



**VOICES
ACROSS
OHIO**



2016 REGIONAL FORUMS



**VOICES FOR
OHIO'S CHILDREN**



Brandi Slaughter, CEO



WELCOME



2015: Becomes key player on national stage for CHIP Reauthorization

1996: Coalition for Greater Cleveland's Children founded

1996: Hosts 1st "Who's for Kids & Who's Just Kidding" Voter Forum

1999: Hires 1st full-time employee

2007: Incorporates as statewide Voices for Ohio's Children

2005: Establishes Columbus presence with Policy Director

2004: Becomes Voices for Children of Greater Cleveland; Ohio Affiliate of Voices for America's Children



safe

healthy

educated

connected

employable



VOICES FOR
OHIO'S CHILDREN



CELEBRATING

20

YEARS of

EDUCATING
INFLUENCING
IMPROVING

VOICES FOR
OHIO'S CHILDREN

setting the stage for future leaders

#VoicesSetsTheStage



THANK YOU FOR YOUR
SUPPORT!

Visit www.RaiseYourVoiceForKids.org



VOICES FOR
OHIO'S CHILDREN



Presented by:





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**Rainbow Babies &
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Gold



Ohio Children's Hospital Association





Silver



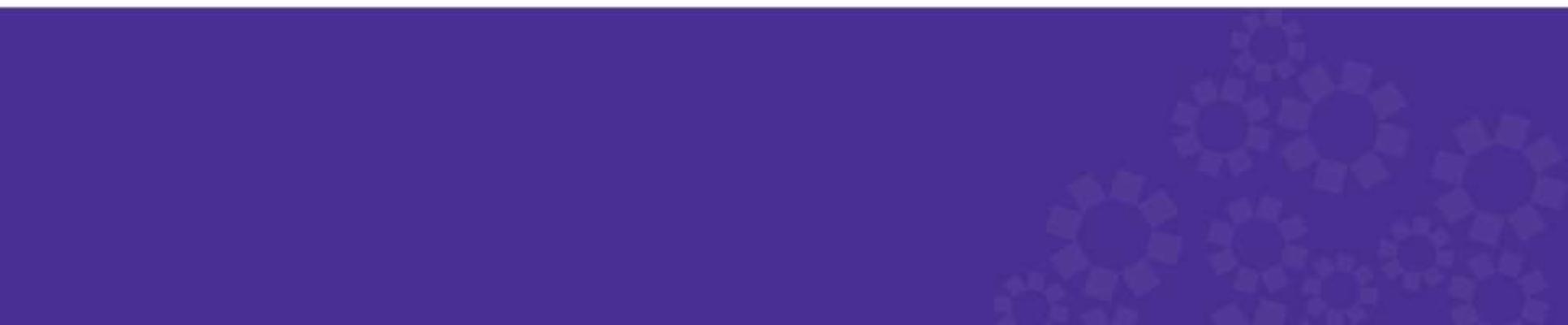


Bronze

Buckeye Health Plan

The Ohio Association of Foodbanks

Delta Dental





Community Sponsors

Beech Acres (Cincinnati & Dayton)

Ohio Guidestone (Cleveland)

Dayton Children's Hospital (Dayton)



The Voices Team

Brandi Slaughter, Chief Executive Officer

Dana J. Dunlap, Policy Director

Dana Schmersal, Communications Director

Lynanne Wolf, Policy Associate

Hazel Rivera, Operations Coordinator

Crystal Davis, Youth Development Consultant

Michelle Fitzgibbons, Oral Health Consultant

Tom Needles, Legislative Consultant

Thomas Scheid, Health Policy Consultant

Kelly Smith, Behavioral Health Consultant

Jennifer Peters/JP Design, Communications



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Norm Christopher, MD: PPPAC CoChair, Akron Children's Hospital

Mary Murray: *Bowling Green University*

Jim Mason: *Beech Acres Parenting Center*

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Craig Dorn: *Youth Opportunities Unlimited*

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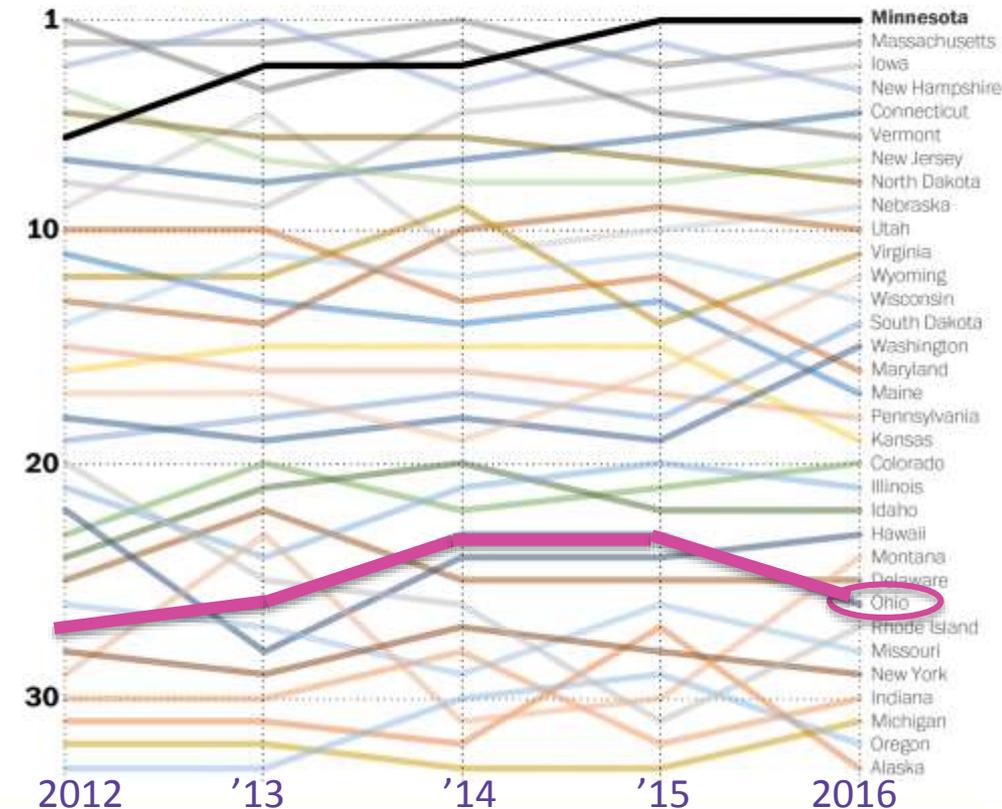


Ohio Trends & Policy Update

Setting the Stage

The best and worst states to raise a kid

State rankings in Annie E. Casey Foundation's KIDS COUNT reports, 2002–2016

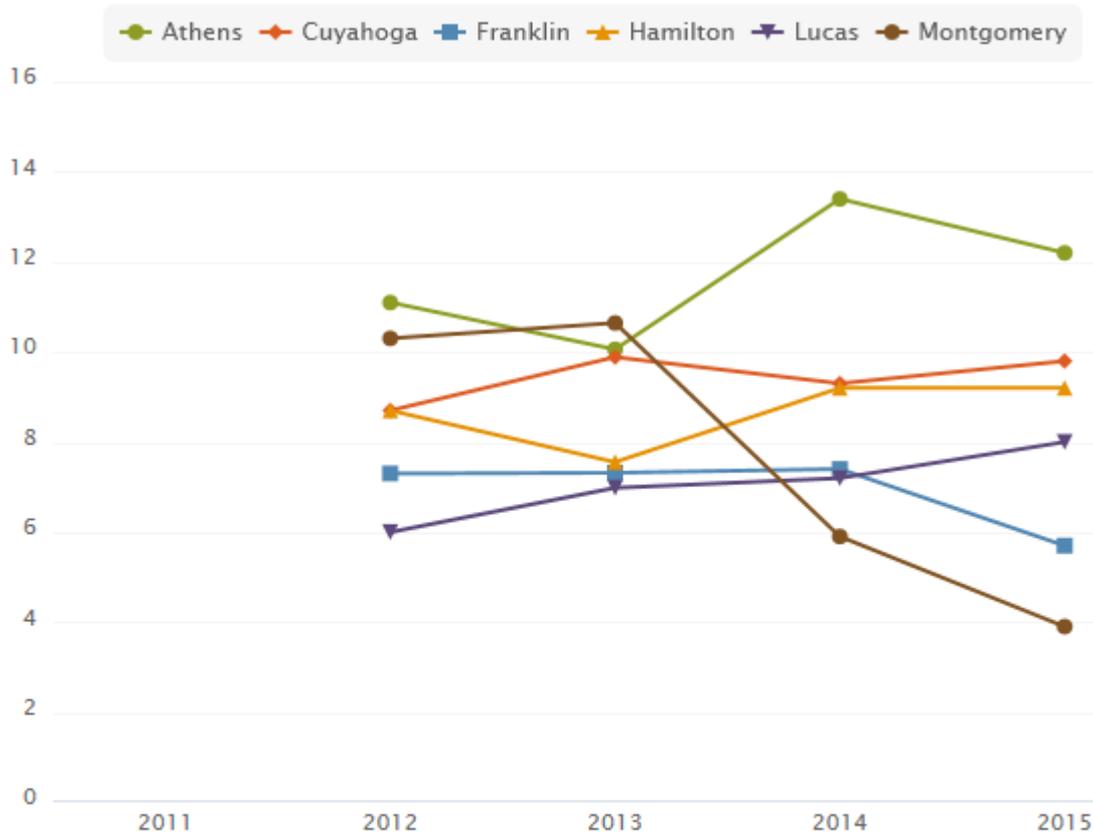


2016 Annie E. Casey Foundation's KIDS COUNT

For the first time in four years, Ohio ranks in the bottom half of states



Visit www.RaiseYourVoiceForKids.org



CHILDREN ABUSED AND NEGLECTED (RATE)

Children's Defense Fund-Ohio

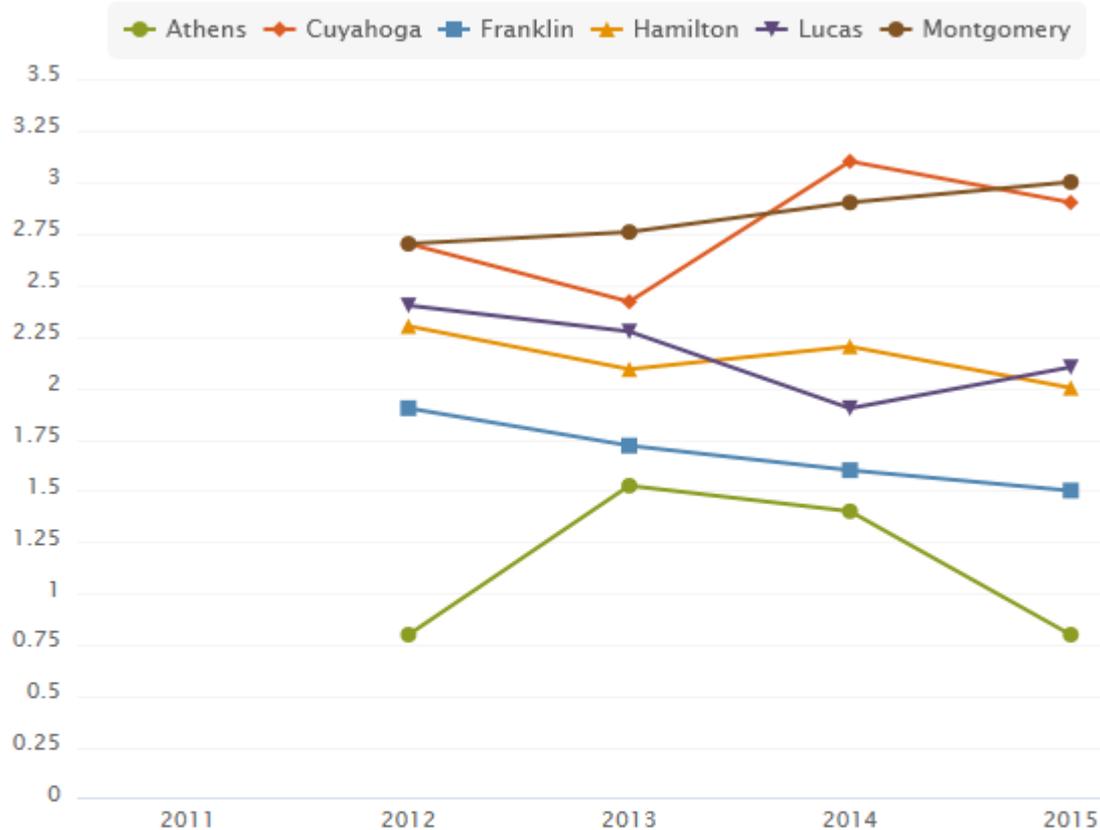
KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org

A project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation

Child abuse & neglect remain pervasive problems across the state

Resulting trauma can impact brain development and health later in life





ADOLESCENTS ADJUDICATED FOR FELONIES (RATE)

Children's Defense Fund-Ohio

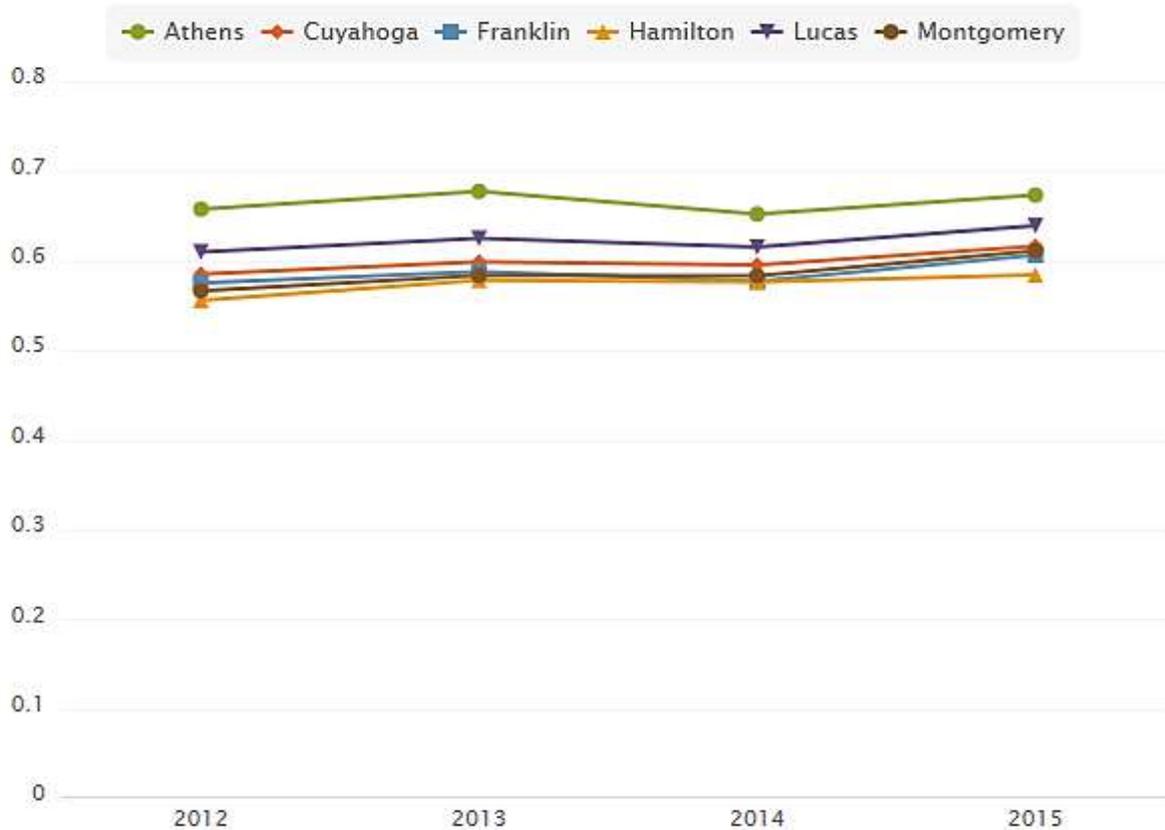
KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org

A project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation

Because of “home rule,” each county’s juvenile court has extensive discretion

There is no state oversight on how many kids or which kids are being processed by the courts





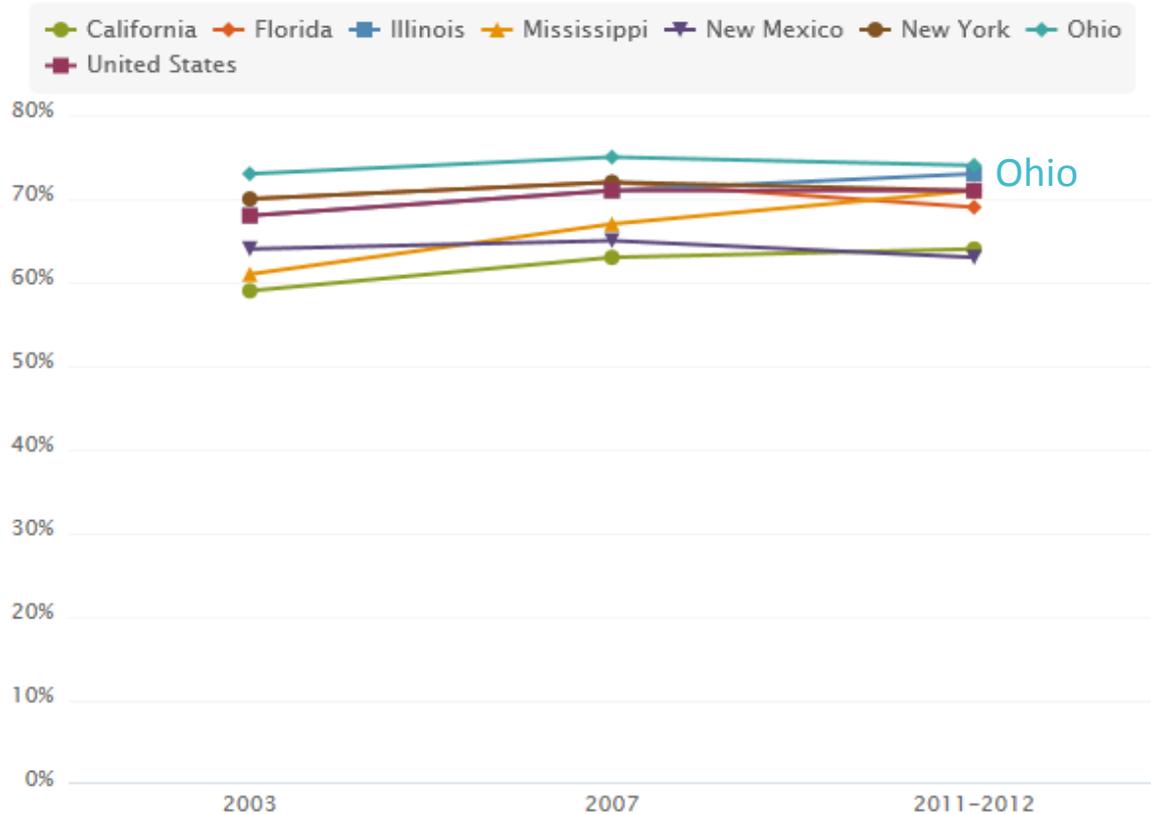
Over 95% of Ohio kids are covered by some kind of health insurance

But, more than 100,000 are still uncovered

CHILDREN ENROLLED IN PUBLIC HEALTH CARE PROGRAMS (PERCENT)

Children's Defense Fund-Ohio
 KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org
 A project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation





Ohio provides effective oral health services for children

But, those services aren't reaching more than 20% of kids

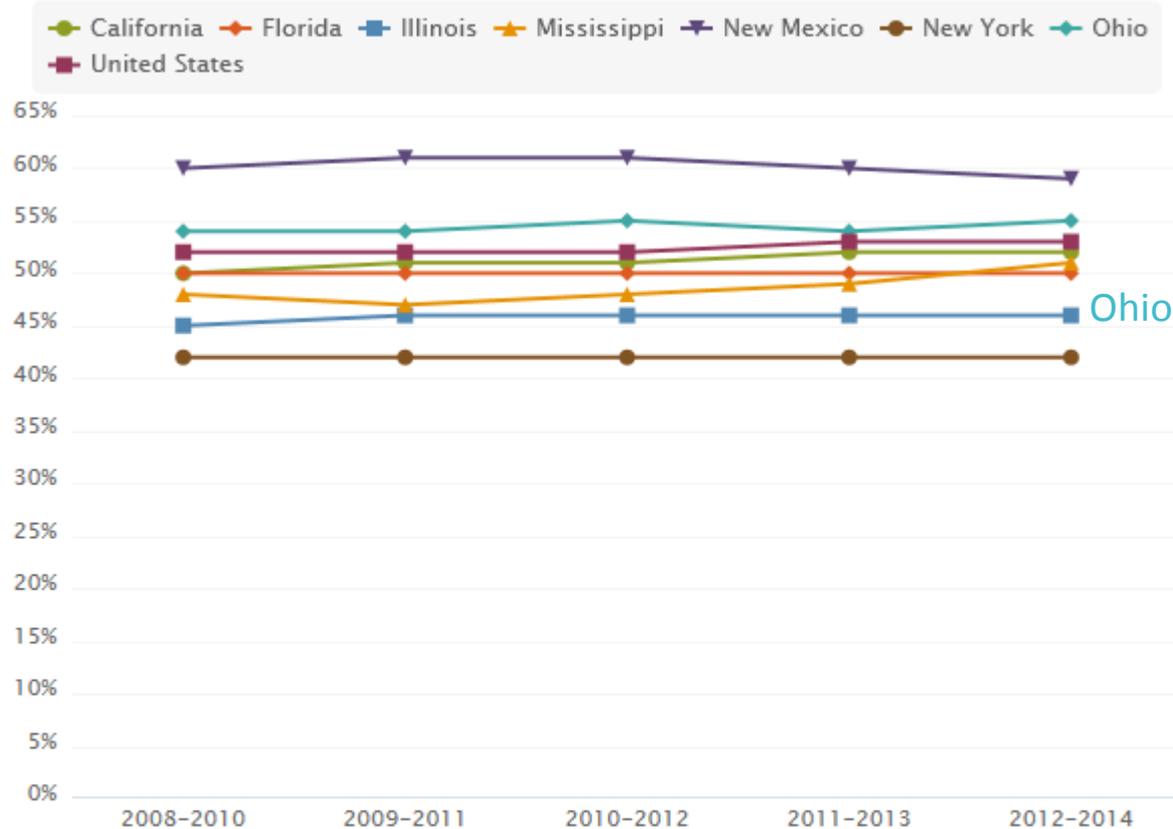


CHILDREN WHOSE TEETH ARE IN EXCELLENT OR VERY GOOD CONDITION (PERCENT)

National KIDS COUNT

KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org

A project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation



Fewer than 50% of Ohio kids are accessing early education programs

YOUNG CHILDREN NOT IN SCHOOL (PERCENT)

National KIDS COUNT

KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org

A project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation





CHILDREN WHO HAD A PARENT WHO WAS EVER INCARCERATED (PERCENT)

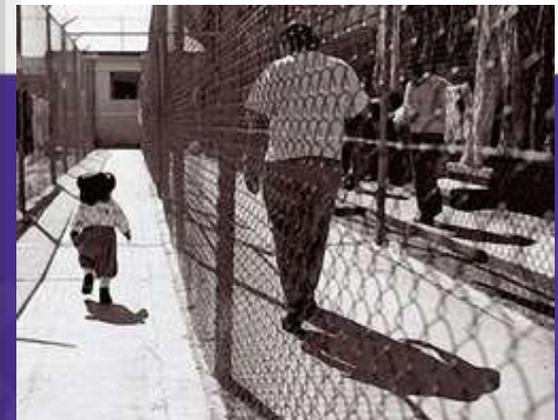
National KIDS COUNT

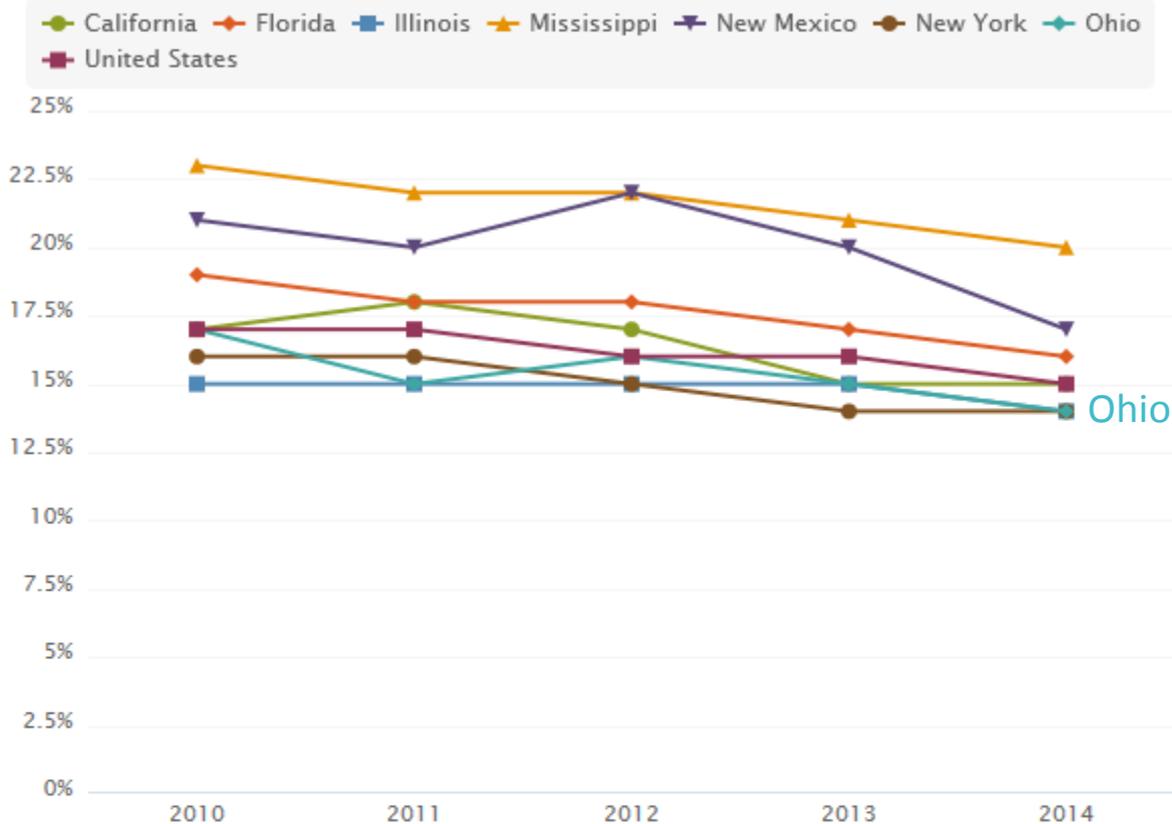
KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org

A project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation

Ohio ties for 3rd place in its rate of parental incarceration

Only 3 states have more than Ohio's 271,000 kids who have experienced having a parent behind bars





Ohio youth enjoy several education and employment opportunities

Though, we are still struggling to meet the needs of about 15%

PERSONS AGE 18 TO 24 NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL, NOT WORKING, AND NO DEGREE BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL (PERCENT)

National KIDS COUNT

KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org

A project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation





safe

Child Welfare
Juvenile Justice

healthy

Health Coverage
Oral Health
Infant Mortality
Behavioral Health

educated

School Nutrition
Early Education

connected

Youth Development
Afterschool

employable

Youth Employment
College & Career Prep

Policy Areas Voices Monitors

Voices Policy Team

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Tom Needles, Legislative Consultant

Thomas Scheid, Health Policy Consultant

Kelly Smith, Behavioral Health Consultant

Meet monthly to set Voices' priorities, discuss policy and partner updates, and develop strategies.



Visit www.RaiseYourVoiceForKids.org



OUR PROCESS

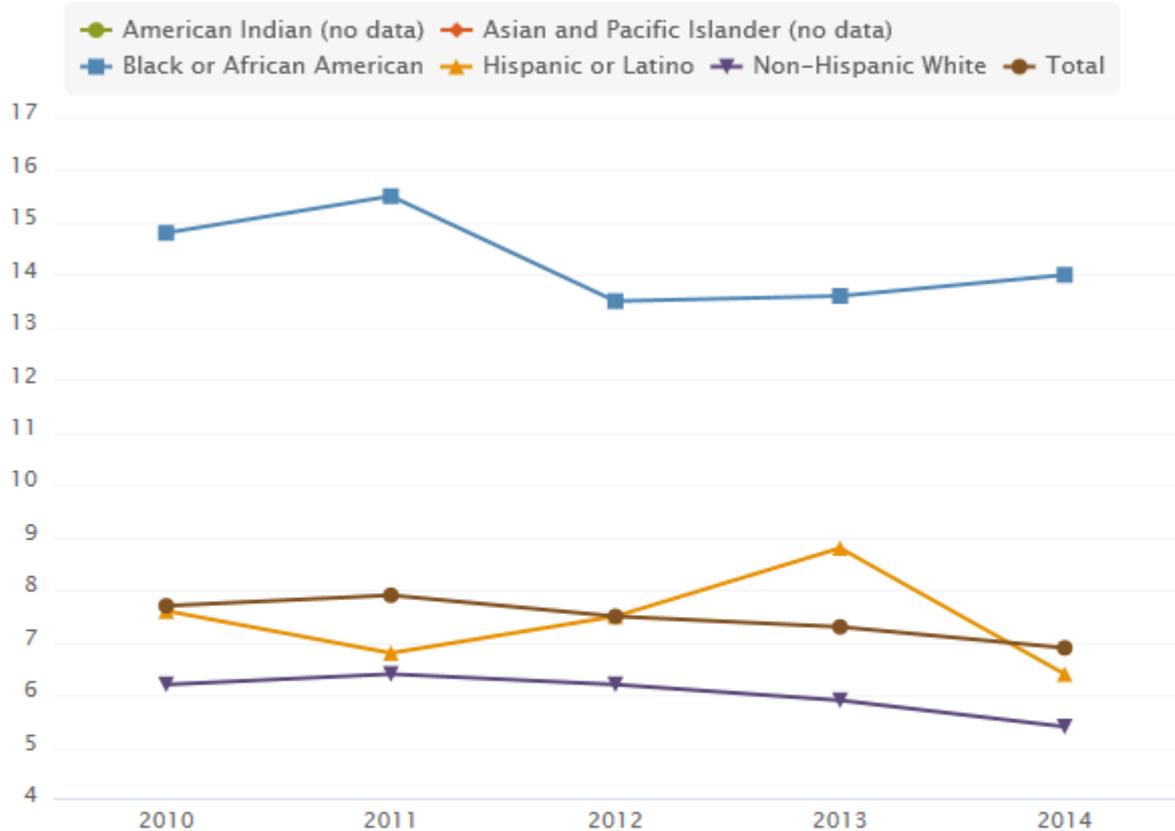




Policy Update: INFANT MORTALITY



OHIO



While Ohio has made some progress on lowering infant mortality rates, the state still ranks 45th in the nation. Rates for African Americans remain at crisis levels.

INFANT MORTALITY BY RACE: ALL (RATE PER 1,000)

National KIDS COUNT

KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org

A project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation

Infant Mortality

Background:

2009: Infant Mortality Task Force—Ohio Collaborative to Prevent Infant Mortality (OCPIM)

2011: Governor's Office of Health Transformation reforms

2012: Department of Health's first statewide public awareness campaign

2014: Commission on Infant Mortality

2015: OCPIM 2015-2020 infant mortality reduction plan

2015: 2016-17 Biennial Budget (HB 64)

2016: Commission on Infant Mortality report

Senate Bill 332 (Jones/Tavares)

- Data
- Building on proven interventions
- Health system improvements
- Addressing social determinants of health



Senate Bill 9 (Jones/Lehner)

- Community Health Workers Medicaid reimbursement
- Medicaid coverage of maternal depression screenings and cognitive behavioral therapy offered through home visiting
- Data collection for home visiting programs

Ohio ranks 45th in the nation for its overall infant mortality rate—and the rate for African American babies is even worse.



Policy Update: HOME VISITING



Home Visiting

Help Me Grow Statistics (SFY 2013)

8,211 families served

394 Families started receiving services in the mother's 1st trimester

32% mothers served in 1st trimester with one or more pregnancy risk factors (smoking, alcohol, diabetes, etc.)

1.8% preterm births **12.3%** statewide average

5.2% low birth weight **8.6%** statewide average

50.8% smoking cessation **39.1%** statewide average

68% Mothers determined by an initial program assessment to be at high risk for maternal depression



Ohio Home Visiting Workgroup (January – July, 2016)

Two workgroups:

Stakeholders: policy staff from the state agencies that impact HMG or MIECHV—Medicaid, Health, Developmental Disabilities

Providers: home visiting providers, community HUB providers and agencies who work directly with home visiting programs

Discussed state's Help Me Grow home visiting and federal MIECHV programs.

- Child Find and Referral
- Outcomes and Data
- Reimbursement and Financing

Recommendations from the Workgroup are expected to be released later this month.



Policy Update: EPSDT



Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment services (EPSDT)

3 months



1 year



Pediatricians
recommend
ALL CHILDREN
be screened
ROUTINELY
between birth and age 3.



Routine Screenings

of children's development during a health care visit
help guide referrals to the services children need...

resulting in

cost-effective care and
better outcomes for kids.



less than

1 IN 3
OHIO KIDS

receive timely
developmental
screenings.

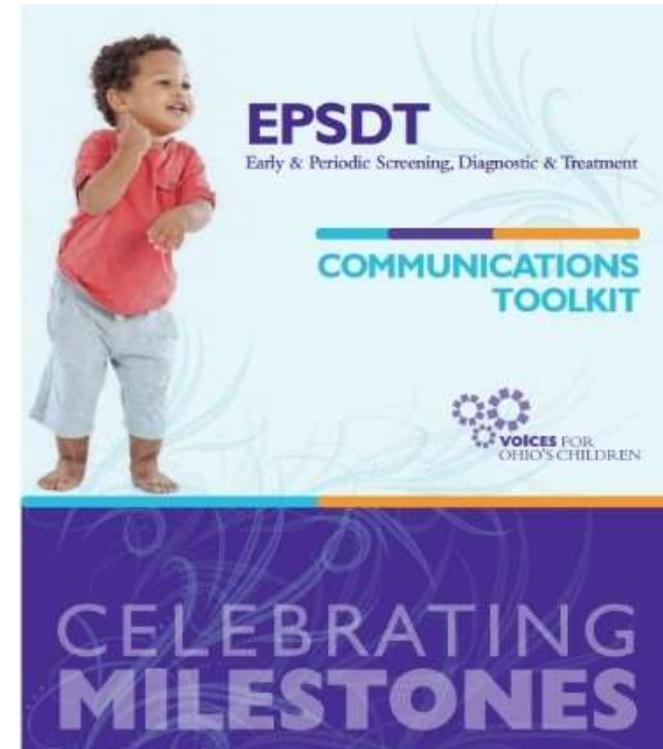


Ohio ranks 19th in the nation on the rate of
infant and toddler developmental screenings.

WE CAN DO BETTER.

Improvements to Ohio's EPSDT Program

- Convened a diverse group of stakeholders.
- Developed Recommendations for improving outreach to families, incorporating modern technology in health processes, expanding the providers eligible for reimbursement, improving tracking and referrals across the state, and leveraging existing systems to improve care coordination.
- Developed a Toolkit that gives providers and advocates the resources they need to share the importance of routine screenings with parents and families.





Policy Update: Behavioral Health Redesign



Visit www.RaiseYourVoiceForKids.org

Behavioral Health Redesign

Goals of the Redesign

- Aligning billing codes
- Re-pricing reimbursement rates for treatment services
- Updating the menu of Medicaid covered services

Behavioral Health Stakeholder Process

- Timeframe
 - July 1, 2017
 - Switch to new code set, services, and rates
 - January 1, 2018
 - Implement Managed Care

What does this mean for Ohio's Children?

Service	Category	Adults	Children	Total
MH Services	Baseline	\$284.2M	\$360.4M	\$644.6M
	Projected Increase/(Decrease)	\$11.2M	\$18.7M	\$29.9M
	Percent Change	4.0%	5.2%	4.6%
SUD Services	Baseline	\$125.4M	\$32.7M	\$158.0M
	Projected Increase/(Decrease)	\$7.7M	(\$0.1M)	\$7.7M
	Percent Change	6.2%	(0.3%)	4.8%
Total	Baseline	\$409.5M	\$393.1M	\$802.6M
	Projected Increase/(Decrease)	\$19.0M	\$18.6M	\$37.6M
	Percent Change	4.6%	4.7%	4.7%

Challenges

- Overhauling Ohio's publicly funded Behavioral Health System
 - Will children continue to receive the same care and services?
 - Will their provider change?
 - How will managed care work with families and providers to coordinate care?
 - What are new opportunities?





Policy Update: Multi-System Youth



Visit www.RaiseYourVoiceForKids.org

Multi-System Youth

- Multi-System Youth: MSY Youth are those with significant mental health, addiction and/or developmental delays who is involved or at risk of being involved with child protection and/or juvenile justice. Most are not accessing the right services or supports to remain stable and in their own home and have high risk of poor outcomes.
- Trend in Ohio: Parents of MSY youth relinquishing custody as a means of gaining access to services for their child.
- Joint Legislative Committee was established to address this trend by identifying best practices for care coordination, building a system of accountability, and recommending a sustainable funding stream.

Multi-System Youth

Brian

- ❖ Strengths
- ❖ Challenges
- ❖ Policy Recommendations



Multi-System Youth

Kendra

- ❖ Strengths
- ❖ Challenges
- ❖ Policy Recommendations



Multi-System Youth

Michael

- ❖ Strengths
- ❖ Challenges
- ❖ Policy Recommendations





Recommendations (June 28, 2016)

1. Improve Data Collection
2. Expand Peer Support & Mentoring Programs
3. Establish State-Level Safety Net
4. Ensure Access to High Fidelity Wraparound
5. Modernize Family and Children First Councils
6. Create Children's Congregate Care Study Committee
7. Establish a Legislative Oversight Committee



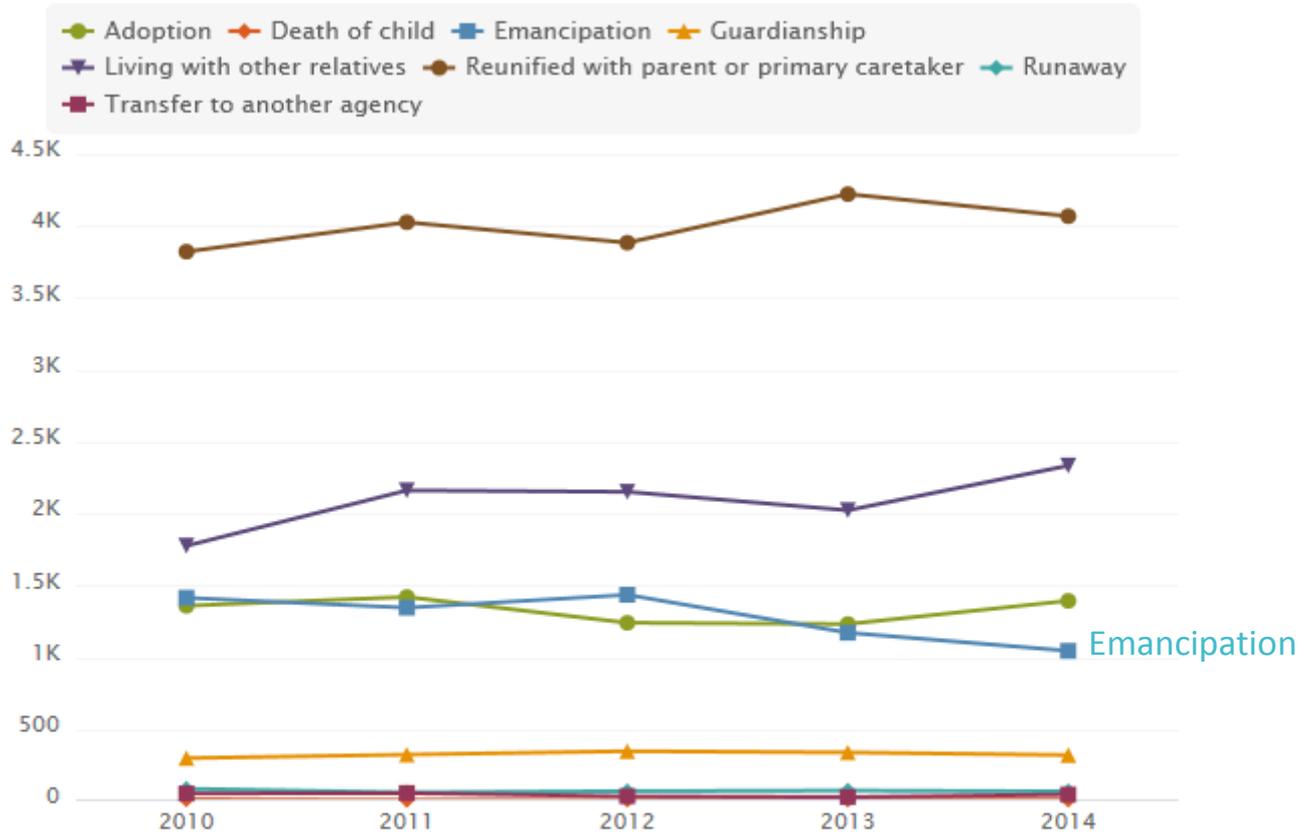
**Joint
Legislative
Committee
on Multi-
System Youth**



Policy Update: Extending Foster Care



OHIO



More than 1,000 Ohio kids “age out” of foster care every year



CHILDREN EXITING FOSTER CARE BY EXIT REASON: ALL (NUMBER)

HB 50: Extending Foster Care to 21

- The Problem: Each year more than 1,000 youth “age out” of foster care at age 18. Research indicates that foster care alumni are at high risk of homelessness, unemployment, insufficient education, dependence on public assistance, human trafficking, incarceration, etc.
- The Solution: HB 50 includes a package of programs to support these young people through extended services, supports including proper case management and housing options.
- Passed in 2016 and became law on 7/1/16. ODJFS will receive an appropriation of \$550,000 to fund its year long implementation planning effort beginning this fall.

Fostering Connections Work Groups

- Implementation of the extended supports to foster youth is expected to occur in about 18 months. The implementation funding will be appropriated in the next biennial budget.
- Voices has been leading the Ohio Fostering Connections Task Force by convening stakeholders organized into small work groups who have been meeting this summer to develop best practice recommendations for ODJFS to help kick off the planning process.

- **Administrative**

- **Eligibility**

- **Placement**

- **Case Management**

- **Case Review**

- **Data**

HB 50: Next Steps and Resources

- For background information on the bill's development and Ohio Fostering Connections visit www.ohiofosteringconnections.org
- Voices is hopeful to continue to provide leadership as ODJFS assumes their charge to implement the programming.
- Voices is positioned to publish recommendations to present to ODJFS by the end of August 2016.



Policy Update: Every Student Succeeds Act



Visit www.RaiseYourVoiceForKids.org

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

- ESSA is a reauthorization of the 1965 Elementary and Secondary Education Act which established the federal government's role in funding public education (ESEA). Changes and developments include the following:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• State assessments using nationally-recognized high school assessments (ACT/SAT)• Nonacademic/quality report card indicator• Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) status transition• Guaranteeing equitable access to effective teachers using the State Equity Plan• English Learner report card indicator | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report Card summative rating, disaggregation requirements, required report card indicators• Federal funding options and flexibilities• Academic content standards' review process• School improvement overview• Students who are homeless/McKinney-Vento Act• Students in the foster care system |
|--|---|

Voices' Work Related to ESSA

- Background on the “Whole Child” movement and mentality, “community learning centers,” and what it means to capture the health of a school.
- Current funding, leadership and expertise allow Voices to focus in on these areas influenced by ESSA:
 - 21st Century/Early Care and Education
 - Students who are homeless, in the foster care system, and in the juvenile justice system
 - Health and Physical Education now considered core content areas
 - Nonacademic/quality report card



ESSA: Next Steps and Resources

- Opportunities for input between now and October have been created by the Ohio Department of Education.
 - education.ohio.gov/Topics/Every-Student-Succeeds-Act-ESSA
 - ESSA Webinars
 - ESSA Stakeholder Meetings
- Watch for Voices communications concerning ESSA as we continue to connect, educate and convene around our ESSA focus areas.
- Timeline of state plan and implementation.



Policy Update: Summer Youth Work Program



Summer Youth Work Program

- The Summer Youth Work program, a 10 week-in-the-field, wage-subsidized employment service is slated to lose all funding after this season after the state shifts money (\$46 million) in federal welfare dollars this year.
- These funds have been allotted to a new \$100 million initiative designed to provide year-round case management and employment services for people 16 and up titled Comprehensive Case Management and Employment Program (CCMEP). Total cost \$100 million.
- Proponents vs. Opponents. Compromise? Different funding stream or program tweaks?



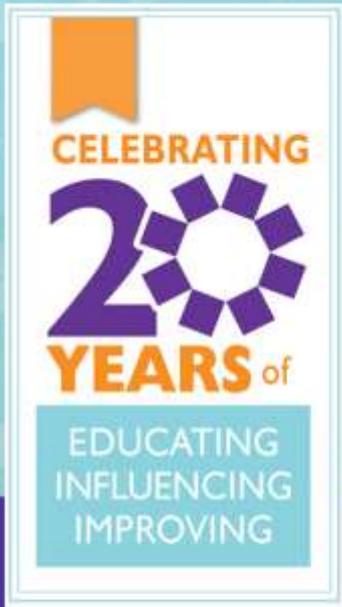
How You Can Stay Involved

- Sign up for Voices' Enews
- Register for monthly Policy Webinars
- Take action with Action Alerts
- Attend Voices Events
- Join the Public Policy Partners Advisory Committee
- Follow Voices and our partners on Social Media

Learn more at RaiseYourVoiceForKids.org



**Stay
Informed**



15-Minute Break



← Take an Election Selfie!

Grab free materials! →



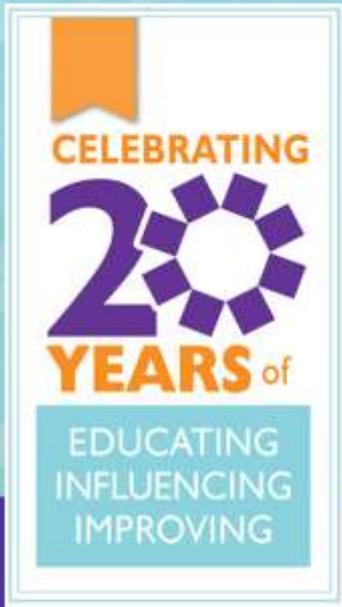


Small-Group Breakouts

Visit www.RaiseYourVoiceForKids.org

- 
- 1. What issues/needs would you say have been most prominent for children and families in your community over the last year?**
 - 2. What programs/services/systems have been most effective in helping kids in your community?**
 - 3. What policy change(s) would make the biggest difference for families in your community?**
 - 4. What resources (email updates, data reports, policy briefs, trainings) would be most helpful for you in advocating for change?**

Discussion Questions

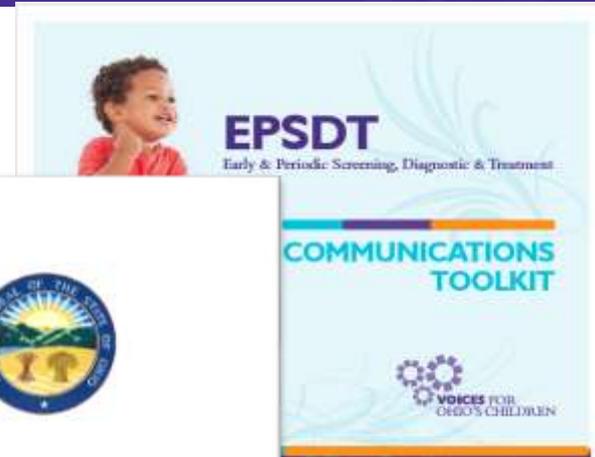


10-Minute Break



← Take an Election Selfie!

Grab free materials! →





Electoral Advocacy



safe

healthy

educated

connected

employable

CELEBRATING
20
YEARS of
EDUCATING
INFLUENCING
IMPROVING

#VoicesSetsTheStage





Setting the tone for electoral advocacy in 2016 and beyond.....

- As we engage in the upcoming election and continue our work as advocates, what do we know about voters?
 - Voters care about children's issues.
 - This concern does not equate to decisions at the ballot box.
 - Children can't engage in the conversation.

It is our responsibility to create a voice for children.



Who's For Kids?

85% of
American
voters
agree that
our political
leaders
are not
doing enough
to help solve
the problems
facing children
today.

And Who's Just Kidding?

*A child
can't see
through
campaign
promises,
but you can.*

*If government
is not about
children,
then what
is it worth?*

Make your vote count for kids.



It is our responsibility to create a voice for children.

Starting at the Top: Presidential Elections

The next president needs to respond to new challenges related to :

1. Healthy Development
2. Early Learning
3. School Success
4. Safety and Permanence
5. Economic security
6. Equality of Opportunity

The Role of the Federal Government

Currently the federal government plays a key role in each of these areas, particularly through the federal budget:

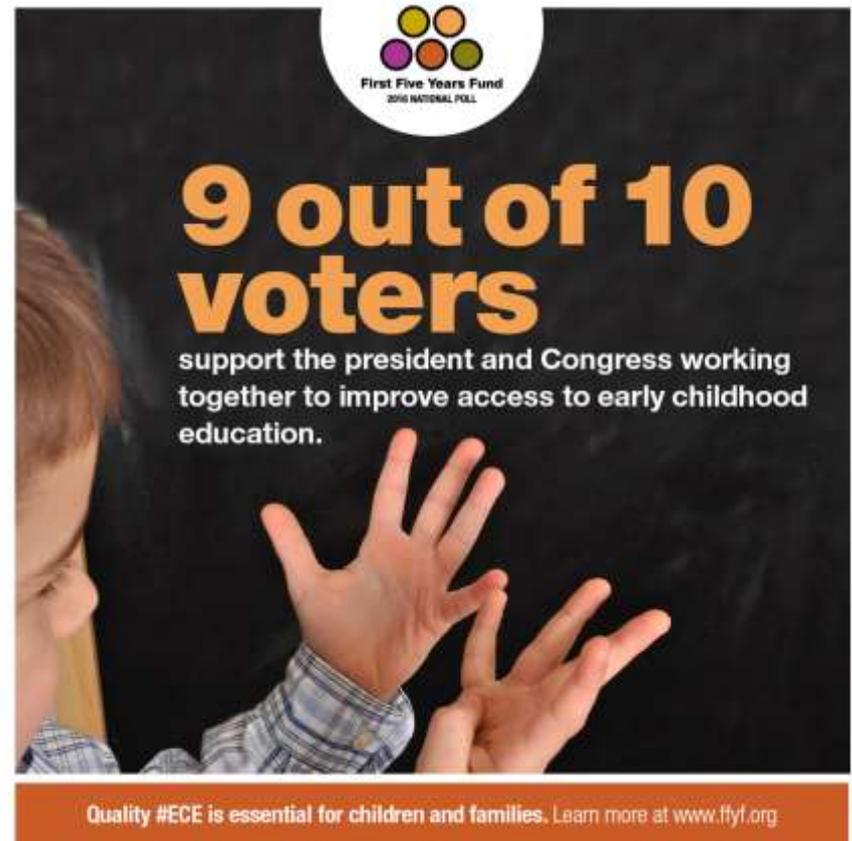
- Most public funding to ensure children's economic security, health and nutrition comes through federal investments, and almost half of all funding for early learning and safety permanence comes through federal funding.
- While this base of funding is critical to children, it is only 8% of the federal budget where children make up 24% of the population.

Children are Increasingly Vulnerable

- Child poverty has gotten worse:
 - 1 in 5 children in the U.S. live in a family below the poverty threshold
 - In Ohio, the poverty rate is 23% which is a 16% increase from 2007.
- Children's issues do not lend themselves to simple sound bites and are not considered "hot button" issues.
- A study of the first 10 presidential debates this cycle found only 1 of the 501 questions asked were specific to children.

Common Ground and Opportunity

- Voters perceive a need for improving access to quality early childhood options
- They say this should be a priority for the nation even compared to other issues.
- There continues to be support for federal investments in this arena.
- Even those more focused on an outlet for their anger in this presidential election support this policy “solution.”
- Bipartisan support.



First Five Years Fund
2016 NATIONAL POLL

9 out of 10 voters

support the president and Congress working together to improve access to early childhood education.

Quality #ECE is essential for children and families. Learn more at www.ffyf.org

Bridging the Gap

1. Engaging in Voting and Electoral Activities
2. Raising Awareness: sharing knowledge, data
3. Developing Policy: propose evidence-based changes
4. Building Will: improving communications, creating champions
5. Taking Action: grassroots and direct advocacy

Use Election Season to Gain Exposure for Your Issues

During election season your opportunity increases because....

- You've got their attention
- The media is covering the issues
- They need "experts" to help them understand the issues, identify opportunities, and respond to questions
- Get them on the record

Consider engaging in the following activities:

- Vote!
- Giving your staff time off to vote and/or serve as poll workers. Encourage board members to vote.
- Conduct a voter registration drive.
- Post information on your website or newsletter encouraging viewers to vote.
- Host a candidate forum, send out candidate questionnaires, prepare a voting guide.

Resources:

Secretary of State, www.sos.state.oh.us

Local Board of Elections



Voices 2016 Election Resources

- This presentation is available on our website.
- Electoral Advocacy Webinar
- 2016 Voter Guide
- Sponsoring Voter's Forum organized by Nationwide Children's Hospital on 10/17.
- Hosting a Voter Forum in Cleveland in October
- Social Media Toolkit – including images & sample posts
- Tweet chats
 - @VoiceOhioKids
 - @bnslaughter
 - @lynannewolf



Why Advocacy?

Advocates need to constantly cultivate both policy makers and those that influence them. Strong relationships with influencers, even those that may not share the same values, offer a wealth of advantages. Advocates can use influencers to do the following:

1. Build respect and trust in their data and research.
2. Discover and explore common interests and concerns.
3. Learn more about what proposals are circulating long before the official legislative season begins.
4. Maximize their ability to reach other influencers to be their champions.

Why do we engage decision-makers?

- Engaging Policymakers: Building relationships with elected officials in the state and local legislative, executive and judicial branches to advance interim and long term advocacy decisions, outcomes and policy agendas that will improve the well-being of children in their state.
- Engaging Influencers: Cultivating relationships with key influencers outside of government advances interim and long term advocacy outcomes.

How do we engage policymakers?

- Know the rules
 - Know the state's legislative calendar and process
 - Work year-round
 - Target organizational resources
 - Research key legislators
 - Meet with governor and legislators before legislative session starts
 - Offer an agenda with specific goals
 - Support children, not parties
 - Provide data and research that support the organization's position
- Provide information in accessible formats
 - Target information to specific legislators
 - Track and analyze relevant legislation
 - Use many strategies to reach out to elected officials
 - Help them help children
 - Nurture relationships
 - Say "thank you" often and publicly
 - Follow up on implementation

How do we engage influencers?

- Identify the key influencers who can advance advocacy goals.

- Like voters, donors, local elected officials or other opinion leaders who may endorse them
- Newspaper editorial boards
- Other legislators
- People respected for their work, their standing in the community or the values they share with legislators

- “unlikely allies” or people who are not usually seen as spokespeople for children
- People they respect in their personal lives.

- Reach out and educate them about the work
- Ask them to support the work

A Note On Messaging

- Voters, candidates, influencers, and policymakers believe their party places priority on children and child policy.
- We often have different ways of getting there, but there is common ground.
- Be a resource. Careful messaging positions us as “support”.
- Work out differences with key influencers outside of the legislative process.
- Be visible with groups that address children’s issues on both sides of the aisle.
- Strategize legislation with state agencies as much as possible.
- Be prepared with fiscal implications of all proposals (ROI).
- Sustain coalitions and unity of purpose.

Advocacy Compliance

We all must take responsibility for the public and private restrictions on our advocacy activity. There are both public and private restrictions on this activity and violation may result in severe consequences for an organization.

- Understand the federal law that limits how much an organization can lobby.
- Determine if grant restrictions preclude an organization from lobbying with that grant.
- Know the state law.
- Check if gifts and meals are acceptable.

Good Habits
Don't
Always
Come Easy

*Understand the rules, educate staff members on the rules that apply to you, **comply** with the rules and **document** your compliance.*

Resources:

- Ohio Ethics Commission, www.ethics.ohio.gov
- Rules applicable to Congress can be found on the websites of the House Rules Committee and the Senate Rules and Administration Committee.
- Reach out to other professionals.
- Refer to some more Do's and Don'ts in your program today.





“Children...have a unique place in American democracy. Their rights and political agency are not as absolute or direct as those of adults. Thus, children’s voices must be heard through the organization of parents and professionals who negotiate children’s status in the courts and in the policy process”

“Children become what they are told”

#VoteforOhioKids

Brandi Slaughter, CEO



FINAL THOUGHTS & WRAP-UP



Save the Date: 2017 Voices Events

March 29-31

Ohio Kids Summit

April 28

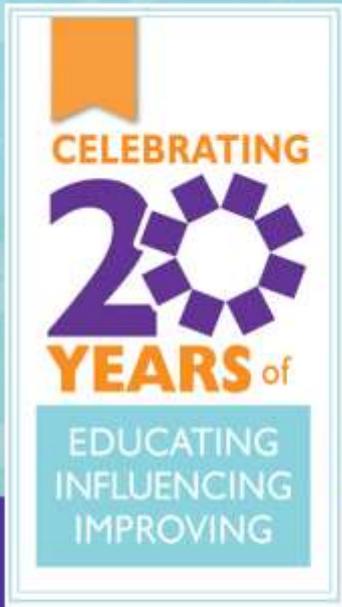
Celebration for Ohio's Children

June 15

Summer Nights



Thanks for coming!
Don't forget to complete your evaluation



Thank You.

#VoicesSetsTheStage

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