2022 Annual Report

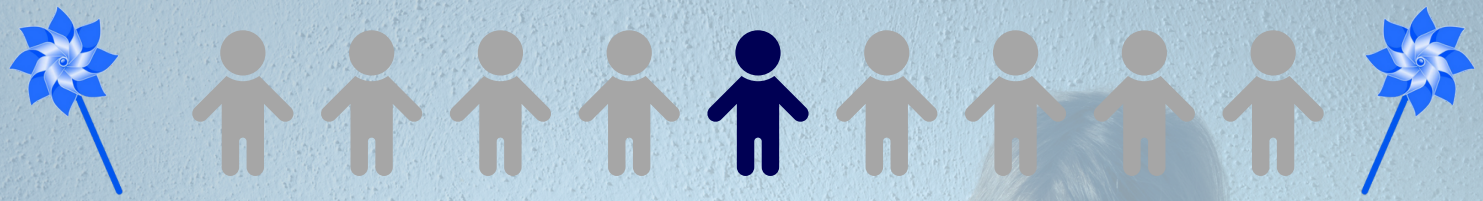
Marion County
Children Services

Safe Children.

Strong Families.

Supportive Communities.

OUR WORK IN 2022



1 out of every 9 children received supportive services from Marion County Children Services

Philosophy: The Marion County Children Services Board believes that all children have the right to grow and develop within their own families in a safe and permanent home environment. We view families as the true experts regarding their needs and work jointly with them to identify concerns and determine solutions to assure child safety.

CHILD SAFETY

We rely on our community to stand up and be a voice for children by reporting concerns.

Medical Personnel

Law Enforcement

TOP REFERRAL SOURCES - 2022

Social Services Staff

School Staff

The safety of children is our first concern. If you suspect a child is being abused or neglected, you should call us at 740-389-SAFE weekdays between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm. For emergencies, after hours or on weekends or holidays, call the Marion County Sheriff's Office at 740-382-8244 and ask to speak with the on-call Child Protection Caseworker.

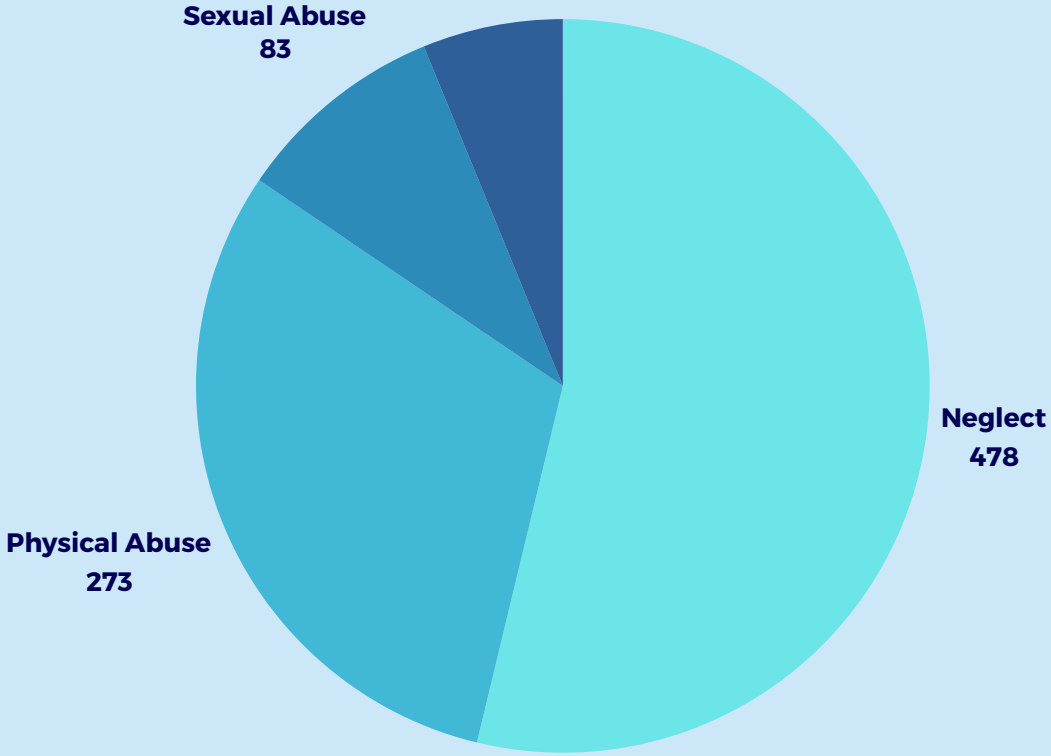
SAFETY INVESTIGATIONS - 889 TOTAL

We complete investigations on all reports that meet Ohio's legal definition of child maltreatment. These services are provided **24 hours a day, 365 days a year.**

Families

Child Protection

Community Agencies



During safety investigations, information is gathered to determine what resources the family may be lacking and if there is currently risk to the child's safety, health and welfare. This process emphasizes the working partnership between families, child protection, and community agencies to promote child safety, well-being, and permanency.

CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT IDENTIFICATION

Questions about the investigation process?
Consider attending one of our free training sessions.

Child Abuse & Neglect Training is offered throughout the year at Marion County Children Services. This training is intended to increase knowledge about child abuse and neglect, and the reports and assessment process. Our goal is to create awareness in the community and contribute to the protection of abuse and neglected children.

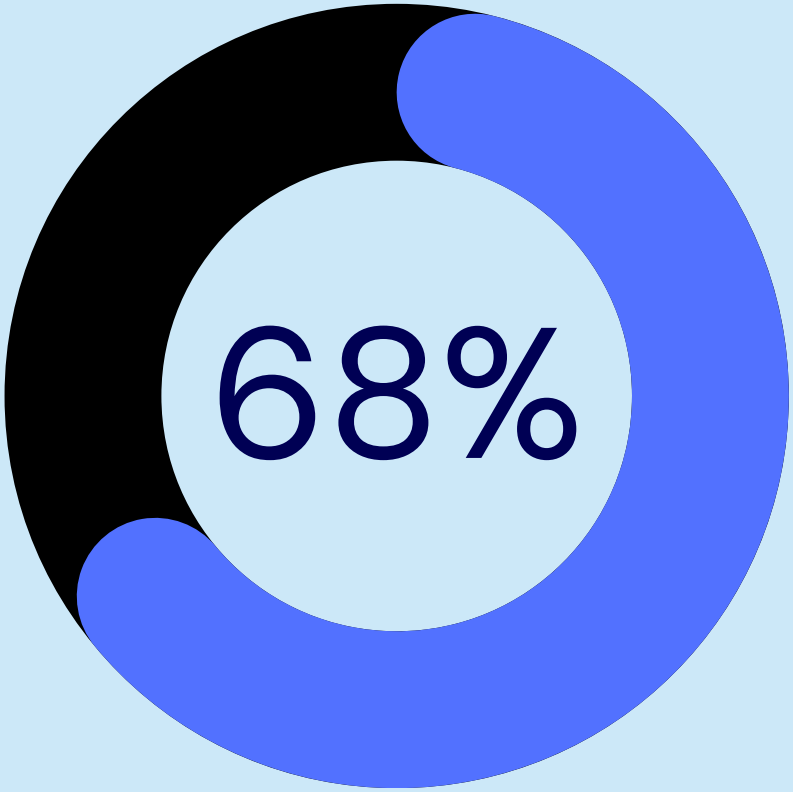
FREE for those who live or work in Marion County.
Out of county: $15 for 3 hours and $25 for 6 hours.

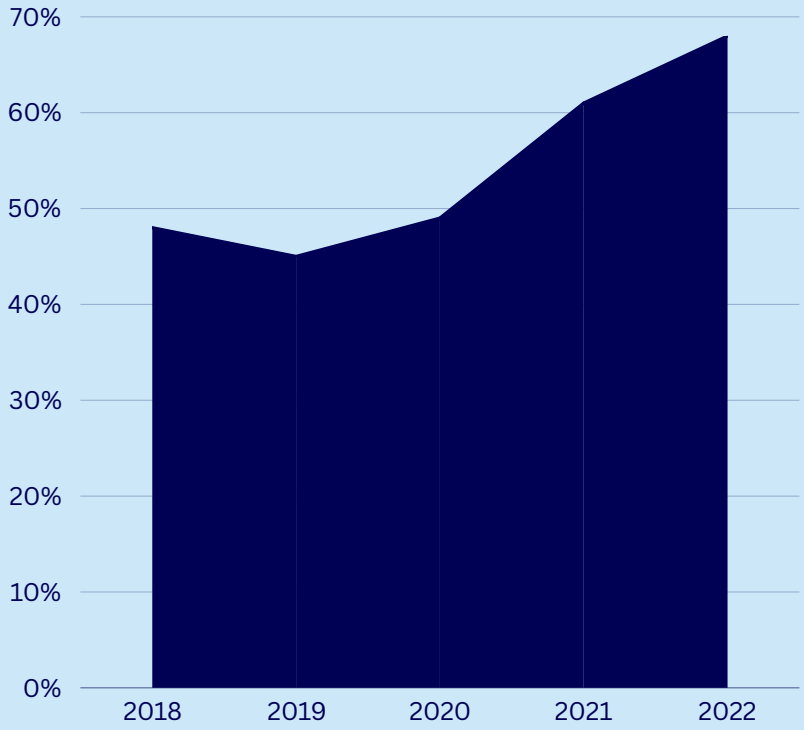
Contact us to sign-up for a current training, or to inquire about how to bring the training to your organization.

moreinfo@marionkids.com or 740-389-2317

DRUG SCREENS

Marion is among the top in the state for Fentanyl. Additionally, there has been an overall increase in positive screens for amphetamines and methamphetamines.





POSITIVE DRUG SCREENS

Positive Results

Parental drug abuse and neglect are the leading causes for the removal of children from their homes. They truly are the **silent victims.**

HOME BASED SERVICES

When our continued assistance is needed, supportive services are provided to promote the safety of children within the home whenever possible. The caseworker and the family work jointly to create and set goals to strengthen the family and reduce risk to the children.

Families

69

Children

163

FOSTER CARE & KINSHIP SERVICES

When children are at serious risk of harm, removal from their home environment is necessary. We make every effort to place children in the least restrictive, most family-like setting while working with families to improve situations and promote successful reunification. Children placed with extended family of friends are less likely to suffer from stress that results from being removed from their family.

OUT OF HOME CARE

Foster Care

95

children were in agency custody and placed in various foster care settings - 23% decrease from 5 year average, lowest number of children entering foster care in the last 5 years due to our expansion of family search and engagement efforts.

Kinship

130

children were in kinship care. Children placed with kin are more likely to do better in school, have fewer physical and mental health problems, and demonstrate overall better well-being than peers in foster care.

KINSHIP SUPPORT SERVICES

Children placed with kinship have reduced trauma, and are typically able to stay in their community, connected to their schools and other providers.

KSP is a state program that provides time limited financial payments to eligible kinship caregivers for the placement of children in their homes.

A kinship caregiver who is not certified as a foster caregiver is eligible to receive KSP funding for a child(ren) placed in the kinship caregiver's home when the child(ren) have an open case with the agency and for whom a kinship assessment is completed.

KINSHIP SUPPORT PROGRAM

FAMILIES SERVED THROUGH KSP IN 2022

72

The KPI program was created to support children in the homes of family or friends who have committed to caring for them when birth parents cannot. KPI provides time-limited incentive payments to families caring for their kin.

Eligible kinship caregivers hold custody and will receive an initial payment to defray costs of initial placement. They may receive subsequent payments at six-month intervals to support the stability of the child's placement in the home.

KINSHIP PERMANENCY INCENTIVE

FAMILIES SERVED THROUGH KPI IN 2022

41

ADOPTION SERVICES

Children who are unable to return to family deserve a safe and permanent home. Six children found their forever families through adoption.

6

Post-adoption special services subsidy are available for qualifying families to help ensure their ability to meet the special needs of their children after adoption. 93 children (55 families) received post-adoption services.

93

ohioKAN KINSHIP & ADOPTION NAVIGATOR

OhioKAN is a flexible and responsive kinship and adoption navigator program designed to assist children, caregivers, and families statewide.

1-844-OHIOKAN

Youth in Marion need YOU.

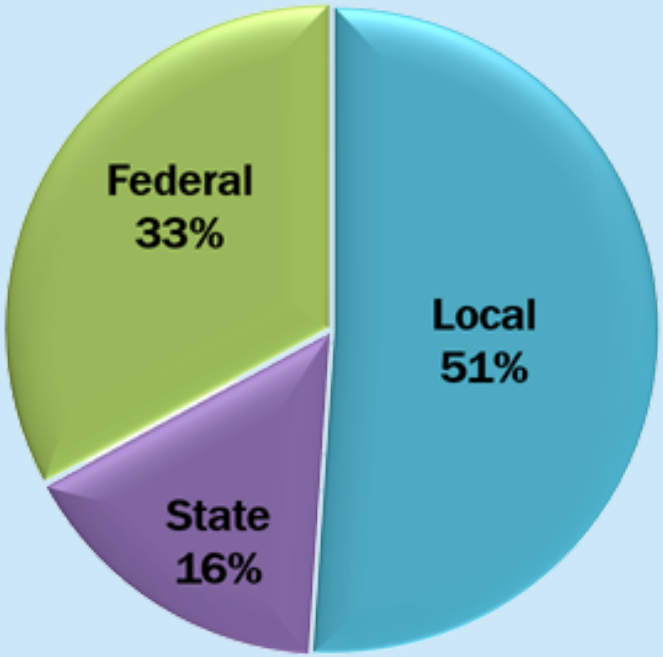
Strengthen your life, and the life of a child, by becoming a foster parent. Scan the QR code to get started today.

35% of the foster care population in Marion is youth between 13-18 years old.

For more information, contact us at 740-389-2317 or moreinfo@marionkids.com

FINANCIALS

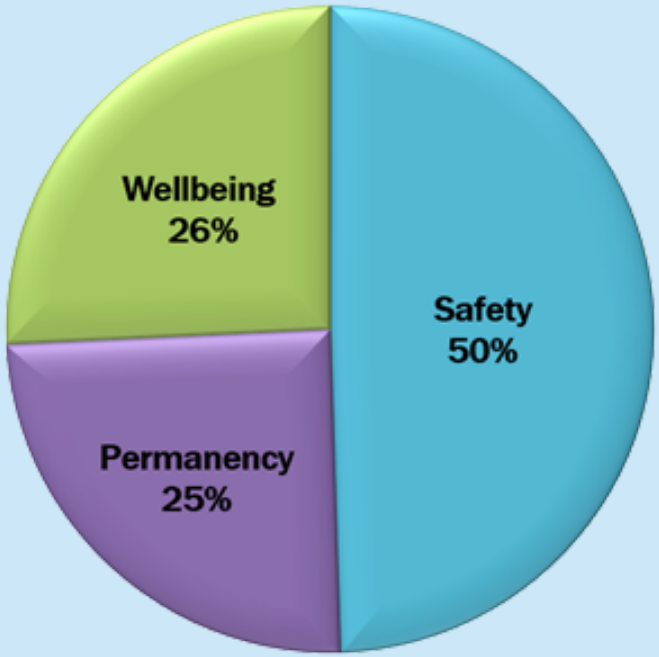
Revenue



Our primary funding source is a 10-year property tax levy. The levy generated $3,318,059.87 in 2022.

Thank you for your continued commitment to children and families!

Expenditures



Services are aligned with our mission and a national set of measures in three areas: child safety, well-being and permanency. Our expenditures in 2022 were $5,201,469.82.

We are committed to providing effective services that promote safe children and strong families!

COLLABORATION IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS

Partnerships increase our ability to connect our families to the best resources. Thank you to these partners who have provided crucial collaboration or grants in 2022.

Workforce Recruitment & Retention Grant (ODJFS) - $84,084 to support workforce recruitment & retention needs

ASAP (ODJFS) - $5,000 to promote comprehensive assessments of safety

Kinnect-to-Family - $15,000 to support the agency's family search and engagement efforts

Multi-Systems Youth - $123,197 to support the emotional/behavioral health treatment needs of youth

Marion Community Foundation - $5,000 to support foster and kinship provider needs

SORS thru Crawford-Marion ADAMH - $31,872 to address opiate use disorder/overdoses for high risk cases

Thank you to all of our generous community partners who made this year memorable! We could not possibly thank them all, but would like to highlight some who have been dedicated to serving the families of Marion with us.

LEADERSHIP

OUR BOARD

Marianne Bailey – Board Chair
Dr. Henry Heinzmann – Vice Chair
Ellen Bryant Messenger – Secretary
Jordy Braddy
Shawn Jackson
Terrie Robinson
Staci Thomas

SUPERVISORS

Elizabeth Arthur
Ann Bristoll
Matt Coldiron
Dan Downes
Ellen Thrush
Angela Windle

Members of the Marion County Children Services Board (MCCSB) are responsible for defining the mission, goals, and scope of the agency's programs and services. This process encompasses the requirements set forth in the Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Administrative Code. The agency mission, purpose, and services is defined and maintained in such a way as to meet the needs of the community and the population which is served by the agency.

MISSION

To lead the community in the protection of children by working with families to promote, develop, and maintain safe and permanent homes.

VISION

Safe children.
Strong families.
Supportive communities.

Find us on Facebook

740-389-2317
moreinfo@marionkids.com
marionkids.com

Marion Community,

Helen Keller said, “Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” 2022 was a year of collaboration and teamwork aimed at achieving better outcomes for children and families. One out of every nine children in Marion County received supportive services from our agency in 2022. Last year alone, 889 assessments of child safety were completed. 225 children were unable to remain safely in their homes and were placed in either foster or kinship care. Thank you to the families who stepped up and stepped into the lives of these children and families to support reunification. Additionally, through our partnerships with Crawford-Marion ADAMH and Kinnect-to-Family we were able to expand our knowledge and skills with the family search and engagement process to lessen the amount of time a child is placed away from their family or community.

The child protection workforce is an essential piece to achieving safe children and strong families. Historically, turnover rates in child protection agencies exceed typical work environments, and 2022 was no different. Understanding the critical need, we applied for and were awarded $84,084 through the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Workforce and Retention Grant. The funding has been used to address our recruitment and retention needs in Marion County.

Children in Marion need all of us! Today’s youth are experiencing complex multi-system needs. OhioRISE (Resilience through Integrated Systems and Excellence) is a specialized managed care program for children and youth with serious emotional and behavioral challenges. Implemented in 2022, OhioRISE aims to expand access to in-home and community-based services for its members. We are a proud partner agency. By working together with our state partners, we can help prevent child abuse.

Brighter days are here! We have a strong workforce committed to child safety. We work for a community who supports our efforts. Recent State investments continue to support stabilizing children and strengthening families. Our 2023 focus is to continue to work with our local and state stakeholders to ensure service availability to support our children and families.

Thank you for joining our efforts to strengthen our community.
Respectfully,

Jacqueline Ringer, MPA/LSW