

**GREENE COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST
PROGRAM REPORT**

DISTRIBUTED FEBRUARY 2011

OCTF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION

We submitted the OCTF Semiannual Report. CORS reports that the program is operating at full capacity. Thirteen families have received services during the first half of SFY11. Strong referral channels have been established with CSB's Alternative Response Program. Spending is on target. Outcome data is being collected and will be reviewed at the end of the state fiscal year.

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

The Bellbrook/Sugarcreek Family Resource Center was busy coordinating holiday assistance for Bellbrook/Sugarcreek & Spring Valley areas. One hundred families (223 children and 132 adults, totaling 355 individuals) received Christmas assistance through the center's coordination. The center is aware of 5 other families who received Christmas assistance outside of the center's coordination within these communities. Follows is an excerpt from a thank you received this Christmas. *"I'm not sure how to properly thank someone for giving your kids a Christmas. Your generosity has warmed my heart. Thank you so very much!"* And another. *"I would like to take this time to thank you and your family for thinking of me and my daughter during this Christmas Season. I greatly appreciate everything you're doing for us, and I hope to someday pay this kind show of love, forward."*

Forty-one Resource Center clients completed *Parent/Family Service Surveys* October 7-December 18. Seventy-one percent (71%) stated that when they sought services at the center, they received the services from the Resource Center, 29% from both the center and a referral, and 7% from a referral. When asked how many times they received assistance or referrals from the center in the last year, 56% stated 2-4 times, 24% once, 12% 5-6 times, and 7% more than six times. Ninety-eight (98%) rated the Family Resource Center *very helpful* in meeting their needs. The center received no negative comments or ratings. The top comments in order can be categorized as follows: Helpful, Great/Wonderful, Nice/Kind, Caring/Understanding, and Grateful/Thank you.

The Ministerial Food Pantry continues to be a needed commodity, assisting 60 families, a total of 214 family members in December, 45 of the families were for Christmas food assistance. Due to school food drives as well as donations from local organizations, groups, and community members the food pantry is again stocked. Kids' Club and Homework Help continued at Bayberry. Kids' Club was held twice in December, averaging 31 youth attending. This is a 31% increase in number of attendees over last year. Homework Help was held twice with an average of 5 students attending. The PFS group met, participated in the Christmas Kindness Program and began planning for a dodge ball tournament. Center staff, in partnership with Lisa Cron from ESC, continued Pride Club at the Middle School with youth beginning plans for a one day Health Fair at their school.

Due to a wonderful response from community members wanting to volunteer, monthly volunteer days continue as well as Wednesday morning volunteer drop-in. The Hand-Up Program is proving to be successful and a motivator for some center clients. Staff participated in Chamber of Commerce and visited GCCOA Boomer Café in Bellbrook. The center continues its partnership with Hannah's Treasure Chest. Bellbrook Presbyterian Church, through their Beds for Babies program, continues to assist mothers in need for cribs. Thanks to area volunteers and donations, the center is able to accomplish a great deal for Bellbrook/Sugarcreek families and the community. Staff met all yearly goals and exceeded fundraising goals. Both the Bellbrook/Sugarcreek Family Resource Center and Partnerships for Success groups were featured in the Dayton Daily News, Greene County Dailies, and Bellbrook/Sugarcreek Times newspapers.

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

January food requests started out slowly but increased dramatically in the middle of the month. After being in great shape in November and December, the local food pantry is currently struggling to keep food on the shelves. Donations are still coming in but not fast enough to keep up with the demand. Employment opportunities are still limited to local residents and those who are currently employed are still seeing a reduction in work hours. The monthly Hope Foundation food distribution (on the 2nd Saturday of each month) will continue in 2011. The next food distribution will be on Saturday, February 12th at the Jamestown United Methodist Church. The Methodist Church will continue their monthly free community meal on the last Wednesday of each month from 6:00-7:00 p.m. The local clothing project still needs winter coats, hats, gloves and scarves for adults and children of all sizes. The weekly after-school boys and girls “Fun and Games Club” continues, with the program serving approximately 20 children weekly. Both clubs are in dire need of assistance with snacks, drinks, arts & crafts and other supplies. The annual New Year’s Eve youth party (mock New Year’s Eve this year) on Thursday, December 30th, was very well attended. The next games club celebration will be a Valentine’s party for each group on the week of Valentine’s Day.

The J.T. Band took a short break in January, after being so very busy performing holiday music at local nursing homes in November and December. Regular practices will resume in February, in preparation for upcoming performances. The group is still in need of 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 may contact the resource center at 675-2697. Practices are held inside the Jamestown United Methodist Church.

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

Family Stability/FCSS

There have been only three scheduled team meetings in January in addition to participation in seven youth-related family meetings, court hearings, IEP meetings, and CSB family team meetings. There are currently fourteen families receiving active service coordination from Family and Children First, in addition to two youth in out of home placements that Family and Children First has continued to provide coordination for. A fifteenth family is currently in the process of completing their referral.

Shared Youth Placements

Shared Youth Placements remain unchanged from the previous reporting period. Three youth remain in shared funded youth placements. Calendar year 2010 shared youth placement data has been compiled. Seven youth were served in residential placement and one youth in therapeutic foster care using shared funding. Total funds spent were \$325,183.00. This is the least amount spent in ten years and is approximately 12% less than last year’s expenditure. A more detailed review can be given at the February 7th Steering Committee meeting.

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

Two Home Visitors will begin on Tuesday, February 1st employed through Council on Rural Services (CORS). CORS has also assigned a new Clinical Supervisor for the program, Kelly Walker, who will also begin on the 1st. CORS has posted for one more Home Visitor position. Those interested in applying may contact Kelly Walker at kwalker@councilonruralservices.org.

The Greene County Combined Health District has filled the final Service Coordinator position. The new Service Coordinator will begin Monday, January 31st. The new Service Coordinator has experience providing these services and will move into the position smoothly.

Transitioning Service Coordination from Four Oaks EI to GCCHD continues and with the 5th full time Service Coordinator in place at the Health District, the process will be finished before long.

The Family Information Network (FIN) is coordinating a training webinar for families titled “Behavior Management in Young Children.” The webinar is on February 10, and will be offered at 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and again at 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Dr. Duby, Director of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics at Akron Children’s Hospital will be the presenter. For more information about this training and how to register, please contact Pam Hamer at 562-5611.

INCREDIBLE YEARS – Sue Giga – 937-562-5600

Despite repeated efforts by Pam and Ginger, interest in, and enrollment for, Incredible Years remained very low. We have notified OCTF that we wish to terminate the grant agreement. We submitted the mid-year report. In the first half of the year, only two parents were served.

SHARED PLAN – Sue Giga – 937-562-5600

A mid-year review of the Shared Plan will be presented to the Council at the February meeting.