

GREENE COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST

PROGRAM REPORT DISTRIBUTED – AUGUST 2011

OCTF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION – Sue Giga – 937-562-5600

We have been notified by OCTF that our SFY12 application has been approved for funding. Approval was received July 15. Several counties have had issues with the late approval notice (i.e., after the start of the fiscal year). The OFCF Coordinator's Association had been working with OCTF staff and hope to improve the timing of approvals next year. Our SFY12 application, similar to last year, requests to use the funding for PAT programming through the Council on Rural Services. Joni Spencer, who has been providing services, will not be doing so in SFY12. Services will be provided by Libby Powers. There was no change in funding levels. Our SFY 11 report is due to OCTF by August 15th. CORS has submitted preliminary information and I hope to have a report in time for the full Council meeting.

BELLBROOK-SUGARCREEK FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER – Susan Lopez – (937) 848-3810

The Resource Center's Kids' Club was held four (4) times in May and eleven (11) times in June at Bayberry. Two of the Kids' Club sessions were girls only; Girl Scout representatives came in offering membership and provided activities. The summer program kicked off with a summer lunch program and mini carnival. Fifty (50) youth participated in the annual mini carnival. Homework Help was held 4 times in May. Volunteer day continued at the center as well as the dedicated Wednesday morning volunteers who help in the Ministerial Food Pantry and the center program preparation. A coupon class was held in June to discuss saving even if you are receiving food assistance (food stamps). Staff continues partnership with Hannah's Treasure Chest and the Bellbrook Presbyterian's Beds for Babies program. The ministerial food pantry served 31 families in May (11 families through the free market day program) & 22 in June (209 family members). This is more than double the number of family members served during the same time last year.

Random Acts of Kindness, a gentle approach to follow-up with clients continued. Within My Reach classes were again held at the center with record attendance and received high reviews from attendees. WMR is a relationship skills building class for women presented by Marriage Resource Center staff. Pride Club held their end of year celebration and completed a drug-free health life style mural for the second year at their school. Partnerships for Success (Pfs) held their senior celebration, elections of next year's officers, and their second Feed the Homeless Project making sack lunches for the homeless in Dayton. Staff continues coordination with many in the faith-based community concerning the Hand-Up Program and needs of those in the community. The Hand-Up Program was established to encourage clients to earn items through family enrichment activities, work, volunteering, education, having their child in an afterschool activity and so forth. Clients earn enrichment credits which they can turn in for needed items for their family.

Bellbrook-Sugarcreek school partnered with center staff offering circus tickets to students whose families receive services at the center. The circus was a fundraising event for the school district, but staff wanted to make it a community celebration as well, wanting to include all, therefore offering the tickets. All who received the tickets were grateful and appreciative for the experience. Staff attended Webinar training with United Way & in Youth Led Prevention. Staff also participated in Linkage, local Chamber events, Optimists, CAP's Hope Café farewell lunch, and Goodwill Easter Seals' grand opening. Center volunteers held a garage sale fundraiser. The center's Local Advisory group met in May and staff continued on the board of DJFS Family Services Planning Committee.

YOUTH LED PREVENTION (MAY-JUNE 2011) – Susan Lopez – (937) 848-3810

In coordination with the local communities a *Parents Who Host Lose the Most* PSA by Clark Kellogg ran on Bellbrook and Beavercreek's local channels. A request was made for end of year reporting from prevention school coordinators, and with only Bellbrook & Fairborn responding. A report of activities has been compiled which will be given to each school, FCF Council, Mental Health & Recovery Board, and school prevention coordinators. Staff began wrap up of the school year's program and attended Youth Led Prevention Webinar training.

Bellbrook's Triple D (Don't Do Drugs) group continues to meet through the summer. In June they held a budgeting program for members, planning meetings, and started on a PSA on prescription drug abuse awareness & prevention.

I would like to thank the Greene County Mental Health and Recovery Board and Family & Children First for their support of youth led prevention.

JAMESTOWN FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER – Debbi Custer – 937-675-2697

June and July were heavy food pantry activity months, as expected. Perishable food voucher requests have also continued to be high. Local food pantry donations continue to struggle in keeping up with the demand of pantry appointments. All other areas of assistance requests have either increased or remained high. Employment opportunities continue to be limited for local residents and the cost of driving any distance to work is making a negative impact on local families. The monthly Hope Foundation food distribution (on the 2nd Saturday of each month) continues, with the next food distribution on Saturday, August 13th at the Jamestown United Methodist Church. The Methodist Church continues to offer a free monthly community meal on the last Wednesday of each month from 6:00-7:00 p.m. The free summer youth program is still going strong and will end with a tropical themed party on Thursday, July 28th. The program takes place on Tuesdays and Thursdays (1:00-4:00 p.m.) in June and July at the Greeneview Schools playground (between the primary and secondary school buildings). Program attendance started in June with low numbers but peaked at 36 participants and have averaged 15 participants per program day.

The J.T. Band is currently taking a break, to allow the members to participate in the Greene County Adult Band and to enable them to spend time with their families. They will resume regular practices and performances in the fall. The group would like to add additional musicians in all areas of instrumentation (clarinet, flute, trumpet, tuba, trombone, French horn, etc.). Anyone interested in joining the group or booking a performance in the fall, may contact the resource center at 675-2697. Practices will be held inside the center office.

FAMILY STABILITY AND SHARED YOUTH PLACEMENT – Renee Lammers – 937-562-5607

Family Stability/FCSS

June 30th was the end of the state fiscal year, thus the end of FCSS 2011. Greene County had initially been allocated \$37,385.07 for the Family Centered Services and Supports. \$37,242.23 (99.6%) was actually accessed. Detailed data has not yet been compiled however, these funds were used to provide informal supports to 24 families (including 55 youth) engaged in service coordination with Family and Children First. As in previous years the largest portion of the funds was utilized for various forms of respite care. Of the 24 families, 3 accessed service coordination only. Over the course of the year 7 youth were removed from eligibility due to out-of-home placement: 5 into the care of CSB (one of whom was later returned to the family home), and two into residential treatment. More detailed information will be available soon.

Shared Youth Placement

The number of youth in shared funded placements remained unchanged from the previous reporting period. Three youth remain in shared funded youth placements. The team anticipates step-down to less restrictive levels of care for at least two of the youth. There are nine youth county-wide that are currently in residential level of care. This is one more than the previous reporting period. There are at least four sets of parent/guardians in the last month who have requested alternative placements for their children. They are being guided through less restrictive alternatives at this time.

HELP ME GROW – Pam Hamer – 937-562-5611

Help Me Grow received the final allocations for SFY12 which was actually an increase of \$1306. ODH will receive \$33.6 million for SFY12 and SFY13. HMG contracts are in the approval stages. The Greene County Combined Health District will have the contract to provide Service Coordination to Part C children. Council on Rural Services will have the contract to provide Home Visiting services.

In addition, ODH has decided to move back the date to July 1 of 2012 to begin Medicaid to help cover the costs for Home Visiting services. This will eliminate a lot of confusion and hopefully a smoother transition for SFY12.

Family & Children First submitted a waiver and it was approved as of July 1 for two Part C policies. One policy to be waived was regarding caseload size. The current Policy requires a maximum caseload of 45, Greene County along with several other counties increased the caseload size to 90 during times when there is a shortage of staff. The other policy to be waived is the 90 day exit policy. Currently the policy requires keeping a case open for 90 days in case the family decides to reengage in services. This was keeping cases open unnecessarily. The waiver allows the decision to be made by the Service Coordinator who will weigh each circumstance on a case by case basis and can also consult with the Supervisor and/or Project Director if needed. Families, once exited may always re-enroll in services or call the Central Intake Office for information and referral.

As of June 1st 305 Part C children are being served; 34 children receiving Home Visitation Services.

OCBF ALLOCATION AND SHARED PLAN

I have been working on the application and plan and will have some priorities and strategies to suggest at the meeting. The application is due on July 29th but I will be putting in an extension request so we can submit after the full Council meeting on August 1. Thanks to all the organizations that have stepped up to lead one of the strategies.