



FULTON COUNTY SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

Presentation to CJAB meeting
Wednesday, January 5, 2011

- ❖ FCSC is one of 67 Children & Youth agencies in the state with one located in each of the 67 counties.
- ❖ Fulton is an 8th class county, one of only six counties with a total population <20,000. There are only five other 8th class counties – Cameron, Forest, Montour, Potter and Sullivan.

FULTON COUNTY SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

- The agency began in the early 1960s and was part of an agency entitled “Fulton County Services for Children & Aging.”
- In 1976, by state mandate, a new and separate Fulton County Services for Children agency was formed.
- The total budget that year was approximately \$36,000.
- The director’s salary was \$8,200.

FULTON COUNTY SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

- The agency's mission is:
- *to protect children from abuse and neglect;*
- *to strengthen and maintain families by increasing the use of in-home services;*
- *to use community-based residential resources when possible;*
- *to reduce the use of institutional placement for dependent and delinquent children; and*
- *to reduce the duration of out-of-home placements.*

THE SAFETY OF CHILDREN IS THE #1 GOAL OF THE AGENCY

FULTON COUNTY SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

- Although the agency is considered a county-operated agency, licensing by the state DPW is required.
- The agency operates under various state laws, regulations, bulletins and other mandates. Those laws and regulations cover the investigation of child abuse/neglect reports as well as the provision of risk and safety assessments, and the provision of both in-home services and out-of-home placements when ordered by the Court.
- In addition, the agency strives to meet the federal goals of safety, permanency and well-being for all county children.

FULTON COUNTY SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

- The agency offers services in three distinctive categories with services to dependents provided by FCSC and to delinquent provided by Fulton JPO.
 - **In-Home Services** – includes adoption services, adoption assistance, counseling for dependent/ delinquents, day treatment, life skills, intake & referral, protective services (for both abuse and neglect reports) and service planning. These services can also include truancy services as well as services for children with incorrigible or ungovernable behaviors.
 - **Community-based placement** - includes group homes, foster family care, alternative treatment and supervised independent living. Children entering into placement are found by the Court of Common Pleas to be either dependent or delinquent.
 - **Institutional/residential placements** – residential, juvenile detention, secure facilities, YDC and YFC facilities. Children entering into placement are found by the Court of Common Pleas to be either dependent or delinquent.
- A 4th component of the agency is Administrative activities.**

FULTON COUNTY SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

- **In Home services** – are services provided to families that will enable the children to remain safe in the home and will, hopefully, then not require out-of-home placement. In addition to providing those services, the agency also purchases some services such as COPE (Community Outreach, Prevention & Education), Family Group Decision Making (FGDM), other counseling and evaluations.

FULTON COUNTY SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

- According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there are an estimated 4,094 families residing in Fulton County with 1,901 children under the age of 18 years.
- In FY 2009-10, the agency did intakes on 388 or nearly 20% of the county's children & youth population. The numbers continue to increase steadily each year with numbers increasing significantly over the past three years.

FULTON COUNTY SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

- C&Y/JPO Placements:

The C&Y agency currently has 9 children in foster family care with Northwestern Human Services (Chambersburg) and Family Care Services, Inc. (Chambersburg).

The C&Y agency currently has one child in a residential treatment facility at Hoffman Homes.

C&Y and Juvenile Probation have one child in shared case responsibility at the Children's Aid Society's group home in Franklin County.

FULTON COUNTY SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

CHILDREN'S ROUNDTABLE INITIATIVE

the Honorable Judge Carol Van Horn has led the local Children's Roundtable efforts since December 2006, and there has been cooperation among the courts, the C&Y, JPO, Human Services Administration and the Commissioners.

All have supported it and have worked well together to make it a success. The Roundtable has and continues to evolve. MH and school representation have been added.

Local roundtable teams from both Franklin and Fulton attend the state Children's Summit roundtable in the fall of each year – in 2009 in Pittsburgh and in 2010 in Philadelphia. The 2011 state Roundtable is scheduled to be held in Seven Springs.

Both Fulton and Franklin are part of the Phase II Permanency Practice Initiative (PPI) led by Judge Van Horn.

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PHASE II PPI INITIATIVES

- ❑ Family Group Decision-Making – since 2005;
- ❑ Family Finding and Family Development Credentialing;
- ❑ SWAN LSI initiative;
- ❑ TLFR – time limited family reunification and COPE;
- ❑ Three-month permanency review hearings;
- ❑ Truancy initiative – TIP;
- ❑ CPCMS – Common Pleas Case Management System;
- ❑ GAL and Parent attorney trainings; and
- ❑ Data management.

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OTHER RECENT C&Y INITIATIVES

- ❖ Establishment of Child Death Review team in 2009;
- ❖ Implementation of new Shared Case Responsibility (SCR) bulletin with JPO;
- ❖ Implementation of safety assessment for both in-home and out-of-home children and youth;
- ❖ Implementation of Fostering Connections;
- ❖ Implementation of IL youth transitioning;

FULTON COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR

Please see handout for Human Services Administration organizational chart.

The Human Services Administrator in Fulton County provides oversight for:

- Children & Youth;
- Franklin/Fulton Drug & Alcohol (Fulton only);
- Franklin/Fulton MH/MR (Fulton only);
- Tuscarora Managed Care Alliance (Fulton only);
- Human Services Development Fund (HSDF);
- Housing Assistance Program (HAP); and
- HPRP;