Executive Director’s Message:

Our agency’s mission is to work in partnership with our community to protect children at risk of abuse or neglect and strengthen, preserve, and empower families. Our work in 2014 was just as challenging as in previous years, however, with the implementation of a new service practice, Differential Response, we feel our work is gaining efficiencies and effectiveness levels higher than before. Differential Response is a new approach by Ohio’s county child welfare agencies to help families access services, support, and other assistance that will resolve their concerns as early as possible. With Differential Response, children are safer sooner and families are strengthened quicker. Child safety, permanency, and well-being are the primary focus of all activities and decisions of our agency and staff.

Our families in Wayne County continue to face difficult challenges of domestic violence, drug addictions of all kinds, and mental health challenges. The impact of drugs in our communities has had a direct impact on the safety and stability of our families. The agency has been a beneficiary partner of a grant awarded to Anazao Community Partners and STEPS at Liberty Center from the Wayne-Holmes Counties Mental Health and Recovery Board for an Opiate Service Station pilot to operate within our agency. The pilot has allowed the agency to provide an assessment with families where addiction may be present and provide support service options immediately, during the engagement process with our agency. We have experienced parents being able to identify their addiction and seek treatment as a direct result of the pilot.

In March 2014, the agency staff embarked on an internal strategic planning initiative to align our agency goals. The Board of Directors approved the Strategic Plan in September, allowing the staff to begin implementing initiatives in late Fall 2014. We are excited to see our desired initiatives become reality allowing for continued innovative child welfare practice to benefit children and their families in Wayne County.

Families within our communities have supported their children, made life changes to take care of their children, and persevered during difficult challenges. The agency ended the year with 176 fewer intake investigations than the previous year and ten less children in agency custody. There were 148 children in our agency’s custody at the end of 2014, 39 of which were in our permanent custody. The agency supported 21 adoptions in 2014, that provided long term permanency for children in our custody.

We thank our community for assisting us with protecting and caring for children in Wayne County. We are indebted to our community, Foster Parents, Kinship Care Providers, and Volunteers who support us in providing for the needs of our children. These partners are invaluable to our agency and allowing us to meet our mission. Children are our community’s greatest asset for today and for our future.

Deanna Nichols-Stika
Wayne County Children Services investigated a total of 883 child abuse and neglect investigation involving 1035 different complaints of alleged child abuse, neglect or dependency in 2014, due to some reports consisting of more than one type of abuse and neglect. Provided services promote child safety, permanency, and well-being. We believe our mission to protect children by strengthening families can best be carried out by offering a variety of support services to families at every stage of a case. Prevention services are designed to provide help to families and children to prevent case openings, prevent out-of-home placement of children, prevent further maltreatment of children, and prevent the recidivism of children who have returned home following placement.

Services are aligned with our mission and with meeting federal goals in three areas: Safety, Permanency, and Well-being.

### Safety

- 883 Child Abuse & Neglect Investigations
  - 481 Traditional Investigations
  - 402 Alternative Response Investigations
- 537 Children Served with Protective Services
- 272 Families Served with Protective Services
- 72.25 Average Number of New Intake Investigations per Month
- 173.5 Average Number of Ongoing Cases per Month

### Permanency

- 21 Adoptions Finalized
- 28 Children Placed in Adoptive Homes
- 3677.49 Hours of Protective Day Care provided to Children and Families
- 63 Total Number of Licensed Foster Homes
- 122 Inquiries Received from Families for Foster Care and/or Adoption

### Well-being

- Volunteer Mentoring Support
  - Children received 305.75 hours of support from volunteer mentors.
  - 24 Average Mentor Matches with children for the year.
  - Children received 125.75 hours of tutoring from agency volunteers.
- Christmas “Make A Wish”
  - 253 Children Served
  - 35 Corporate/Service Club Sponsors
  - 76 Individual Sponsors
  - $4,358 Cash Donations

**Age Breakdown for children in Foster Care in 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-6 Years</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-12 Years</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-19 Years</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Wayne County Children Services 2014 Financial Report

Salaries (including payroll expenses) $3,504,329
Medical $968
Clothing $6,662
Foster Homes & Daycare $679,995
Therapeutic Foster Homes $1,209,913
Residential Care $1,279,268
Other Expenses (travel, supplies, equipment) $1,130,897

$7,812,032

Less State & Federal Funds Spent $3,151,617
Total Charged to Wayne County $4,660,415

2014 Agency Revenue

Federal $2,707,544 34.4%
State $444,074 5.6%
Local/Levies $3,789,396 48.1%
Local/Other $938,037 11.9%

TOTAL REVENUE $7,879,051 100.0%

2014 Agency Expenditures

Salaries/Benefits $3,504,329 44.9%
Foster Care $679,995 8.7%
Therapeutic Foster Care $1,209,913 15.5%
Residential $1,279,268 16.4%
Other $1,130,897 14.6%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES $7,812,032 100.0%
MISSION STATEMENT
In partnership with our community, Children Services of Wayne County protects children at risk of abuse or neglect and strengthens, preserves and empowers families. Through evaluation of that risk, we identify and coordinate community services.

We work in collaboration with others to provide these children with safe, nurturing and permanent families, whether their own or another. We seek to enhance community awareness by educating the public.

2014 Wayne County Commissioners
Jim Carmichael
Ann Obrecht
Scott Wiggam

2014 Wayne County Children Services Board of Directors
Alicia Wallace, Chairperson
Pamela J. Domer, Vice-Chairperson
Diane Jarrett
James R. Jones
Dr. Shellie Russell
Gene Spittle
Nan Whitsel

2014 Wayne County Children Services Advisory Board
Marlene Barkheimer
Tod Carmony
Dr. Amy Jolliff
Chad Kauffman
Pastor Paula Marbury
Donald Noble II
Daniel Plumly
Pat Simpson
Kevin Trent
Jim Whittlesey