



2017 COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

OFFICERS

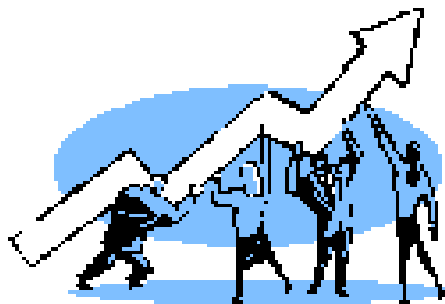
Tania Burnett, Chair, Ashtabula Co. Children Services
Paul Bolino, Vice Chair, Community Counseling Center

FAMILY REPRESENTATIVES

Sonja Hunt
Mona Burt
Jeanne Odell

Patrick Arcaro, Ashtabula Co. Dept. of Job & Family Services
Chris DeGasperis, Oh. Dept. of Youth Services, NEO Region
Peggy Carlo, Ashtabula County Commissioner
Pat Colucci, Buckeye Area City Schools
Laurie DeVivio, Head Start
Ray Saporito, Ashtabula Co. Health Department
Andrew Misiak, Ashtabula Co. Juvenile Court
Lynn Zalewski, Catholic Charities of Ashtabula County
Anne M. Zeitler, Ash. Co. Board Developmental Disabilities
Misriam Walton, Ashtabula Co. Mental Health Board
Dr. Jerome Brockway, Superintendent ATECH
Dr. Melissa Watson, Ashtabula Area City Schools
Trevor Sprague, Executive Director Ashtabula YMCA

Family and Children First Council of Ashtabula County



**Strengthening families to help
them reach their fullest potential**

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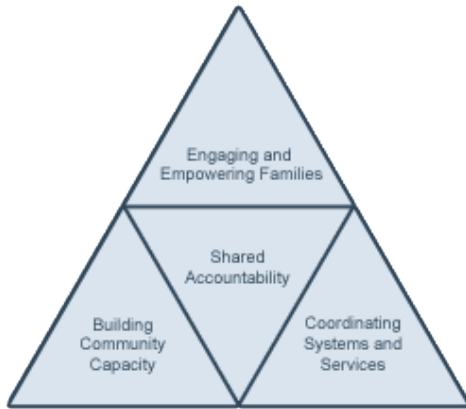
Promoting healthy
children, strong families
and thriving communities

P. O. Box 1175
Ashtabula, OH 44005-1175

OHIO FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST

OFCF is a partnership of state and local governments, communities and families that enhances the well-being of Ohio's children by building community capacity, strategically coordinating systems and services, and engaging and empowering families.

Family and Children First Council of Ashtabula County is the local arm of OFCF, and supports its commitments to children and families by improving access to services, empowering families, coordinating providers and building each community's capacity to better meet the needs of children and families.



CORE FUNCTIONS OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCILS

Ohio's Six Commitments to Child Well-Being

- Expectant Parents and Newborns Thrive
- Infants and Toddlers Thrive
- Children are Ready for School
- Children and Youth Succeed in School
- Youth Choose Healthy Behaviors
- Youth Successfully Transition into Adulthood

OUR MISSION

Family strengths are the foundation upon which future generations of Ashtabula County children are inspired to dream and be encouraged to reach their highest potential. The community, drawing on its diversity, provides the bridge which allows our families and children to overcome any obstacle.

Therefore, the Family and Children First Council of Ashtabula County is committed to the continuous development and implementation of the comprehensive and collaborative process which promote a family-centered community in which there are employment opportunities, income, housing, education, and services adequate to meet the challenges of life with dignity

The Council is a forum to assess and meet community needs, as well as the base for many community and family-centered state grant programs. The Council's priority is to see that all services and programs within the county work in collaboration with each other, to give the best service to families. Communication among agencies and with the community creates the teamwork we need to succeed!



OUR PROGRAMS

Service Coordination: Service Coordination is designed to bring comprehensive services to multi-need children and their families in an effort to maintain stability in the home, success in the community and progress in the classroom. The program brings local agencies, schools and others involved with the family together in an effort to provide efficient wrap-around services via an individualized plan for the child and family.

Cross Systems Training: The Council's Public Information Committee takes suggestions from service providers and community members to organize relevant workshops for professionals serving local families. Council also collaborates with schools and agencies to support larger training events. Continuing Education credits are often available.

Ohio Children's Trust Fund: The mission of the OCTF is to be a catalyst in preventing child abuse and neglect. Through Council, the OCTF funds programming based on the specific needs of each county. Current programs in our community are: Best Choice Attachment Parenting (via Community Action) and Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention and parenting classes (via Children Services).

Help Me Grow: A program for expectant parents, newborn, infants and toddlers that provides health and developmental information and support through home-based, specialized services and public awareness. HMG promotes the well being of young children, with an emphasis on early intervention and prevention, so children start school healthy and ready to learn