



Clark County Department of Job and Family Services
2005 ANNUAL REPORT

The Clark County
Department of
Job and Family
S E R V I C E S

Serving Families

- The adoptions of 27 children were finalized, and 24 initial adoption placements were made. Adoption assistance was provided for 313 children.
- 75 children's services cases resulted in an indictment/prosecution through the efforts of the Department's Child Advocacy Center. This Center served 323 Clark County children, 274 for sexual abuse allegations, 19 for physical abuse allegations, and 7 for neglect allegations.
- 299 children were placed in out-of-home care.
- 78 children removed from their homes were placed in the custody of relatives. At a cost savings of \$30-per-day, per child compared to non-relative placements, this resulted in a total savings of \$854,100 in 2005.
- 45 children living independently from their families were served. 29 had savings accounts.
- 744 children received services of various kinds during the year.
- 177 Adult Protective Services assessments were made, 98 for self neglect, 14 for abuse, 36 for neglect by others, and 3 for exploitation.
- Children and their families were reunified. The Department was able to safely reunify children and their families within 12 months 78% of the time, compared to the target of 76% set by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.
- The Department provided over 4,000 hours of parent aides, homemaker and adult home care. These services are provided to keep families together and seniors living in their own homes.

As of December 31, 2005... 163 children were in the custody of the Clark County Department of Job and Family Services.

Vital Statistics

Families receiving cash assistance through Ohio Works First

December 2002 - 711
December 2003 - 770
December 2004 - 674
December 2005 - 684

Individuals receiving health insurance through Medicaid

December 2002 - 23,345
December 2003 - 24,229
December 2004 - 25,129
December 2005 - 26,040

Individuals receiving Food Stamps

December 2002 - 13,493
December 2003 - 14,827
December 2004 - 15,485
December 2005 - 15,942

Project Jericho Award

In 2005, Project Jericho received the Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties for excellence and innovation in service to Clark County residents.

Project Jericho brings children, and often their parents, into structured arts activities as a way for them to develop other skills that help with family stability. A joint effort with the Clark State Community College Performing Arts Center, Project Jericho helps reduce youth delinquency behavior and prompts parents and children to work cooperatively toward common goals – activities that can be applied later in their lives.

In 2005, Project Jericho served 181 children and 52 families. Project Jericho also provided a large number of tickets to participants for free arts performances in the community.

More Than Just a Check

In 2005, Child Support Enforcement (CSE) worked hard at changing the stigma of a program that is primarily seen as one that penalizes people. For instance, child support staff has been working with parents who truly want to provide for their children, but who face serious barriers. An enhancement program was established and is designed to help couples with communication skills. In 2005, 36 couples participated, with the following results:

- 3 couples are engaged with plans to marry.
- 3 reconciled and remained married.
- 9 couples reside in the same household and care for their child.
- 11 couples, while not together, are meeting the financial obligation to their children.

Clark County is proud of the fact that Child Support is more than just a check.



Certainly, Child Support Enforcement also fulfilled its primary mission of making sure that parents met financial and emotional responsibilities to their children. In 2005, CSE collected more than \$28 million in support for the children of Clark County. CSE also ...

- Established paternity for 3,347 children,
- Established 1,950 child support orders, and
- Distributed \$28,084,354 in child support funds to Clark County families.

Clark County Child Support Enforcement (CSE) also changed practices to focus on early intervention strategies that help parents who owe child support improve their job skills.

E-Alert Award

E-Alert, the Internet-based, quarterly newsletter of the Clark County DJFS that is delivered via email throughout the community and across the state, won the 2005 award for outstanding public institution newsletter from the National Association of County Information Officers. You can receive the E-Alert by contacting Robin Maynard at Rmaynard@clarkdjfs.org





The WORKPLUS Center is a one-stop employment resource for employers and job seekers in Springfield and Clark County. In 2005, the WORKPLUS Center averaged 1,345 monthly visits to its Employment Resource Center by job seekers, and, an average of 25 different employers came to the Center to post open positions.

The WORKPLUS Center also reached two important milestones in 2005. The Center was granted the status of a fully certified One-Stop Center by the State of Ohio. WORKPLUS also formed a partnership with Champaign, Logan, Madison and Union counties to create a Regional One-Stop System to serve the five-county area. Among its achievements in 2005, the WORKPLUS Center helped the following take place ...

- 160 job placements from the WORKPLUS Center through the Workforce Investment Act (WIA),
- 148 out of 160 individuals reaching their 6th month of continuous employment after being placed in jobs,
- 583 people were placed into jobs by other WORKPLUS Center partners,
- 36 individuals obtained their GED through WORKPLUS,
- a 95 % satisfaction rate among Resource Room customers.

WORKPLUS Testimonials

“After four years of steady work at International Truck & Engine, I found myself laid off for extended periods of time. In 2002, I enrolled in the WIA program, was accepted at Sinclair College, and in June 2005 graduated with a GPA of 3.1.

WORKPLUS and Sinclair’s Career Center were very helpful in finding me gainful employment. I accepted a position with Honeywell Avionics Division repairing commercial aircraft radar equipment. I am nearly 52 years old and have to admit this entire experience was sometimes very challenging. The encouragement from Jackie and Janet with the WORKPLUS WIA program smoothed out the rough edges.”

Thomas Fairbanks

“I entered the WIA program after experiencing back to back permanent layoffs. I successfully completed my R.N. degree in June 2005 and am now employed with the Community Mercy Health Partners with a pay rate of \$19.14. I was able to fulfill my dream and become self-sufficient, thanks to the training opportunities offered to dislocated workers at the WORKPLUS Center.”

Alice Ehrman

Revenue, Expenditures & Benefits

Total Department Expenditures • Sources of Revenue

2005 Total Department Expenditures	\$254,309,582
Sources of Revenue for 2005 Expenditures	
came from the following sources:	
Federal	61.7%
State	35.4%
Local Children Services Levy	1.2%
Local Government Funding	0.5%
Miscellaneous & Third Party	1.2%
TOTAL	100%

2005 Expenditures for Selected Services – Clark County Department of Job and Family Services

Administration and Operations	\$5,493,986	2.2%
Case Management (All Divisions)	\$11,731,259	4.6%
Contracted Services	\$6,485,295	2.6%
Disability Assistance Program	\$1,749,000	0.7%
Food Stamp Benefits	\$18,798,540	7.4%
Juvenile Court Placement Agreement	\$1,919,771	0.8%
Medicaid Benefits	\$191,998,505	75.4%
On Going Cash Assistance to Families	\$5,019,616	2.0%
One-Time Emergency Assistance to Families	\$305,106	0.1%
Out-of-Home Placement Costs	\$4,221,636	1.7%
Subsidized Child Care Benefits to Families	\$2,590,272	1.0%
Workforce Development	\$2,905,793	1.1%
WORKPLUS Transportation	\$1,090,803	0.4%
TOTAL	\$254,309,582	100.0%

Robert Suver – Outstanding Director



The Ohio Job and Family Services Directors’ Association named Robert Suver as its 2005 Outstanding County Job and Family Services Director of the Year. Suver has been Director of the Clark County DJFS since 1995. “Under Bob Suver’s leadership, Clark County has established the reputation of having one of the most progressive agencies in the state,” said Association President Dan Jackson.

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The Clark County Department of Job and Family S E R V I C E S

Robert B. Suver, Director
1345 Lagonda Avenue
P. O. Box 967A
Springfield, Ohio 45501-1037
937-327-1700
937-327-1996 Fax
Email: inquiry@clarkdjfs.org