



We Have a Story to Tell!

May 12, 2009

Fosters parents honored

WARREN — Two couples who have taken care of a combined 88 foster children were among those recognized Monday for their dedication by Trumbull County Children Services. Fourteen families with five to 20 years of service as foster parents were honored

April 22, 2009

CSB honors those who took in baby in need of a home

The 32-year-old Warren woman changed her life drastically to take custody of her cousin's daughter

July 21, 2009

CSB launching abuse awareness campaign

WARREN — Trumbull County's child advocacy agency wants to raise awareness to the potential risks of child abuse and is a partner to care for their

December 5

Children Services offers care and compassion

It was a bizarre case. A boy shows up at a homeless shelter, a tired and hungry runaway from another state but one authorities later

December 3, 2008

CSB children's center to open

WARREN — Trumbull County Children Services will unveil its new children's residential center today with a bang.

August 30, 2009

Saving children, one at a time

EDITOR: Last week, we were all shocked and saddened by

April 7, 2009

Foster care regulation sought

November 6, 2009

Special event unites five new families

Kids find families on Adoption Day

WARREN — Jumping around and playing with the balloon figures in front of the judge's bench, Alaina Wagner had them rolling in the aisles Thursday. The happy 18-month-old toddler was oblivious to the special court proceeding partly held in her honor in the largest courtroom in the state of Ohio.



Services Offered to Children

Children Services offers a full slate of child welfare services for the families and children of Trumbull County. These services are listed below with the number of persons served in 2009.

■ Children Services

Provided services to 5,055 children in 2,887 families.

■ Triage Department

Received 1,951 new referrals; assessed 1,323 referrals of child maltreatment (i.e., abuse, neglect, dependency, other) concerning 2,740 children.

■ Sexual Abuse and Investigation Unit

Conducted 406 investigations of serious sexual abuse, physical abuse, neglect and dependency allegations concerning 921 children.

■ Alternative Response Unit

Assessed and provided services to 311 referrals of child abuse and neglect concerning 593 children.

■ Protective Services

Provided to 1,580 children.

■ Children's Center

Serviced 28 children; 5,041 days of care in the Children's Center.

■ Secure Care for Children Unit

Served 14 children for 2,694 days of care.

■ Therapeutic Paid Placements

33 children received 5,669 days of care in therapeutic foster care.

■ Foster Care

237 children were cared for in a total of 135 foster homes; a monthly average of 128 children and a total of 49,226 days of care.

■ Adoption Services

33 children were placed and 38 adoptions finalized.

■ Family Support Services

Provided to 184 families.

■ Independent Living Initiatives

38 children were prepared for emancipation from agency care and assisted after emancipation.



September 3, 2009 – The community responds for an abused Brookfield boy. Gary Steinbeck of the United Steelworkers presents him with a gift of 50-yard line tickets to the Browns/Steelers game!



June 16, 2009 – Media friends from WYTV/Channel 33 were on-hand at a Graduation Party to interview two foster children who rose above hardship to graduate from high school.



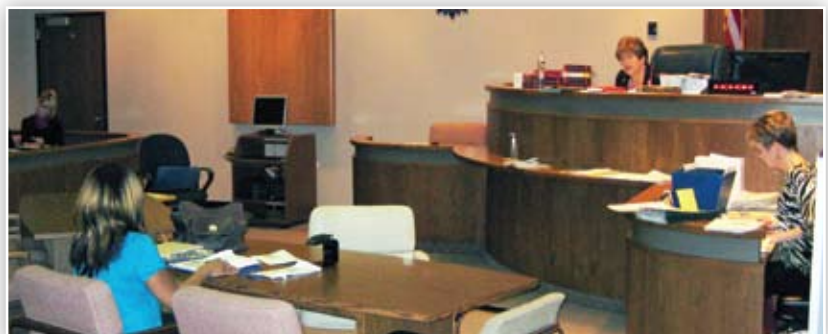
May 11, 2009 – May is National Foster Parent Recognition Month. Several Trumbull County foster families were honored at the Recognition Dinner for their years of service.



May 20, 2009 – TCCS is re-accredited by the Council on Accreditation for the ninth time. COA professionals from across the country spent four days reading, inspecting and interviewing.



December 14, 2009 – Bikes galore! Tony Potts & associates from Bikes for Kids, Inc. donated over 70 bicycles of all sizes for children in foster care.



October 30, 2009 – The Family Dependency Treatment Court is up and running! Collaborating with TCCS, Family Court, and the Mental Health and Recovery Board, several treatment providers participate in weekly hearings before Magistrate Deborah Marik.

Strength-Based & Family-Centered Services

Children Services offers programs which strengthen and maintain family life. We identify positive attributes that have worked successfully for families in the past, and we build on these strengths so that families can solve their problems and grow stronger. Programs are developed which provide support for families and help children find permanency in their birth homes, relative homes or adoptive homes.

- **Family Unity Meetings:** An agency facilitator partners with the family in a community support team that strengthens the family and provides for the safety and well-being of the children.
- **Family-To-Family Team Meetings:** Family connections are made between foster parents and birth parents to support the children in care. The Family-To-Family relationship provides a foundation that continues long after the child returns home.
- **Family Dependency Treatment Court (FDTC):** Family Court, Children Services, the Mental Health & Recovery Board, and other child advocates and treatment providers collaborate to assist parent(s) in achieving sobriety, receiving appropriate drug & alcohol treatment and making positive changes in their lives and the lives of their child(ren). While child safety and well being are the primary goals of the Treatment Court, the emphasis is on the areas of permanency for children, parent sobriety, parent mental health and reduced recidivism of child abuse and neglect. FDTC participants receive comprehensive treatment services and judicial supervision.
- **Ohio's Alternative Response (AR) Pilot Program:** Our Agency recently finished a 10-county pilot program which gave our staff the capacity to offer more than one method of response to reports of suspected child maltreatment. This flexibility allowed us to develop a variety of family-centered practices that best served the unique needs of families and children. Because of our successful pilot experience, we are continuing to expand AR practices for all ongoing cases at TCCS. The Agency is a member of the Leadership Council whose goal is to implement Alternative Response Statewide.
- **Residential Services:** The Agency partners with Valley Counseling to provide therapeutic services for children who require residential treatment for emotional problems. Trumbull County is fortunate to have community-based residential treatment services offered by the Children's Center and the Secure Care for Children Unit. Without locally-based residential treatment, children would have to receive help from other institutions, miles from their home.



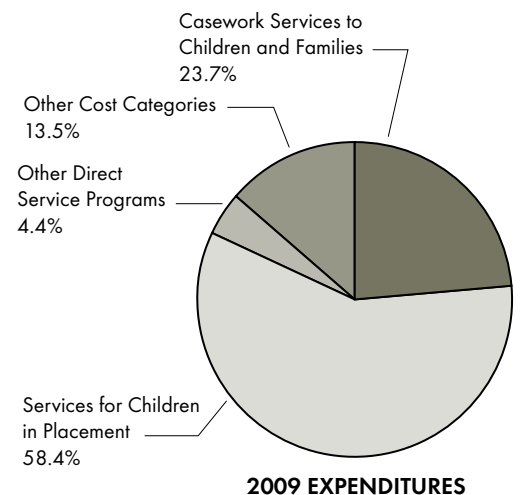
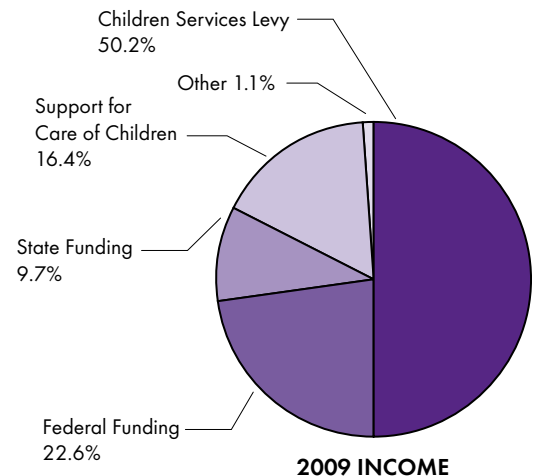
October 9, 2009 – CSB staff cares about the community! Food and money from dress down day collections were donated to Pastor Chuck Gantz of the Warren Family Mission.

Community Partnerships

Trumbull County Children Services actively participates in several community programs that support children, such as the Family & Children First Council, the Child Assault Prosecution Team, the Child Fatality Review Board, the Child Advocacy Center and the County Human Services Planning Committee.



April 2, 2009 – Executive Director, Marcia Tiger, advocates for Child Welfare issues with State Representative Tom Letson and Governor Ted Strickland at a Legislative Breakfast in Columbus.





April 9, 2009 – Children Services Board President, Rev. Alton Merrell, and Warren Mayor, Michael O'Brien, participate in the Pinwheels for Prevention ceremony.



November 5, 2009 – Adoption Day in Probate Court. Dan and Emma Glaeser become the "forever family" for little Nadia and Aidan. Their attorney and caseworkers join Judge Swift in the celebration.

BOARD MEMBERS



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Trumbull County Children Services is accredited by the Council on Accreditation and is a member agency of the Child Welfare League of America. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Speakers are available to address community groups. Call for information.



A Message from the Executive Director

In August of 2009, our agency was notified about an 8 year-old little boy who was very badly abused. The news coverage of this boy (acquired from public police information) had an amazing impact on the community, because the abuse was so shocking yet likely because it also involved a “rescue.” The boy was saved by a call from a concerned neighbor, received immediate help from emergency services, and recovered from his physical injuries. This case was one that most citizens could wrap their minds around without too much anguish—a call, a rescue, recovery, healing, and a successful prosecution. So many of our victims’ situations do not play out before the public as this one did or sometimes (sadly) there is such a tragic ending that people just can’t even think about it.



Marcia Tiger

At Children Services, it would be easy to hide behind the veil of “confidentiality” when dealing with the very delicate situations that we are mandated to address. True, it is our duty to protect the confidentiality of those we serve, but there is a fine line between confidentiality and “no comment” secrecy.

We believe we have a responsibility to educate the community about the devastating effects of child abuse and neglect and how others can help. *We have a story to tell.* We have worked hard to develop and maintain a professional relationship with our local media partners—both the print media and the electronic media. With mutual respect and discretion, we tell the stories and educate the public.

We have been diligent to earn the trust of the citizens of Trumbull County. We need the public to recognize and report child abuse in order for us to carry out our mission. The more the community knows about the good work that we do and the challenges we face, the more likely that citizens will call in referrals to our Agency and support our efforts. Although the generous community lavished the “rescued” boy with gifts, we assured those concerned that we can *and do* meet the needs of all children in our custody, thanks to the Children Services levy dollars that account for over 50% of our annual income.

At Children Services, our staff are “rescuers” everyday, fortunately not always in such a dramatic way as was the case with the 8 year-old boy. The best way to help children is for voters to approve our levies, as they have for decades. In this way the taxpayers *are* helping this child and hundreds of other children who do not reach the media’s attention.

Pinwheels for Prevention events, *Rising Up & Moving On* luncheons, high school *Graduation* celebrations, *Foster Parent Recognition* dinners, *National Adoption Day* ceremonies—all tell the story of our work without breaching the confidentiality of individual cases. Even when things go badly—and they do at times—we try to be as transparent as possible. For the most part, when the public is educated about the nature of our work, people realize that we cannot always predict human behavior. Reasonable citizens understand when we give them the opportunity by explaining the situation.

We *do* have a story to tell...how there is hope for vulnerable children...how others can help prevent tragedy by making referrals...how safe families and permanency are essential for kids...how we can intervene with families and build on their strengths...how “our story” involves an entire community to protect children.

2009 Income

Revenue Sources:

| | |
|--|------------|
| Children Services Levy | 7,758,268 |
| Federal Reimbursement | |
| • Title IV-E | 3,196,558 |
| • Title IV-B | 130,554 |
| • Emergency Services Assistance | 91,951 |
| • AdoptOhio & Title IV-B Adoption | 66,756 |
| Total Federal Funding | 3,485,819 |
| State Reimbursement | |
| • Child Welfare Subsidy (SCPA) | 941,050 |
| • Feisel Allocation | 140,559 |
| • Post Finalization Adoption Subsidy | 18,262 |
| • Non-recurring Adoption Subsidy | 23,198 |
| • Adoption Maintenance | 99,250 |
| • Foster Parent Training | 24,598 |
| • Community Luncheon | 2,000 |
| • Alternative Response | 59,000 |
| • Kinship Permanency Incentive | 194,514 |
| Total State Funding | 1,502,431 |
| Support for the Care of Children | |
| • Foster Care and Paid Placements | 1,268,496 |
| • Residential and Group Care | 1,209,806 |
| • Special Projects | 59,910 |
| Total Support for the Care of Children | 2,538,212 |
| Refunds and Reimbursements | 104,171 |
| Help Me Grow Casework | 32,503 |
| HSRI Payment | 9,000 |
| Casey Grant | 25,000 |
| TOTAL 2009 INCOME | 15,455,404 |

2009 Expenditures

Service Categories:

Casework Services to Children and Families

| | |
|--|-----------|
| • Triage and Investigations | 1,048,353 |
| • Alternative Response Pilot Program | 360,465 |
| • Short Term Services | 888,873 |
| • Extended Care Services (In Home) | 831,655 |
| • Family Support Team | 339,799 |
| • After Hours Emergency Team | 52,053 |
| • Family Unity Meetings | 60,873 |
| Subtotal | 3,582,071 |

Services for Children in Placement

| | |
|---|-----------|
| • Children’s Center | 2,242,896 |
| • Extended Care Services (Substitute Care) | 1,063,079 |
| • Resources and Permanency Planning | 1,795,695 |
| • Foster Care and Adoption Subsidy Payments | 1,645,488 |
| • Secure Care | 762,979 |
| • Paid Placements | 569,302 |
| • Transportation Services | 440,931 |
| • Independent Living Initiatives | 74,604 |
| • Foster Child Daycare | 154,407 |
| • AdoptOhio Services and Recruitment | 65,652 |
| Subtotal | 8,815,033 |

Other Direct Service Programs

| | |
|--|---------|
| • Child Assault Prosecution Funding | 269,957 |
| • Runaway and Homeless Youth Funding | 15,863 |
| • Family Emergency Support | 130,500 |
| • Kinship Permanency Incentive | 186,975 |
| • Child Advocacy Center | 15,000 |
| • Solace Center | 8,935 |
| • Help Me Grow | 39,596 |
| Subtotal | 666,826 |

Other Cost Categories

| | |
|--|-----------|
| • Maintenance and Custodians | 301,412 |
| • Human Resources and Administration Costs | 795,600 |
| • Fiscal, CQI and Support | 806,060 |
| • Staff Training and Education | 96,609 |
| • Community Education | 31,338 |
| Subtotal | 2,031,019 |

TOTAL 2009 OPERATING EXPENSES

An additional \$492,647 was spent from Capital Improvement balances for Agency Building Construction and Renovations projects.