



Wayne County Children Services

Wayne County Children Services, in partnership with the community, exists to protect abused and neglected children and to strengthen, preserve, and empower families.

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2022 ANNUAL REPORT – YEAR IN REVIEW

By Deanna Nichols-Stika, Executive Director

We continue to strive to look for improved practices in serving families. We are dedicated to achieving a community where all children and families can grow and thrive to their fullest potential. In 2022, our agency completed 946 investigations of child abuse and neglect, while ensuring safety, permanency, and well-being for children in Wayne County. Physical abuse and neglect remain the top two presenting problems in our Intake investigations. Addiction and domestic violence are primary factors of physical abuse and neglect, which cause trauma to children. The top two identified drug types with our cases were tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and methamphetamine.

Of significance in 2022, the agency's child sexual abuse cases were at the highest number of reports compared to the last five years. This is the only type of abuse category that increased in the last two years, despite our overall number of cases lowering. Additionally, medical neglect cases jumped back up in the last two years after a significant drop in 2020.

For the second year in a row, more children involved with our agency slept in kinship beds when they were unable to remain in their homes than any other placement type. These kinship beds were in homes that the child/ren already knew and had a relationship with instead of being placed in a foster home. The trauma impact on children is reduced when they can stay with people they know and feel safe with. The 2022 year was the first full year of Wayne County Children Services immersed in the Kinnect to Family Program. The agency produced outstanding results for children, due to our dedicated staff who were relentless in finding family and kinship supports for children. The goal of the program is that at least 80 kinship connections are found for each child involved with Kinnect to Family.

Our agency experienced a workforce crisis in 2022 with chronic openings that were not filled. We had the normal amount of turnover; however, we were unable to find replacement employees due to the shortage of qualified applicants. On average, from June through December 2022, there were 12 vacant positions out of a total of 74 positions across the organization. This shortage impacted our work. Halfway into the year, we had to pause on serving Voluntary and Young Adult Services cases, due to the staff shortage. In the past, these two types of cases have made up about 20% of our overall caseloads.

November 2022 brought the passage of our 10-year 1.6 mil levy by the voters of Wayne County. Thank you for your continued support of our agency. We are humbled by your dedication to walk alongside us in serving children and families of Wayne County. Our agency's mission is accomplished through many partnerships. We are grateful to all our partners for the continued progress of services to protect abused and neglected children in Wayne County.

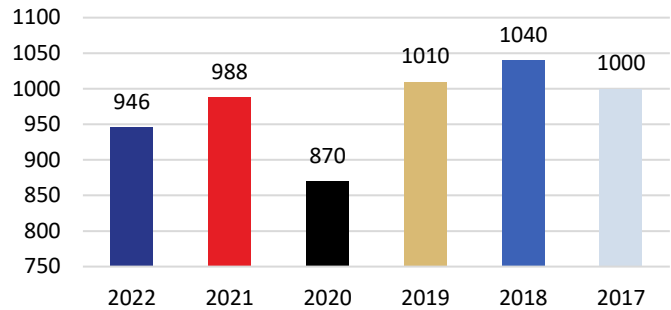


2022 REPORT OF SERVICES

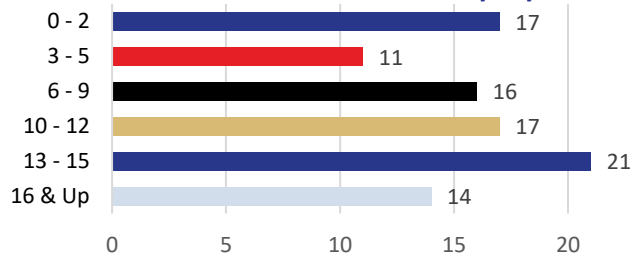
INTAKE, ONGOING, FOSTER CARE, & ADOPTION STATISTICS

- 165 Children Served with Protective Services on 12/31/2021
- 107 Families Served with Protective Services on 12/31/2021
- 22 Children Received Protective Day Care at a cost of \$71,379.93
- 16 Adoptions Finalized
- 15 Children Placed in Adoptive Homes
- 31 Licensed Foster Homes on 12/31/2022
- 76 Inquiries Received from Families for Kinship Care, Foster Care, and/or Adoption

AGENCY INVESTIGATIVE STATISTICS

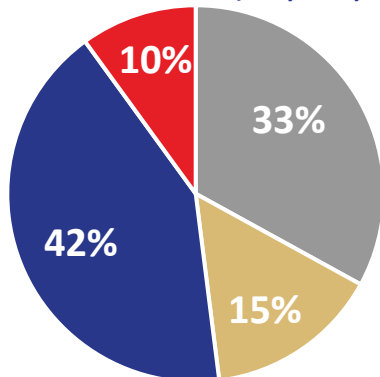


TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH PLACEMENTS BY AGE ON 12/31/2022



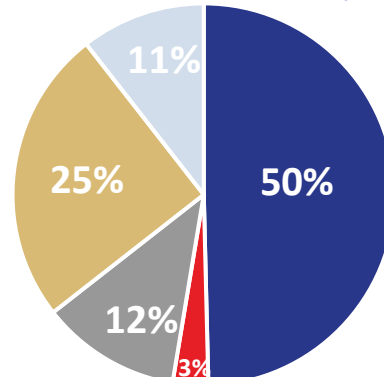
2022 FINANCIAL REPORT

TOTAL REVENUE: \$10,539,251



- Federal \$3,490,294
- State \$1,588,450
- Local/Levies \$4,388,739
- Local/Other \$1,071,768

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: \$9,641,177



- Salaries/Benefits \$4,783,553
- Foster Care \$289,883
- Therapeutic Foster Care \$1,139,402
- Residential \$2,411,688
- Other \$1,016,651

If agency experiences excess revenue in a year, the dollars are retained to cover deficit years to ensure services are continued.

2534 Burbank Road, Wooster, Ohio 44691

www.waynecsb.org

