



**Huron County FCFC  
Year End Report- SFY21**



*Website: [www.huroncountycfc.org](http://www.huroncountycfc.org)*

*Facebook: Family & Children First Council of Huron County*

**HCFCFC Chair: Lenora Minor, Huron County Dept. of Job & Family Services**

**HCFCFC Director: Niki Cross**

**Prevention & Recovery Care Coordinator: Yahoska Acosta**

**Wraparound Facilitator: Kemmes Keys, Jr.**



# Family & Children First Council

## Huron County

The Huron County Family and Children First Council consists of representatives of mandated systems and government agencies, along with key community stakeholders, including family representatives whose families or they themselves have received services. Its purpose is to be in alignment with the Ohio Family and Children First Council to streamline and coordinate existing governmental services for families with children 0-21 years of age. Service Coordination and High-Fidelity Wraparound are available to children and families with multisystem needs and can be accessed by agencies or families voluntarily seeking services. The Council also serves as the lead for Prevention efforts in Huron County.

### Our Mission

The mission of the Council is to support and strengthen families to meet their responsibilities by facilitating family-centered, coordinated, community-based, preventative and comprehensive services and programs that identify and respond to the health, human, and social service needs of Huron County families.

### Purpose

- Provide ongoing identification and collaboration of current services available to families and children, ongoing identification of service gaps for multi-need children and young adults and ongoing development of specific goals and strategies for closing those gaps.
- Develop, implement and update one community-wide plan to achieve a system of service delivery that is family oriented and user friendly.
- Participate in the development of a county-wide, comprehensive, coordinated and multi-disciplinary, interagency system for infants and toddlers with developmental disabilities or delays and their families.
- Seek financial support from member organizations and agencies, and public and private funds to support the work of the Council and seek funds to match State and Federal dollars needed to implement the community plan.
- Enter into contracts through the Administrative Agent and administer grants to local agencies and organizations to plan and coordinate service delivery.
- Establishment of a mechanism to ensure ongoing input from a broad representation of families who are receiving services within the county system.

- Maintenance of an accountability system to monitor the Council's progress in achieving results for families and children.
- Provide referrals to the State Cabinet Council of those children for whom the Council cannot provide adequate services.

## Guiding Principles

Huron County FCFC is committed to a system of services that will enhance collaboration and cooperation in achieving the best possible level of service for families and their children.

- The planning process and service delivery system(s) may be open and inclusive so that all agencies serving families and their children, as well as families receiving the target services, are given a voice in developing workable solutions to problems.
- Service needs shall be determined, and services provided with intent to decrease duplication of other service initiatives.

## Executive Summary

It's been another eventful year as we have watched the Huron County Family & Children First Council go through a significant period of growth. As partnerships between agencies strengthened, we saw progress happening before our eyes. Youth were given a voice and family members and professionals used their strengths and resources to create positive change. Through these partnerships, the addition of a Prevention & Recovery Coordinator (Service Coordination) and Wraparound Facilitator we were able to increase our referrals by 78% from SFY20. Our most prominent accomplishments over the past year include:

### SUCCESSSES

#### FAMILY & CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL

- Began using the Protective Factors Survey for all new and returning referrals
- Care Conferences (w/ state partners and family members)-for more intense cases
- Technology Library (Chromebook loaning program)
- New Referral Forms w/ added information to help identify specific needs
- Partnerships w/ the schools to enable us to provide High-Fidelity Wraparound
- Partnership w/ local DD agencies for respite providers, OT services, funding, and other resources
- Pedaling w/ Pops Event-emphasis on the importance of a father or father-figure in a child's life
- Partnership w/ Children Services for respite care options
- Partnership w/ Workforce Development (FYRE program) for youth 14-24 years old.
- Utilization of the Fidelity Electronic Health Records (EHR) system to organize and track Service Coordination and Wraparound.
- Worked with families affected by the Opioid Epidemic (employment, education, etc.)
- Referrals increased from 21 in SFY20 to 99 in SFY21.
- Received certification to teach Parent Advocacy classes along with a Parent Rep from Council
- Involvement in initial development of The Grandparents Project (a support group for grandparents raising grandchildren).

- Creation of a Parent Advisory Committee under FCFC (support group and advisory committee for parents of multi-system youth)
- Addition of a Flexible Funding Pool to be used for Service Coordination

## **HURON COUNTY PREVENTION COALITION**

- Held monthly Prevention Coalition meetings since August 2020
  - 45 participants on group email list; 31 agencies represented
- Creation of 4 committees to address identified prevention-related focus areas
  - Substance Use/Abuse
  - LGBTQ+
  - Youth Advocacy
  - Youth Resiliency/Suicide Prevention
- Added 3 additional agencies since August
- Approved officers and bylaws for Prevention Coalition
- Bullying Prevention Poster/Essay Contest
  - 3 school districts participated: Willard, Norwalk/St. Paul, and Bellevue
  - Poster Entries: 4<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade- 91
  - Essay Entries: 4<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade- 16 entries
- Handle w/ Care: communication with Law Enforcement, EMS, and schools initiated
- FCFC Director & Prevention & Recovery Care Coordinator obtained Registered Applicant status. Working towards Ohio Certified Prevention Specialist credentialing through the Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals Board.
- LGBTQ+ Committee developed a strategic plan to include the creation of an LGBTQ Support Group for youth
- Logic Model Development: working on developing strategies for the three focus areas
- Scheduled 5 school districts in collaboration with OMHAS to participate in the OHYES! Assessment in the Spring of 2021
- Partnership with HCMHAS, New London Schools, and Boys & Girls Club of Northeast Ohio to obtain funds and develop an afterschool program space in New London that will be available for all school districts across the county.
- Implemented the Empowered Youth Summit on March 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM-12:30 PM for 11 Seniors at the Fisher-Titus Learning Center. Participating districts included Norwalk, Monroeville, Western Reserve, and Willard (canceled).
- Created an Asset Team to implement Search Institute's Developmental Asset Framework strategies across Huron County: Initial focus will be on the schools and youth-serving agencies in Huron County, starting in the fall of 2021.
- Creation of a Facebook page and website for the Huron County Prevention Coalition
- Finalized a Strategic Plan for implementation of identified strategies through the Strategic Prevention Framework Logic Model.
- Represented at the Huron County DJFS Wellness Fair
- Five (5) school districts completed the OHYES! in April & May 2021
- Creation of a Prevention Coalition website and Facebook page to post information related to youth substance use, suicide prevention, and developmental assets.

## **CHALLENGES**

- Our biggest challenge to date continues to be engagement from the families
- Developing an appropriate partnership with the schools that will encompass the varied needs across all districts.

- Educating referring agencies about the Family & Children First Council and the difference between Service Coordination, Wraparound, and the requirements involved when applying for MSY Funding (placements).
- We have begun moving back towards in-person meetings, but it has been a challenge to schedule travel time into our schedules and that of our partner agencies.
- The expectations for the new state initiatives (Ohio RISE, Family First Prevention Services Act) and the switch from OMHAS to ODJFS oversight for Ohio Family & Children First Council, is a bit unclear. It has been difficult to plan ahead.
- An increased need for transportation and In-Home Based Treatment (or another comprehensive therapy program for the family unit) with the families we serve.
- Challenges of aligning schedules of informal and formal supports for Team Meetings.
- Follow through from family members after resources are identified.

## Interagency Collaboration- Service Coordination

Service Coordination is a Family and Children First Council function which provides coordinated access to services for families with multiple system needs and to build upon the strength of services in the community that are already working for families. Families can be referred by another agency or make self-referrals for assistance in addressing current needs, barriers or obstacles to support and maintain personal and family stability. Service Coordination also serves as a neutral venue for families requiring services where their needs may not have been adequately addressed in traditional agency systems, thus requiring more intensive collaboration of multisystem providers. Each system has areas of responsibility and Service Coordination is not intended to override current agency systems, but to supplement and enhance supports that currently exist, or identify additional supports that are needed but are not currently utilized.

### SFY21 Funds Received for Service Coordination (Services & Supports):

**Fund:** **Amount Awarded:** **Amount Used:**

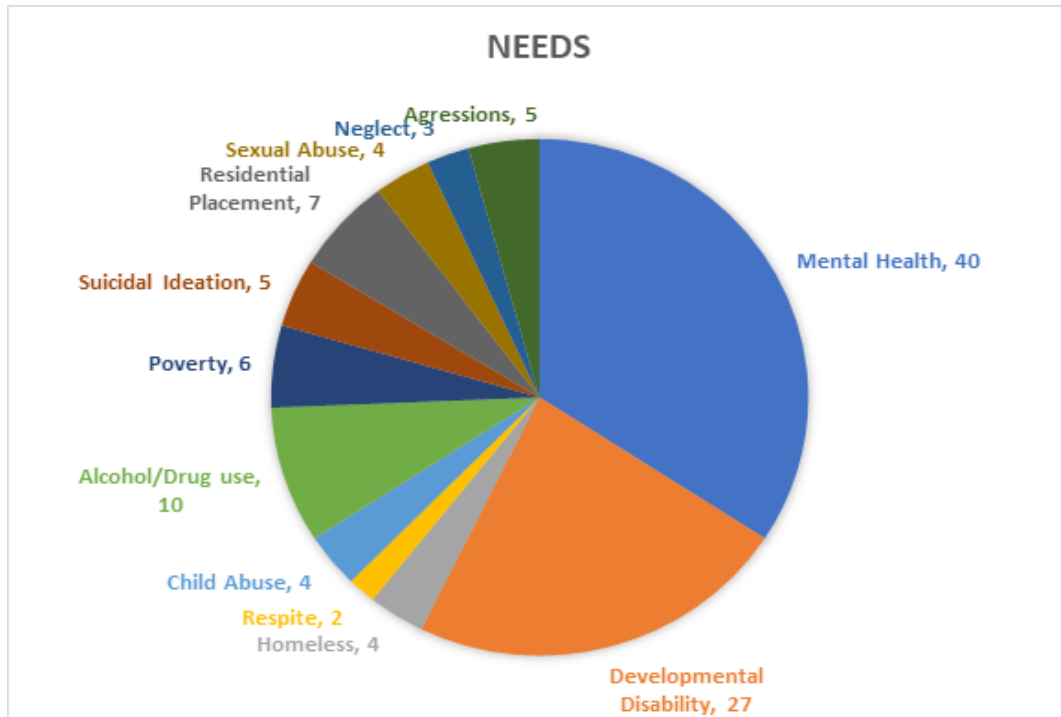
Family-Centered Services & Supports	\$21,110.00	\$21,110.00
Huron County Mental Health & Addiction Services Board-Services & Supports	\$25,000.00	\$8236.78 as of 7/20/21)
HCMHAS- Prevention	\$10,000.00	\$3841.07 as of 7/20/21)
Multi-System Youth Funds	\$25,436.00	\$14,594.90
Flexible Funding	\$171,283.55	\$1395.76
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$252,829.55</b>	<b>\$23,316.00</b>

*\*Resources were limited during COVID. We anticipate expending quite a bit more of the Services and Support funding in SFY22.*

**ACTIVE CASES:**

Service Coordination: 32 active youth/families  
Wraparound Referrals: 11 active youth/ families  
Residential/Foster Care Placement: 5 youth; (2 youth were reunited with their families)

**99 youth served  
in SFY21**



**WRAPAROUND**

**The four phases of Wraparound:**

- Engagement
- Planning
- Implementation
- Transition

**SUMMARY OF DATA FROM THE CANS ASSESSMENT**

- We continue to utilize the Protective Factors Survey for Service Coordination to identify immediate needs of the families and open the door for conversations related to the health and wellness of the youth. We currently use the CANS Assessment-Trauma Comprehensive for youth involved in High-Fidelity Wraparound to identify the Needs and Strengths of the youth and their family, as a unit. The CANS Assessment is typically done after the intake or the second meeting by the Facilitator, after the immediate need is addressed. It is then performed every 90-days to measure the effectiveness of Wraparound efforts. Eleven youth participated in the CANS Assessment through Wraparound, 3 of those youth have had their 90-day update and show promising outcomes.



**MAXIMUM SCORE PER DOMAIN:**

*\*Higher scores indicate an immediate need for intervention (high score in strengths is positive)*

- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES): 42
- Traumatic Stress Symptoms: 24
- Child Strengths: 33
- Life Domain Functioning: 39
- Acculturation: 12
- Child Behavioral/Emotional Needs: 39
- Child Risk Behaviors: 33
- Caregiver #1 and #2: 39 (each)

**Youth involved in services more than 90 days**

- *\*No updates for youth #2 or youth #5 due to out of home placement*
- *90-day update: ( # )*

<b>Domain:</b>	<b>Youth #1</b>	<b>Youth #2</b>	<b>Youth #3</b>	<b>Youth #4</b>	<b>Youth #5</b>
ACES	6 (6)	5	4 (2)	3 (1)	7
Traumatic Stress Symptoms	11 (10)	7	3 (0)	3 (1)	14
Child Strengths	20 (24)	12	16 (14)	17 (20)	25
Life Domain Functioning	16 (11)	14	5 (4)	12 (11)	11
Acculturation	2 (1)	2	1 (1)	2 (0)	0
Transition to Adulthood	N/A (5)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Child Behavior/Emotional Needs	18 (26)	15	3 (6)	15 (5)	14
Child Risk Behaviors	11 (5)	11	3 (0)	2 (7)	8
Caregiver #1- Needs & Strengths	11 (N/A)	15	4 (3)	5 (9)	10
Caregiver #2-Needs & Strengths	6 (N/A)	N/A	N/A	N/A	6

<b>Domain:</b>	<b>Youth #6</b>	<b>Youth #7</b>	<b>Youth #8</b>	<b>Youth #9</b>	<b>Youth #10</b>	<b>Youth #11</b>
ACES	3	0	3	2	6	3
Traumatic Stress Symptoms	0	0	0	0	3	6
Child Strengths	7	14	10	5	10	14
Life Domain Functioning	10	7	3	5	4	11
Acculturation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transition to Adulthood	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Child Behavior/Emotional Needs	9	8	5	5	5	8

Child Risk Behaviors	3	0	0	7	2	4
Caregiver #1-Needs & Strengths	6	1	2	1	3	1
Caregiver #2-Needs & Strengths	7	N/A	N/A	1	N/A	N/A

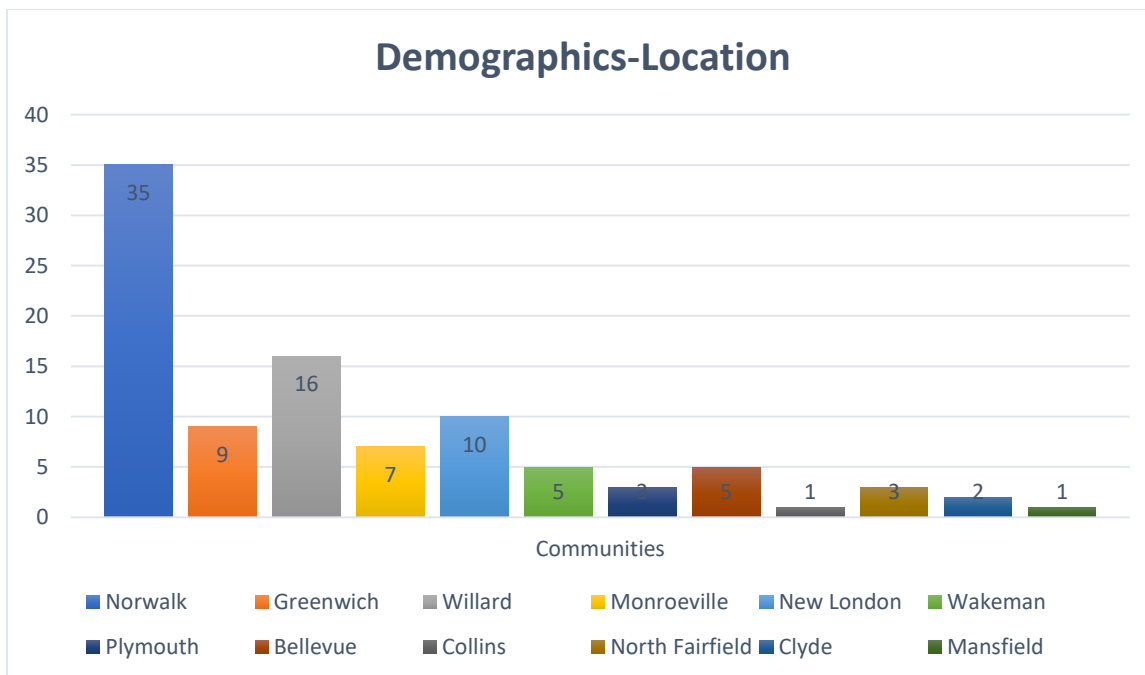
**SFY21 MSY Placements:**

Youth can be placed in residential facilities for substance use/addiction, mental health or behavioral concerns if local efforts have been exhausted and there is no improvement. FCFC is able to apply for funding through the state MSY Funding Pool if the youth is in the custody of their parent or legal guardian but is at risk for custody relinquishment due to mental health or behavioral concerns. FCFC will coordinate placement with the family and local agencies involved with the youth. Once supporting documentation is in place, an MSY application for funding is submitted to the state MSY Committee for approval. Monthly updates are required to be submitted through FCFC and a working discharge plan must be in place at the time of placement. Upon discharge, the youth will receive a minimum of 6 months of local High-Fidelity Wraparound through HCFCFC to ensure a successful transition back into their home community, through alignment of services and supports.

	<b>Awarded:</b>	<b>Expended to date:</b>
<b>Placements in SFY21 (7)</b>	\$ 258,871.40	\$165,623.08

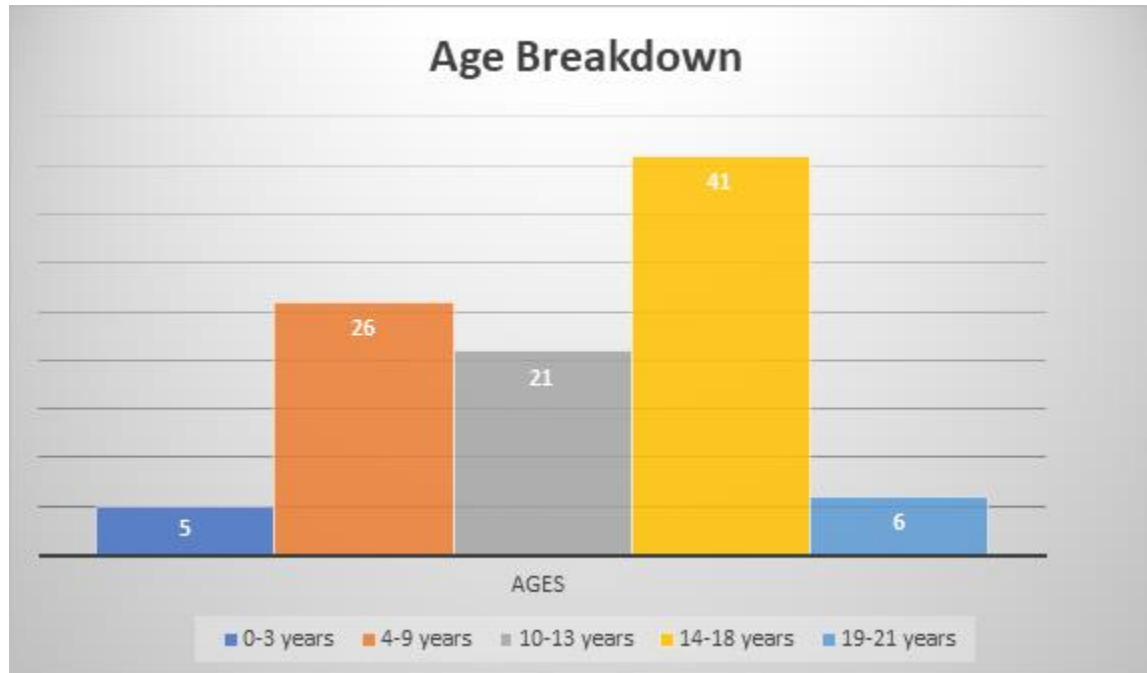
*\*2 of the 7 youth have been successfully reunited with their families.*

*\*Demographics include residency which typically corresponds with the school district.*





*\*Age Breakdown based on 99 total referrals in SFY21*

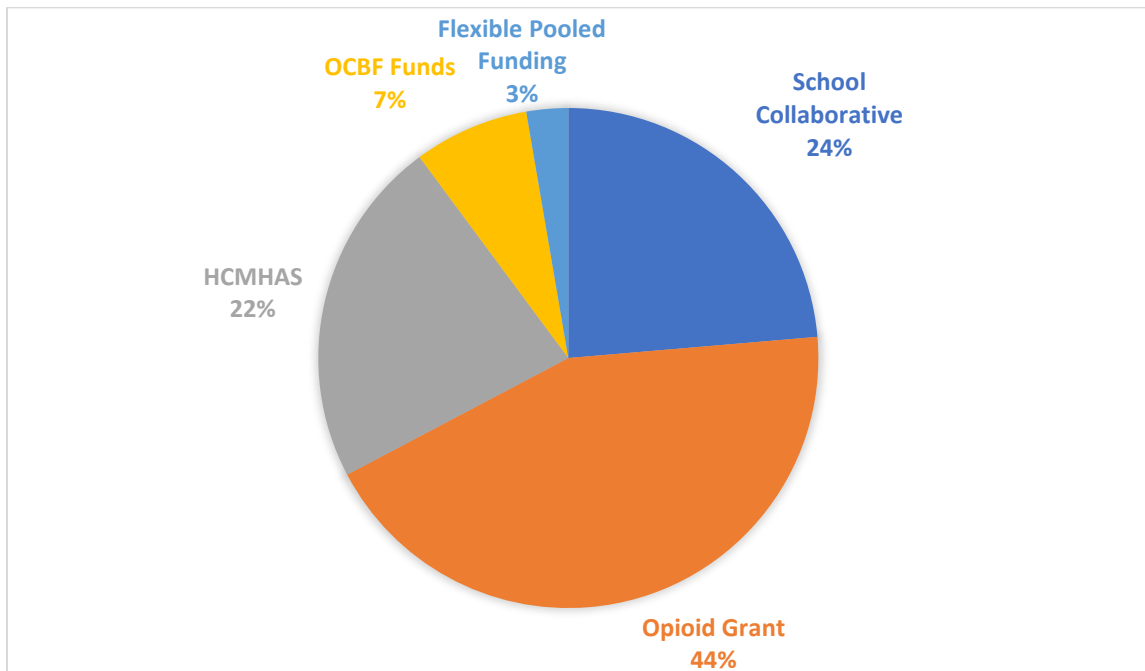


#### **WHAT ARE WE DOING FOR FAMILIES?**

- Respite Care Agreements
- Safety Equipment/Adaptive Equipment
- Norwalk Rec/Jungle Junction passes to provide unstructured family time activities
- Travel reimbursement/parking fees for medical appointments/travel vouchers
- Resource Coordination w/ Workforce Development and Family Support (DJFS)
- Youth residential placement for inpatient therapy
- Purchase clothing for homeless/temporary foster care placement (by referral)
- Assist w/ securing funding for education goals
- Wraparound (family-centered, youth focused approach)-goal setting
- Assist with furniture needs (beds, dressers, etc.)-partnership w/ Habitat for Humanity & Bed Brigade- 7 beds delivered this past year.
- Referrals for housing, food, and cash assistance through PRC funding (DJFS)
- Work with Care Team & family to secure residential placement through MSY funding
  - Track progress on a monthly basis and provide updates to the state MSY team
- Glasses for a youth
- OT Services: Daily Living Activities. Helping young adult with Developmental Disability transition to independent living
- Greyhound bus tickets to reunite homeless family in Huron County with family in Texas
- Service Coordination to secure DD services for misdiagnosed youth
- EHOVE Saturday Youth Enrichment programs (cooking, cheerleading, science, art, carpentry, etc.)
- Working with Reach Our Youth and Veteran's Services to match a mentor with a youth, and increase mentor pool in Huron County
- Request for an ECHO Consultation for more challenging youth cases
- Wraparound presentations completed for 3 school districts and 1 mental health provider.

- Wraparound Facilitator and PRC Coordinator trained in CANS
- Covered recreational fees for the following programs: Huron County Youth Soccer League, Lefty Grove Baseball, and Cedar Point Sports Force sports camp.
- Covered fees for 2 families to attend a family camp for youth with a Developmental Disability (Joni & Friends Camp)
- Covered Camp Patmos (Christian Camp) fees for youth involved in Service Coordination/Wraparound
- Purchasing an adaptive bike for youth w/ down syndrome
- Provided fuel cards for parents to visit youth in placement and for medical appointments
- Purchased safety garments & storage cabinet for family
- Began discussions with North American Martial Arts Institute for partnership to enroll youth involved with FCFC services.
- Safety measures put in place for youth (alarm systems-elopement, decks, fencing, etc.)
- Adaptive equipment purchased (adult-sized car seat, special needs bike, walker w/ seat, etc.)
- Partnership w/ ACT to fund the purchase of a fence due to youth elopement issues
- Two (2) youth successfully reunited with their families after discharge from placement/residential facilities outside the home.
- Assisted w/ funding to help family with severe infestation issues, affecting attendance at school.
- Life Out Loud camp- for youth w/ developmental disabilities (Erie County)

## Interagency Collaboration- Administrative Funds (Salaries & Benefits)



**Amount Awarded:      Amount Used:**

Operational Capacity Building Funds	\$15,750.00	\$15,750.00
Huron County Mental Health & Addiction Services Board	\$85,000.00	\$47,731.00
Opioid Grant funds	\$95,000.00	\$92,234.90
Flexible Pooled Funding	\$19,142.66	\$5698.84
MSY Capacity Funding	\$3636.36	\$0.00
School Collaboration-Wraparound	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$268,799.02</b>	<b>\$211,414.74</b>

## Interagency Collaboration- Early Intervention

Early Intervention (EI) is a state-wide system that provides coordinated early intervention services to parents of eligible children under the age of three with developmental delays or disabilities. EI is grounded in the philosophy that young children learn best from familiar people in familiar settings. Every family served in EI will have a local EI team that consists of a service coordinator, service providers, and your family. Huron County Early Intervention program is run through the Huron County Board of Developmental Disabilities, with Carol Robinson serving as the EI Coordinator.

Huron County Family & Children first Council serves as the fiscal agent/grantee for the Early Intervention program through the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (EIGS).

### **SFY21 Funds Received for the Early Intervention program:**

HMG Part C:	\$161,434.00
Central Coordination:	<u>\$6,000.00</u>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$167,434.00</b>

## Our Vision....

- Continue to build the High-Fidelity Wraparound program
- Continue to create collaborative programs that address gaps in service within Huron County.
- Create a plan to build up pool of Parent Advocates through the Parent Advisory Committee
- Implement Youth-Led ARISE Program
- Continue to build the Prevention Coalition and work towards addressing identified goals for Huron County youth based on OHYES! and the Huron County Community Health Assessment:
  - Underage Drinking
  - Early onset of recreational marijuana use
  - Suicide Prevention/Resiliency Skill Building

- Sources of Strength (Suicide Prevention Program)
- Implementation of a community-wide Developmental Asset Framework
- Increased Professional Development for FCF staff and Council members.

*Updated by: Niki Cross, HCFCFC Director 07/19/21*