

BUTLER COUNTY FAMILY & CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023

RESOURCES * TRAINING * WRAPAROUND



For more information contact:

Phone (513)887-5510 www.butlerfcfc.org 400 N. Erie Blvd., Suite A Hamilton, OH 45011





















Dear Community Partners,

Last year, we assisted <u>249 youth</u> with challenges including: behavioral health needs, children services involvement, complex trauma, developmental delays, juvenile justice involvement, kinship placements, medical needs, poverty, psychiatric hospitalizations, school challenges, substance use disorder, toxic stress, and help with transitioning to adulthood. By wrapping families with support, identifying services that meet deeper needs, and utilizing strengths, we helped ensure these children could grow up safe and healthy, surrounded by the support of their families and communities. We believe in offering help and hope along the road of life's challenges and that healing is possible for everyone through supportive relationships. We all know it takes a village and Wraparound is tasked with building your team of support.

In addition to our one-on-one work with families, the Butler County Family & Children First Council hosts 5 collaborative meetings each year with 57 members including: family representatives, government agencies, non-profits, and schools to work on shared goals to improve life for Butler County youth and their caregivers. We distributed over 58,000 community resource cards and hosted networking opportunities, trainings & resource fairs throughout the year.

If you want to learn more, go to: www.butlerfcfc.org.



Council trains community volunteers and helping professionals, so they can better serve youth & families with new skills and knowledge of available resources.

The Butler County Family & Children First Council served 249 families through two major initiatives: Wraparound and Preventative Service Coordination. The program received a total of 142 new referrals this year. Our process begins with capturing the unique strengths and challenges of a family, learning the story of what led them to seek help and leading them through a thoughtful planning process.

WRAPAROUND _____

Here is a snapshot of the 193 youth served over the course of the year with our high-fidelity Wraparound team planning process.

DEMOGRAPHICS

| 56% | MALE |
|--------------|--|
| 42% | FEMALE |
| 2% | OTHER GENDER IDENTITY |
| 12.5 | AVERAGE AGE AT REFERRAL IN YEARS |
| 77% | LOW-INCOME, TANF- ELIGIBLE FAMILIES |
| 11 months | AVERAGE LENGTH IN WRAPAROUND |

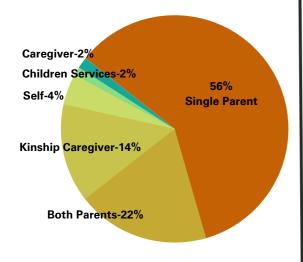
RACE

| 61% | CAUCASIAN |
|-------|------------------------------|
| 13.5% | BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN |
| 13.5% | MULTI-RACIAL |
| 6% | LATIN X/HISPANIC |
| 3% | DECLINED/UNKNOWN |
| 2% | ASIAN |
| .50% | AFRICAN |
| .50% | MIDDLE EASTERN |
| | |

REFERRAL SOURCE

| 33% | PARENT/SELF |
|-----|-------------------------------|
| 19% | JUVENILE JUSTICE |
| 16% | EDUCATION |
| 13% | CHILDREN SERVICES |
| 11% | MENTAL HEALTH |
| 3% | DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES |
| 3% | HOSPITAL |
| 2% | OTHER |
| | |

FAMILY COMPOSITION



MENTAL HEALTH

The three most common mental health diagnoses of our youth at referral:

- 1. Attention Deficit

 Hyperactivity Disorder
- 2. Post-Traumatic Stress
 Disorder
- 3. Autism Spectrum
 Disorder

SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT

| 100% | MENTAL HEALTH |
|------|-----------------------------------|
| 76% | JOB AND FAMILY SERVICE |
| 53% | SPECIAL EDUCATION |
| 24% | JUVENILE JUSTICE |
| 23% | DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES |
| 23% | CHILDREN SERVICES |
| 10% | PHYSICAL HEALTH |
| 9% | ALCOHOL/SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER |

*MANY YOUTH ARE INVOLVED IN 1 OR MORE CHILD-SERVING SYSTEMS WITH MULTIPLE NEEDS.

SERVICE COORDINATION -

This year, Council partnered with Butler County Juvenile Court to meet families earlier on their journey in seeking help. Our team attended diversion & truancy court hearings and met with families who were interested in connecting with community resources in an effort to prevent further court involvement. Families were connected to supports and referred to Wraparound if they needed more intensive team planning.

DATA AT REFERRAL

| 58 | TOTAL YOUTH SERVED IN PROJECT |
|------|-------------------------------|
| 66% | FEMALE |
| 34% | MALE |
| 14.5 | AVERAGE AGE |
| 72% | SINGLE PARENT HOUSEHOLD |
| 90% | LOW-INCOME (TANF-ELIGIBLE) |
| 52% | YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH DIAGNOSIS |
| 100% | FIRST COURT CONTACT |

STORIES OF HELP AND CONNECTION

- -Family partnered with Butler County Success to prevent eviction for a single mom and her family of 4.
- -Grandmother connected with the Kinship Navigator to get resources for her teen granddaughter and found an online intensive group therapy option for the teen.
- -Pregnant teen mom was referred to Help Me Grow and identified a flexible alternative school placement.
- -Facilitator coordinated with partners to help a youth remain with family members while his mom completed substance use treatment.

FINDING THE RIGHT MIX OF **HELP** TO KEEP YOUTH IN THEIR HOMES, SCHOOLS, AND COMMUNITIES...

Adolescents who are removed from their homes and communities often have poor psychological, physical, and educational outcomes throughout the lifespan. Sometimes, youth in Wraparound experience a placement disruption like a stay in the hospital, foster care, a group home, juvenile detention, or residential treatment centers. Last year, 5.7% had 1 disruption, 3.6% had 2 disruptions, and 4.2% had 3 or more disruptions. The majority of youth, 86.5%, were able to stay in their own home with the right mix of planning and supports! This means more time with caregivers and friends, staying in their home schools to grow academically, and working with intensive therapies and programs in their own communities for better lasting outcomes.

By planning around the youth & family with coordinated services, the risk of out-of-home placement decreases, saving systems partners and taxpayers money while improving outcomes for youth. Our programs helped maintain youth in their homes or transition back home resulting in an estimated cost savings of \$1,068,390.00!

86.5% OF YOUTH REMAINED IN THE HOME AND COMMUNITY SETTING THROUGHOUT THEIR TIME IN WRAPAROUND

PEER SUPPORT: HEALING CONNECTIONS

Every family participating in Wraparound can choose to utilize peer partners, individuals with lived experience who walk alongside the family throughout the process. They help with advocacy, ensure their voice is heard, navigate resources, and connect the family to long-term community support.

64

CAREGIVERS CONNECTED TO A PARENT PEER PARTNER

24

YOUTH CONNECTED TO A YOUTH PEER PARTNER

OUR FAMILES AGREE OR STRONGLY AGREE

100 %

THEY ARE SATISFIED WITH ADVOCACY PROVIDED BY THEIR PARENT PARTNER

100 %

THEIR ADVOCATE PROVIDED VALUABLE INFORMATION, SUPPORT, AND TAUGHT THEM NEW ADVOCACY SKILLS

My parent partner did a perfectly wonderful job. She helped me understand everything. Her tone of voice, being concerned, caring about people, sharing selfcare & affirmations helped me so much mentally.

-Wraparound caregiver supported by a Parent Partner

17 YEARS OF LASTING IMPACT

Lynda Coombs retired in June after serving as a parent partner for over 17 years, impacting the lives of hundreds of families in Butler County. She walked alongside caregivers offering support,



encouragement, and her own lived experience. She empowered families by providing them with knowledge related to special education, disability rights, and understanding child-serving systems in the county. She worked tirelessly to instill hope, helped caregivers feel they are not alone, and provided information they needed to feel equipped to navigate whatever came their way. Lynda has been a pillar of support, encouragement, and positivity during her time at Wraparound and has undoubtedly touched the lives of families, professionals, and coworkers who have crossed her path.

Lynda was amazing and provided hope, support and encouragement to our family. She has a wealth of knowledge! She attended school meetings and helped connect us to community resources.

-Wraparound caregiver supported by a Parent Partner

YOUTH PEER SUPPORT: HEALING THROUGH SHARED EXPERIENCE



"To me, a Wraparound peer partner helps a youth explore the infinite possibilities of life by uplifting their voices and sharing lived experiences. This year, a youth I have been working with was acquitted of all charges by the Juvenile Justice Center and even got previous charges expunged from his record. I think for this youth specifically, sharing that I had experience with the Juvenile Justice Center (JJC) in my youth and how I managed to turn things around allowed this young person to imagine a brighter future for himself. I also think visiting the youth while in juvenile detention was a great means of support." *Cedrick-Youth Peer Support*

83%

OF TEAMS COMPLETED GOALS OR WERE LINKED TO SUPPORTS AND/OR RESOURCES IN THE COMMUNITY

CELEBRATING SUCCESS & TRANSITIONS

As things improve and the correct supports are in place, the team moves to transition. A formal plan is created sharing what has worked, what has been learned, and what supports the family will need going forward. Most importantly, the team celebrates the progress the youth and family has made during their time with Wraparound and creates hope for their future beyond Wraparound.

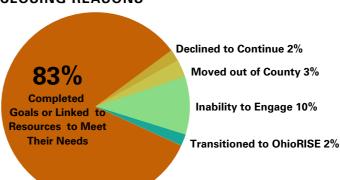
WRAPAROUND PROGRAM OUTCOMES AT TIME OF TRANSITION

FAMILIES AGREE OR STRONGLY AGREE...

| 100% | THEIR WRAPAROUND FACILITATOR IS HELPFUL TO THEM AND THEIR FAMILY |
|------|---|
| 100% | THEIR TEAM WAS SENSITIVE TO RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL BELIEFS |
| 91% | THEY ARE ABLE TO WORK WITH AGENCIES AND PROFESSIONALS TO DECIDE WHAT SERVICES THEIR CHILD NEEDS |
| 86% | THEIR FAMILY HAS MADE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN MEETING THE NEEDS THEY WERE WORKING ON |
| 75% | IF THEY HAD A CRISIS, THAT WRAPAROUND HELPED THEM WITH A WORKABLE PLAN |

OHIO SCALES OUTCOMES 21% 35% 28% INCREASE DECREASE IN CREASE IN YOUTH FUNCTIONING FUNCTIONING

CLOSING REASONS



AT TRANSITION, WE ASKED FAMILIES: "WHAT IS THE BEST PART OF WRAPAROUND?"

"It gives me different ways to look at certain situations ... And it helps my child identify how to be more independent."

STORY OF HOPE AND RESILIENCE



A teen and her adoptive mother were referred to Wraparound seeking help to address significant mental health problems, school challenges and risky behaviors. A biographical timeline was completed to understand how pre-birth and early life neglect and traumatic experiences were showing up in the present day. Safety planning, in-home therapeutic services, formal school support, and specialty consultation with experts in resilience and healing were all part of the plan. The Wraparound team included professionals and natural supports who

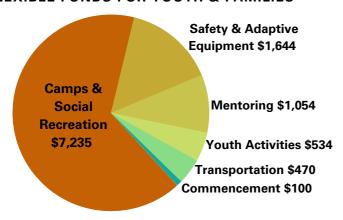
were committed to building resiliency skills, so she and her family could continue to heal together. This youth continues to thrive-she completed schooling virtually, has maintained a part-time job, and recently started driving.

[&]quot;I had a lot of support as a parent and was able to be heard without being judged."

[&]quot;The team is reliable and I can reach people to talk with. We always have a game plan."

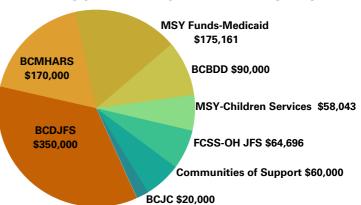
Wraparound is free to all families regardless of income thanks to local, state, and federal funding from: The Butler County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Butler County Educational Service Center (in-kind), Butler County Department of Job & Family Services, Butler County Juvenile Courts, and Butler County Mental Health and Addiction Recovery Services Board. Additionally, the state provided Communities of Support, Family Centered Supports and Services (FCSS), and Multi-system Youth grant funding through the Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services, Ohio Department of Job & Family Services, and Ohio Department of Medicaid.

FLEXIBLE FUNDS FOR YOUTH & FAMILIES





WRAPAROUND FINANCIAL PARTNERSHIPS



Flexible funds were accessed by youth and families throughout the year to help with a one-time emergency need, connect youth to the community, or provide a service not paid for by other agencies. Funds have provided art supplies and activities, family support, graduation gifts, mentoring, peer support, safety and adaptive equipment, summer camp, team fees, transportation, and more!

CONNECTING YOU TO COMMUNITY RESOURCES

The Family and Children First Council helps unweave the web of social services. With our "No Wrong Door" approach, we coordinate resources so that families receive a warm hand-off and accurate referrals for the services and support they need. Agencies and volunteers can stay up to date on what is available, by accessing the resources below:

- Attend Cross Systems meetings to network with professionals and learn about new programs.
- Share free community resource cards in English and Spanish-we also have QR code stickers & posters!
- Sign-up for free training & access our resource database.
- Make a referral to Wraparound.

To learn more, go to: www.butlerfcfc.org.

