



Pickaway County
**Family and Children First Council
Newsletter**

FUNDS for CHILD ABUSE and NEGLECT PREVENTION

The Council will be accepting proposals for child abuse and neglect prevention services for Pickaway County for SFY 2008. Funding is provided by the Ohio Children's Trust Fund and must be used exclusively for primary and secondary child abuse/neglect prevention programs and services. Notice of RFP and a public hearing will be made the second week of January with local proposals due 2/23/07. For more information contact Wilma Beerman at (614) 565 5698 or wilmabeerman@yahoo.com.

**Meeting
Schedule**

Jan. 18, 2007
March 15, 2007
May 17, 2007
June 21, 2007
August 16, 2007

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Council membership updates are almost complete. If you have not returned your membership form please do so as soon as possible. If there are representatives from other agencies, organizations, or community and parent representatives that you think we should include in council please contact Wilma Beerman at (614) 565 5698 or wilmabeerman@yahoo.com and we will extend an invitation.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

A pilot program of family activities for children that are exhibiting behavior and or mental health concerns is in the planning for students in the Logan Elm School District as a follow-up to the summer program that was offered. The focus will be on encouraging parental involvement and strengthening the child's opportunity for success through assets. If you would like to be part of the planning or want to volunteer to help contact Wilma Beerman at (614) 565 5698 or wilmabeerman@yahoo.com.

COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS:

Project React is offered through Jobs and Family Services at the JOBS One-Stop in partnership with Pickaway Ross Career and Technology Center. Project React is for youth ages 14 to 21 years with a dual focus on community employment and graduation attainment. The services vary based on individual needs and may include work adjustment, pre-employment training, and other skill-building services necessary to remain on the job. This is all done with a plan to get the student assistance to obtain the diploma or GED.

Eligibility is income-based. In addition, the student has to be deficient in one or more of the following: deficient in basic literacy skills, school dropout, homeless, runaway, foster child, pregnant or parenting, offender, or an individual who requires additional assistance to complete an education program or to secure and hold employment.

Currently there are 18 students enrolled in this program representing all four high schools in our county.



The Needs Assessment Workgroup has been collecting and analyzing local, state, and national data to identify the long-term outcome for PfS and FCFC. The rankings did change during the confirmation process after considering community values and reviewing supportive data. The final ranking of the Commitments to Child Well-being for our county are:

1. Children and Youth Succeed in School
2. Children Are Ready For School
3. Children and Youth Choose Healthy Behaviors
4. Infants and Toddlers Thrive
5. Expectant Parents and Newborns Thrive
6. Youth Successfully Transition into Adulthood

The Transformation Grant included funding for conducting four focus groups and reporting on the findings. Sereana Dresbach facilitated the focus groups in November and December and has summarized the information in a report. Wilma Beerman coordinated this project and identified four groups of family demographics for the facilitated discussions. Participant groups included:

- *Grandparents raising grandchildren*
- *Parents with children with disabilities*
- *Parents with children in juvenile justice system*
- *Parents of gifted children*

A set of five questions were asked of all four groups by the facilitator and responses were recorded by the co-facilitator. The questions from the facilitated discussions were:

1. *Do you feel support in your role raising children? Support from friends, families, institutions, organizations, leaders, schools, informal groups, formal groups, etc.*
2. *What are the assets you have experienced in this community?*
3. *What were some of the barriers you experienced?*
4. *What are your ideas?*
5. *How will you define success?*

Trends were identified by multiple responses, as well as similarity in responses identifying common ideas, assets, and barriers. If you would like a copy of this report please contact Wilma Beerman. The PfS Needs Assessment Workgroup reviewed the report for including community values when confirming the ranking for the Long-term Outcome.

PCFCFC CONTACTS:

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