P-3) engages parents who have been through the child welfare system in the past, and who are now in a stable position with their lives. They contribute by facilitating Building a Better Future (BABF) and Reunification support groups, sitting on agency committees, participating in speaking engagements at the agency and in the community, and assisting with other agency activities/events. In 2016, LCCS had the privilege of partnering with five Parent Partner volunteers.

All five Parent Partners participated in multiple activities in 2016, including the LCCS Board of Trustees Services and Programs Committee, and the Trauma Implementation Committee. They presented at agency department meetings and various agency unit meetings, at the LCCS new employee training unit and the foster care pre-service training, participated in Reunification Readiness, Building a Better Future and Parenting Program curriculum revisions, and attended various in-service trainings throughout the year at LCCS.

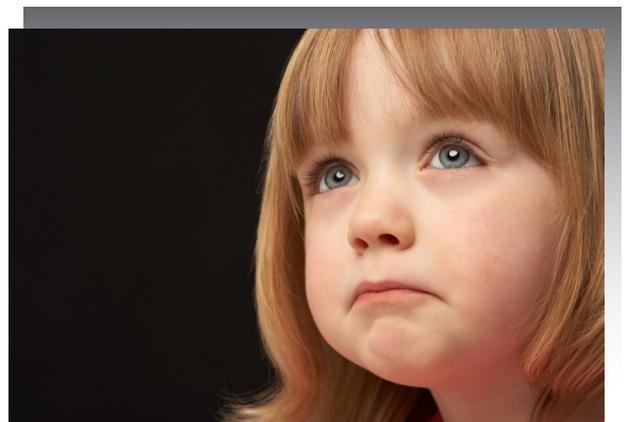
Parent Facilitators teach a five-week, four-module workshop called Building a Better Future, which aims to help parents whose children have been removed from their care. The workshop provides parents with a better understanding of navigating through the child protection system by offering them information about their rights, responsibilities, how the child protection system works, advocacy, and healthy communication skills. In 2016, the Parent Partners and LCCS staff facilitated seven BABF workshops resulting in 44 parents successfully graduating from the program. Seventy-three percent of parents who attended BABF completed the program.

Parent Advocates are linked with families/parents who have graduated from the BABF workshop. Here, Parent Partners provide further support and encouragement to selected families while they remain involved with LCCS. There were two Parent Advocates who were linked with nine families in 2016.

## TRAUMA-INFORMED CHILD WELFARE INITIATIVE

During 2016, LCCS continued its focus on building trauma-informed care as a daily practice. Beginning in June, a process was implemented for all children on new, open cases to be screened for a history of trauma using the Southwest Michigan Children's Trauma Assessment Center Trauma Screening Checklist. The tool helps to identify children at risk by highlighting traumatic experiences and identifying any accompanying emotional, behavioral, educational, and/or relational difficulties the child may exhibit, often-times as a direct result of the trauma. Guidelines have been established to determine which children need referrals to mental health providers for further assessment.

In addition to trauma screenings, each direct service department created a Trauma Implementation Plan in 2016 to target specific areas of focus for the implementation of policies and practices that support trauma-informed care. Areas of focus include: increasing caregiver knowledge of trauma and trauma resources; engaging in trauma-informed case planning; addressing issues related to the impact of trauma on the reunification process; and building partnerships between birth parents and foster parents. The agency continues as an active member of the Lucas County Trauma Informed Care Coalition, and remains committed to attending to the trauma needs of children and families in this community.



## REUNIFICATION READINESS WORKSHOPS

As part of the agency's trauma-informed care initiative, five-week Reunification Readiness Workshops are being offered to parents who are 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 need for 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. Reunification Readiness workshops are completely voluntary and provided as an extra support to parents who are interested in participating. Since its inception in late 2015, 22 parents have participated and 18 (82%) completed the program.



# Contract Services

## CONTRACT ALLOCATION AND SPENDING

Lucas County Children Services had client service contracts with nine providers in 2016, a decrease of two providers from 2015. The table below displays the total contract amount for each provider (with amendments). A total of \$464,000 was allocated for 2016 contract services, of which \$369,807.35 (80%) was utilized. This is a 12 percent decrease from spending compared to 2015; however, there was a five percent increase in the percentage of the total allocation spent.

### Allocation and Spending by Provider

Provider	2015 Allocation	2015 Spent	% Spent	2016 Allocation	2016 Spent	%Spent
Centralized Drug Testing Unit	\$72,500.00	\$66,786.45	92%	\$90,000.00	\$75,065.10	83%
Family & Child Abuse Prevention Center	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	100%	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	100%
Larry Hamme, Ph.D.	\$12,000.00	\$7,745.00	65%	\$10,000.00	\$6,325.00	63%
Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center - Dr. Randall Schlievert	\$36,000.00	\$36,000.00	100%	\$36,000.00	\$36,000.00	100%
Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center - Substance Abuse Mentoring	\$30,000.00	\$24,868.75	83%	\$25,000.00	\$19,006.25	76%
Providence EFP Network	\$70,000.00	\$50,979.50	73%	\$49,500.00	\$44,258.00	89%
Sylvan Learning Center	\$35,000.00	\$32,375.00	93%	\$41,000.00	\$37,735.00	92%
The Padua Center	\$10,000.00	\$5,655.00	57%	\$22,500.00	\$10,503.00	47%
The Twelve of Ohio, Inc.	\$50,000.00	\$40,052.25	80%	\$40,000.00	\$20,476.00	51%
<b>Total Contract Amounts</b>	<b>\$565,500.00</b>	<b>\$422,078.74</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>\$464,000.00</b>	<b>\$369,807.35</b>	<b>80%</b>

Total spending decreased for the Larry Hamme, St. Vincent's Mentoring, Providence and The Twelve of Ohio contracts. The lowest percentage of allocated funds spent was for the Padua Center contract. The original contract amount was six thousand dollars, but this was increased through an amendment due to high utilization at the beginning of 2016. The Twelve of Ohio, Inc. saw the largest decline in percentage of allocated funds spent (-29%).

## INDIVIDUALS REFERRED AND SERVED

The following table provides information on the number of clients referred to each provider. For comparison purposes, only contracts that carried over from 2015 to 2016 are shown. These are unduplicated individuals served for every provider except The Padua Center, which might receive multiple referrals for one client and separate services were provided for each referral. Referrals to Dr. Schlievert and Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center are not included as these are not received through the Contract Unit. Drug screen referrals are reported separately from direct service providers due to the large number of screens requested. Referrals to the Providence Center made up the largest percent (35%) of the total referrals in 2016 but still decreased 40 percent from 2015. Overall, total referrals decreased by 19 percent from 2015. Two of the three contract service providers that saw increases in referrals were those providing substance abuse-related services to clients.

### Contract Referrals by Individual Provider - Two Year Comparison

	2015	2016	% Change
Larry Hamme, Ph.D.	26	35	+35%
Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center - Hope for Families	21	28	+33%
Providence Center FRC Network	157	94	-40%
Sylvan Learning Center	34	30	-12%
The Padua Center*	51	48	-6%
The Twelve of Ohio, Inc.	38	31	-18%
<b>Total</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>-19%</b>
Centralized Drug Testing Unit (Drug Screens only)	1,186	1,307	+10%

\* Duplicated clients referred.

The table below shows the referring department at LCCS for all referrals made to contracted providers in 2016. The Department of Family Services (DFS) accounted for 78 percent of total referrals made in 2016. Three of the providers received 100 percent of their referrals from DFS.

### 2016 Referrals by Department

Provider	Assessments	DFS	Placement	Other	Total
Larry Hamme, Ph.D.	1	13	21	0	35
Mercy St. Vincent - Hope for Families	0	28	0	0	28
Providence Center FRC Network	19	72	2	1	94
Sylvan Learning Center	0	30	0	0	30
The Padua Center*	0	48	0	0	48
The Twelve of Ohio, Inc.	10	15	5	1	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>30 (11%)</b>	<b>206 (78%)</b>	<b>28 (11%)</b>	<b>2 (&lt;1%)</b>	<b>266</b>
Centralized Drug Testing*	787 (23%)	2,689 (77%)	1 (<1%)	1 (<1%)	3,478

\* Duplicated clients referred.

The table below provides information about persons served by contract service providers in 2016. Across all providers that bill by individual clients, 239 unduplicated individuals from 207 families were served in 2016. This is a decrease of 13 percent (or 35 individuals) from 2015. Since CTDU served a large number of individuals, this information is reported separately in the table below. The number of referrals for CTDU drug screens increased by ten percent from 2015, and the number of completed screens increased by 13 percent.

### Individuals Served by Provider - Two-Year Comparison

	2015 Individuals Served	2016 Individuals Served	% Change
Larry Hamme	20	14	-30%
Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center - Hope for Families	30	32	+7%
Providence (EFP) Network	128	104	-19%
Sylvan Learning Center	31	38	+23%
The Padua Center	20	23	+15%
The Twelve of Ohio, Inc.	45	28	-38%
<b>Total Individuals Served</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>-13%</b>
Centralized Drug Testing Unit <i>Drug Screens Only</i>	598	673	+11%

While the number of individuals served decreased 13 percent (excluding CDTU), the number referred to these providers decreased 19 percent.

### SUBSTANCE ABUSE SUPPORT SERVICES - DRUG SCREENS

Centralized Drug Testing Unit administers urine screens for Lucas County Children Services to determine whether an individual is currently using alcohol or other drugs. The table below provides information about the total number of drug screens requested for clients involved with LCCS. A total of 3,478 screens were requested in 2016, a 16 percent increase from 2015. Of the screens requested in 2016, 49 percent were completed, 49 percent were not completed or the client did not show up to provide a sample, and two percent were not completed because the client showed up at CDTU but did not provide a sample at the time of the request.

#### Urine Screens - CDTU

Drug Screen Information	2015	2016	% Change
Total screens requested	2,988	3,478	+16%
Screens completed	1,456 (49%)	1,698 (49%)	NC
Not completed/No show	1,448 (48%)	1,722 (49%)	+1%
No sample left	84 (3%)	58 (2%)	-1%

The results of the completed screens are outlined in the following table. Of the 1,698 drugs screens completed in 2016, 960 screens from 377 clients were positive for some substance (57%). This is an increase of 28 percent from 2015 in the number of positive screens; however, there was only a five percent increase in the *proportion* of screens positive for some substance compared to 2015 (52%).

### Urine Screen Results - CDTU

Results	2015		2016		% Change
	Screens	Clients	Screens	Clients	
Negative	705 (48%)	298 (2.4 screens/client)	738 (43%)	296 (2.5 screens/client)	-5%
Positive	751 (52%)	300 (2.5 screens/client)	960 (57%)	377 (2.5 screens/client)	+5%

The table below shows the number of screens with each substance detected. Multiple drugs were identified in 30 percent (287) of the positive screens. The most common substance detected in positive urine screens in 2016 was THC (37%). The second most common substance was heroin/opiates (32%). The percentage of screens detecting heroin increased 15 percent, suboxone increased 12 percent and methadone increased five percent. Detection of THC decreased five percent. Suboxone and Methadone may be detected as a result of a client being prescribed these medications in treatment for heroin/opiate addiction; however, these substances may be used by clients when not prescribed by a physician.

### Substances Found

Substance	2015		2016		% Change
	N	%	N	%	
Alcohol	12	2%	7	1%	-1%
ETG (longer term alcohol testing)	79	11%	113	12%	+1%
Amphetamine	12	2%	34	4%	+2%
Barbiturate	12	2%	15	2%	NC
Benzodiazepine	29	4%	41	4%	NC
Cocaine	65	9%	67	7%	-2%
Ecstasy	30	4%	72	8%	+4%
Heroin/Opiates	127	17%	305	32%	+15%
Buprenorphine (Suboxone)	79	11%	217	23%	+12%
Methadone	26	4%	85	9%	+5%
THC (Marijuana)	311	42%	348	37%	-5%

A diluted Creatinine level indicates that the urine sample had been altered in some manner. In 2016, nine percent (89) of the positive screens were identified as diluted.

## PLACEMENT PROVIDERS

The agency contracted with 35 residential, group home and foster home network placement providers in 2016. The table below displays the spending for placement contracts in 2016.

Provider	Type	Served	Contract Amount	Amount Spent	%
Adriel School, Inc.	Foster/GH	34	\$400,000.00	\$442,596.70	111%
Applewood Centers, Inc.	Institution	-	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	0%
Beech Brook Residential	Institution	-	\$60,000.00	\$0.00	0%
Bellefaire Jewish Children's Bureau	Institution	1	\$100,000.00	\$47,663.92	48%
Belmont Pines Hospital	Institution	2	\$100,000.00	\$89,705.00	90%
Buckeye Ranch, Inc.	Institution	1	\$100,000.00	\$56,005.73	56%
Caring for Kids, Inc.	Foster	-	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	0%
Carrington Youth Academy, LLC	Institution	2	\$100,000.00	\$81,546.00	82%
Children's Resource Center	Institution	-	\$60,000.00	\$0.00	0%
Christian Children's Home	Institution	-	\$60,000.00	\$0.00	0%
Cleveland Christian Home, Inc.	Institution	1	\$60,000.00	\$47,054.26	78%
Community Teaching Homes, Inc.	Group Home	1	\$60,000.00	\$28,638.00	48%
Cornell Abraxas Group, Inc.	Institution	9	\$40,000.00	\$96,900.00	242%
Eastway Corporation*	Institution	1	\$11,463.27	\$11,463.27	100%
Foundations for Living, CRC	Institution	2	\$100,000.00	\$24,825.06	25%
George Junior Republic*	Institution	3	\$160,249.60	\$160,249.60	100%
Health Recovery Services, Inc.	Institution	1	\$10,000.00	\$4,719.00	47%
House of Emmanuel, Inc.	Institution	5	\$250,000.00	\$121,575.00	49%
Keeping Kids Safe, Inc.	Foster/GH	20	\$150,000.00	\$144,761.60	97%
Kids Count Too, Inc.	Foster	9	\$80,000.00	\$44,655.00	56%
LHS Family and Youth Services	Institution/GH	3	\$150,000.00	\$247,158.00	165%
National Youth Advocate Program	Foster	19	\$110,000.00	\$94,169.51	86%
New Directions	Institution	1	\$25,000.00	\$12,024.00	48%
Oesterlen Services for Youth	Foster	-	\$60,000.00	\$0.00	0%
Ohio Teaching Family Association	Group Home	13	\$280,000.00	\$364,596.00	130%
Ohioquidestone	Institution/FH	6	\$200,000.00	\$297,606.46	149%
Piney Ridge Center*	Institution	1	\$650.00	\$650.00	100%
Richmeier Therapeutic Home	Group Home	2	\$100,000.00	\$80,100.00	80%
Sequel Pomegranate Health Systems	Institution	1	\$100,000.00	\$85,386.00	85%
Specialized Alternatives for Youth	Foster	26	\$200,000.00	\$255,556.86	128%
The Anthony House	Group Home	29	\$250,000.00	\$371,915.00	149%
The Twelve of Ohio, Inc.	Foster	33	\$250,000.00	\$273,366.68	109%
The Village Network	Institution	1	\$100,000.00	\$77,368.00	77%
Tri State Youth Authority	Institution	2	\$100,000.00	\$73,201.50	73%
United Methodist Children's Home	Institution	-	\$40,000.00	\$0.00	0%
<b>Total** (Unduplicated)</b>		<b>193</b>	<b>\$3,977,362.87</b>	<b>\$3,635,456.15</b>	<b>91%</b>

\* Contract developed post placement.

\*\* Duplicated count = 229 children (4 children were served by 3 providers, 28 children were served by 2 providers and 161 children were served by one provider).

LCCS continues to work with area organizations in order to support families and reduce risk to children. Declining financial resources in the last few years have resulted in fewer contracts with providers. Nonetheless, the agency is committed to partnering with community service providers in an effort to meet or exceed expected outcomes for families, including timely reunification and placement stability. 2017 will bring an opportunity to engage with staff, providers, parents and other key stakeholders to define the service needs of those involved with LCCS. Gaps in services will be identified while efforts will be made to utilize all available community resources and secure the necessary services to support families and ensure child protection.



# 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

# Appendix B

## CONTRACT SERVICE PROVIDER DESCRIPTIONS

**Centralized Drug Testing Unit (CDTU)** – provides drug testing services, test validation and court testimony. (Renewed for 2017)

**Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center** – provides a child/family friendly site for multi-disciplinary interview of child abuse victims, crisis counseling, family advocacy, and safety education. Provider is a nationally accredited Child Advocacy Center. (Renewed for 2017)

**Larry E. Hamme, Ph.D.** – provides independent living group services to prepare youth to live independently and to promote those behaviors that can lead to stability and well-being in adulthood. (Not renewed for 2017)

**Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center** – LCCS medical consultant who provides medical examinations and consultation services to LCCS Health Services Department and agency Executive Director. (Renewed for 2017).

**Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center – Hope for Families** – provides mentoring services for substance dependent parents involved with LCCS. Mentors model attitudes and behaviors they have found effective in connecting with the recovery community with the goal for parents to actively engage in substance abuse treatment services and to participate with the recovery/twelve step community. (Renewed for 2017).

**The Padua Center** – provides alternative school suspension/expulsion services for youth in grades K-6, who are part of an open LCCS case and have been suspended or expelled from school. (Renewed for 2017).

**Providence Center for Social and Economic Empowerment** – provides family-centered neighborhood-based network services which include: Domestic Violence Survivor’s Group for Women, Interactive Parent Education, Parent and Teens together-(Parent Education) and Anger Management groups. Parent Support, In Home Services and foster/adoptive recruitment are also provided. (Renewed for 2017).

**Sylvan Learning Center** – provides educational assessment and planning, and individual support and specialized tutoring for children in LCCS custody and residing in an agency approved foster home or the home of kin or relative caregivers. (Renewed for 2017)

**The Twelve of Ohio, Inc.** – provides mentoring services for children and adolescents on an open LCCS referral/case between the ages of ten and seventeen who are placed in their own home, a kinship home or an agency foster home and who are at risk of disrupting their placement due to behavioral complications. (Not renewed for 2017).

# 2016 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.