

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

DISTRIBUTED JUNE 2011

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

We have not received word back from OCTF regarding our application but do not expect any problems. I heard at a meeting that there is some language pending in legislation that would allow for circumventing the local decision-making process. I will be getting more information and hopefully will be able to update you all at the meeting. We have been asked to assist with the development of a scannable version of the required Protective Factors survey and I agreed to do so. It should not take much time and should help minimize the exporting data problems some counties had at the end of SFY10.

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

The ministerial food pantry served 26 families in April, serving 96 family members. The center held a volunteer day and is thankful to have great volunteers support and assistance during these difficult economic times. Staff continues the “Hand Up Program”. This program encourages center clients to earn non-essential items through work, volunteerism, education, or having their children involved in activities outside the home. Staff continues service coordination with school staff as well as partnership with Hannah’s Treasure Chest and the Bellbrook Presbyterian’s Beds for Babies program. The center’s Local Advisory group met this month. Staff attended two community events and participated in *Go Greene*, a community clean-up effort. Due to overwhelming perishable donations from Panera and Kroger, staff has set up a system in which GCCOA Boomers’ and the Health Department collect items to prevent waste.

Staff continued planning for summer youth activities. Upon request, some local families received assistance with Easter baskets for their children. Partnerships for Success (PFS) participated in the Sugar Maple festival, Youth Service Day (coloring contest – partnering with the Center and Winters’ Library), and began officer nominations for next school year. Pride Club met and held a Health Fair for fellow students and school staff. Kids’ Club was held 5 times and Homework Help four times during the month. An average of 22 youth attended Kids’ Club.

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

May food requests have remained high and are expected to stay high throughout the summer months. Requests may increase even higher, with the free and reduced lunch being offered children home from school during the summer. Perishable food voucher requests also continue to be high. The pantry is currently in good shape, but is struggling to keep up with the pace of pantry appointments. The Greeneview High School food drive, in conjunction with the school variety show, brought in a decent amount of food donations. However, pantry volunteers had to throw out half of the food donations, due to them being expired. This is an ongoing issue with receiving food pantry donations. Employment opportunities continue to be limited for local residents and those who are driving any distance, are spending much of what they earn on gasoline. The monthly Hope Foundation food distribution (on the 2nd Saturday of each month) continues, with the next food distribution on Saturday, June 11th 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 local clothing project, at the same location, will be open during the community dinner and during the Hope Food Distribution day. The weekly after school boys and girls “Fun and Games Clubs” ended the week of May 16th, for the school year, and will resume in September. The annual “free” summer youth program will take 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). Anyone

interested in assisting with drinks, snacks, arts & crafts materials, outdoor fun supplies and equipment is encouraged to contact the center office.

The J.T. Band will be taking a break, in the summer months, to allow the members to participate in the Greene County Adult Band. When they resume regular practices and performances, 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 937-675-2697. Practices will be held inside the center office.

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

Family Stability/FCSS

There have been 5 team meetings in May, a slight decrease from April. There were 4 individual parent meetings, IEP's, etc. This is also a slight decrease from previous months. Use of FCSS dollars continues at an anticipated pace. It is expected that all dollars will be utilized. We have been informed by OFCF that FCSS funds will again be available in SFY 2012, but at what level is still unknown.

Shared Youth Placements

The number of Shared Youth Placements remain unchanged from the previous reporting period. Three youth remain in shared funded youth placements. Unfortunately, the youth that stepped down to a less restrictive level of care on 4/22, had to be returned to the increased level of care a few weeks later. The team hopes that this step-up will be of short duration. There are eight youth county-wide that are currently in residential level of care. This is one more than the previous reporting period, but the same as the one before that. The previously discharged youth that had been in detention at the last report is now in another residential placement location. A ninth youth has been recommended for residential treatment level of care by the cross-system review team, but a placement has not yet been identified. In the meantime the youth remains in a foster care setting, which has been given a June 8, 2011, termination of care date.

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

The Daddy and Me Carnival was a success. There were 124 kids and 119 adults in attendance; 51 of the 119 being dads. All areas of the county were represented.

The process for moving HMG policies into Rule is almost complete. The committees have made their recommendations. ODH will now work with legal to put the recommendations in to Rule format. The rules will be available for public comment in August. The Project Director was fortunate to be able to be a part of this process.

ODH is also putting together a Part C Eligibility workgroup. By October 1, this group has been charged with examining the current Part C eligibility, reviewing data and making recommendations regarding new Part C eligibility criteria.

The House of Representatives restored some funding for the state Help Me Grow program before passing the budget bill to the Senate. Hopefully, the Senate will at least maintain the amount set by the House.

Referrals to the Part C program continue to remain high. Area physicians are doing a fantastic job of connecting families to HMG early intervention services.

The GCCHD is short one Service Coordinator and caseloads are at a record high mostly due to funding concerns surrounding the HMG program during this budget biennium.

As of May 1st 290 Part C children are being served; 35 At-Risk children and 17 additional children receiving Home Visitation Services.

YOUTH LED PREVENTION – Susan Lopez – 937-848-3810

The Youth Summit celebration was held at the end of April. Students from Bellbrook and Beavercreek High School were in attendance. Beavercreek's Vice Mayor made an appearance and students reported on activities they accomplished during the year. Information was delivered to each Greene County high schools including Greene County Career Center. The Bellbrook Triple D group partnered with the art department displaying prevention signs in the hallways as well as on the life sized mannequins made by art students. Triple D students also participated in the *Go Greene* environmental cleaning day and worked their dating violence prevention PSA. Beavercreek's Network group and Jamestown SODA group met. Many of the schools are working on Project Charlie to include: Bellbrook, Jamestown, Beavercreek, and Yellow Springs.

OCBF ALLOCATION & SHARED PLAN – Sue Giga – 937-562-5600

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 and I will be putting in an extension request so we can submit after the full Council meeting on August 1.