

2025 Annual Report



Marion County Children Services

Safe Children.

Strong Families.

Supportive Communities.

OUR WORK IN 2025



**1 out of every 10 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



Social Services Staff



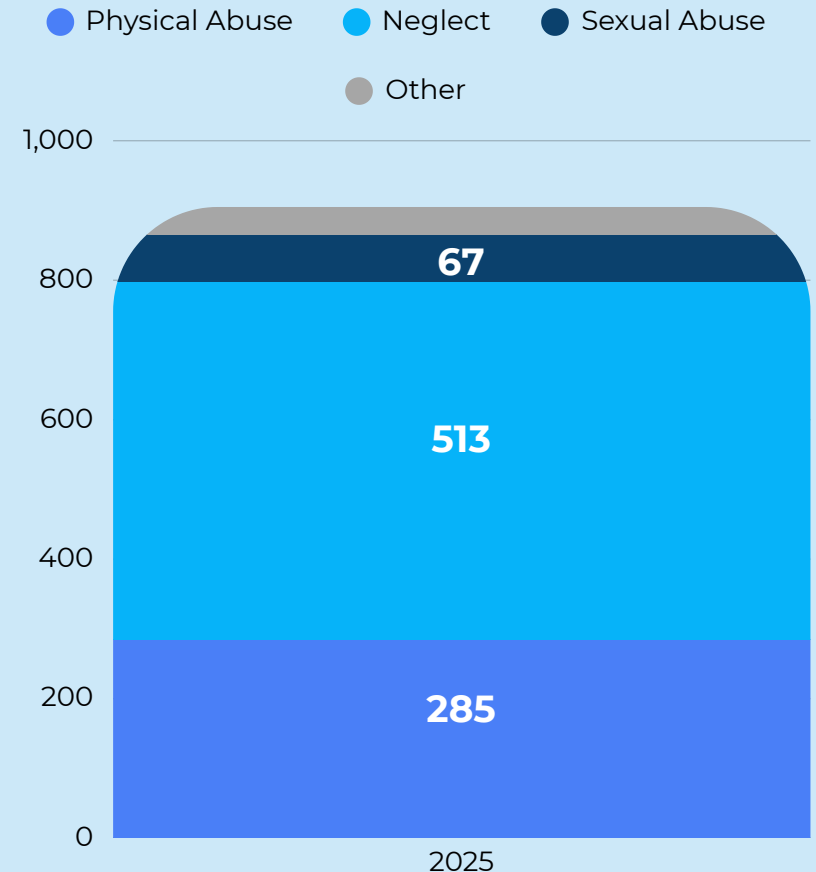
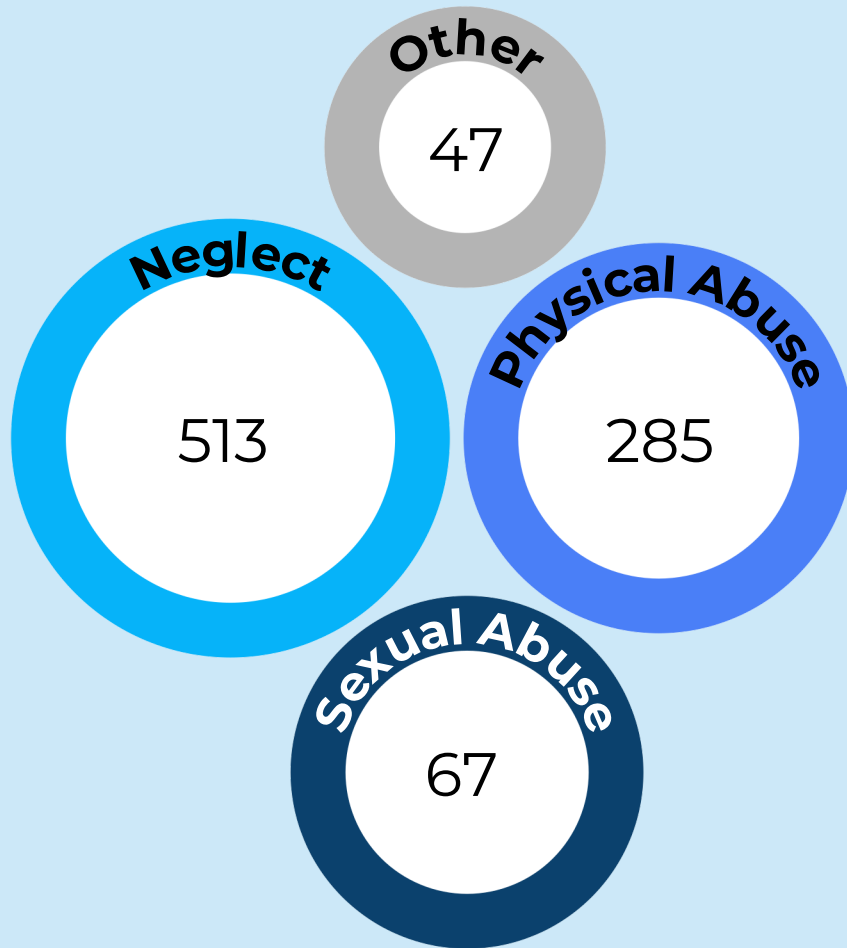
School Staff

TOP REFERRAL
SOURCES - 2025

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 - 912 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.**



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.

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 or scan the QR code



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 or friends are less likely to suffer from stress that results from being removed from their family.

Kinship

184

children were in kinship care - due to our continued expansion of family search and engagement efforts.

Out of Home Care 299

children required out of home placements in 2025, a 7% increase from 2024

Foster Care

115

children were in agency custody and placed in various foster care settings.

KINSHIP SUPPORT SERVICES

KINSHIP SUPPORTS INTERVENTION

The purpose of KSI ensures kinship caregivers have the support they need to meet the child's physical, emotional, financial, and basic needs. Kinship caregivers are supported to connect with community resources, including financial resources, for maintaining placement stability. KSI allows MCCS to provide vouchers to kinship families caring for children placed in their home.

KINSHIP PERMANENCY INCENTIVE

KPI 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. Applicants of the program who are eligible kinship caregivers that hold legal custody can receive a payment every six months for a total of up to eight payments to support the stability of the child's placement in the home.

KINSHIP SUPPORT PROGRAM

KSP is a state program that provides financial payments to eligible kinship caregivers for the placement of children in their homes when a child is in Agency custody for up to six months. 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 GUARDIAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

KGAP is available to eligible kinship caregivers who become legal custodians or guardians of the children placed in their home. The kinship caregivers must become licensed by the State of Ohio to care for the children they have placed in their home in order to receive the funding. The kinship caregiver must commit to caring for the child on a permanent basis.

ADOPTION SERVICES

Children who are unable to return to family deserve a safe and permanent home. Eight children found their forever families through adoption in 2025.

8

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. 101 children (56 families) received post-adoption services in 2025.

101



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

1-844-OHIOKAN



In 2025, available foster homes increased by 36%, which is an encouraging step forward.

However, the rising number of children entering care means we still face a significant gap. We continue to need more foster homes to meet the community's needs

**YOUR FAMILY COULD BE NEXT
TO HAVE A LASTING IMPACT
ON A CHILD'S LIFE BY SIMPLY
SAYING "YES"**

Scan the QR code to get started today.



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

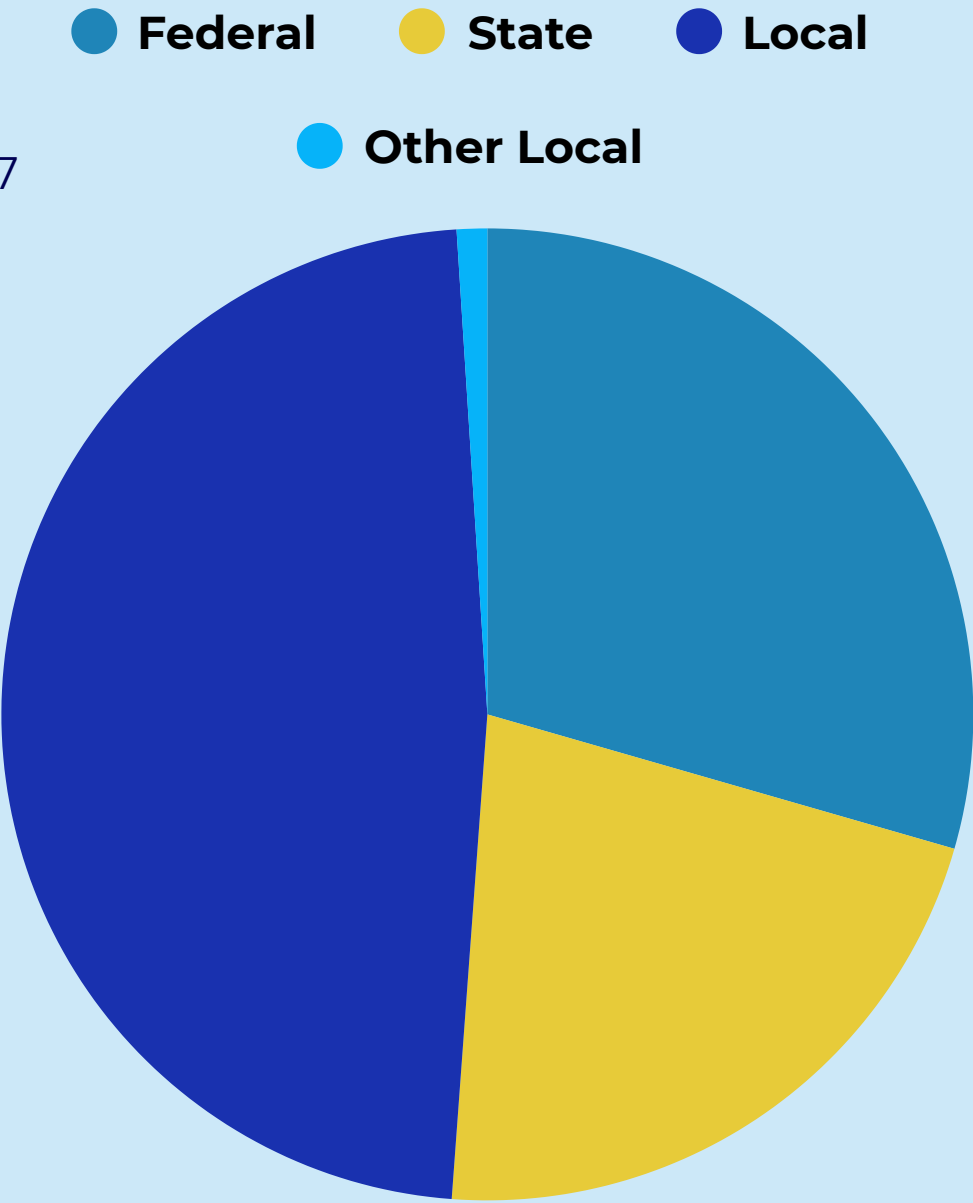
FINANCIALS

2025 Revenue

Children Services Levy	\$3,489,057.87
Federal Reimbursement Total	\$2,191,452.62
<i>Title IV-B</i>	\$102,115.10
<i>Title IV-E</i>	\$2,080,691.63
<i>Other Federal</i>	\$8,645.89
State Funds	\$1,627,205.90
Other Local	\$71,131.77
Total Revenue	\$7,378,848.16

**Thank you for your
continued commitment to
children and families!**

2025 Revenue



FINANCIALS

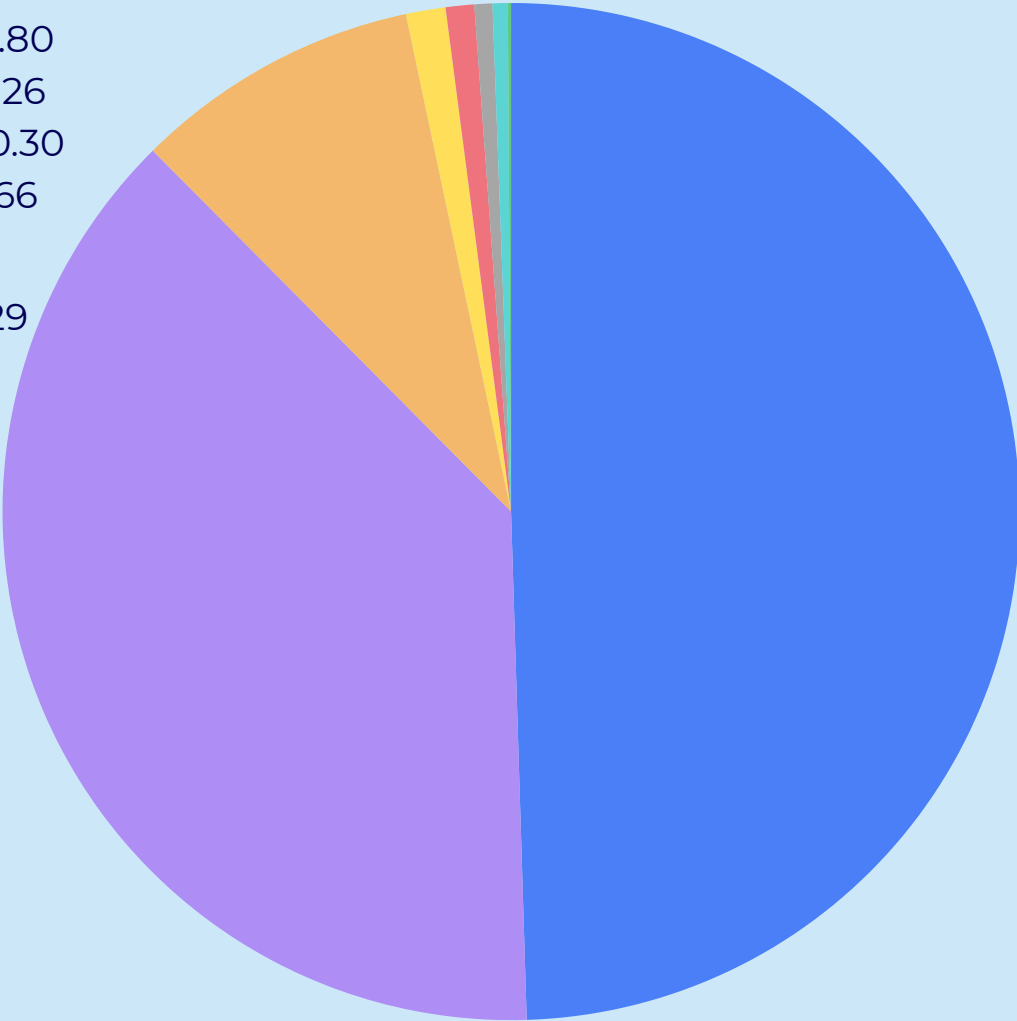
2025 Expenditures

Placement Services.....	\$3,571,034.36
Personnel.....	\$2,744,425.93
Operations.....	\$658,030.13
Family and Kinship Support Services.....	\$90,987.85
Adoptions.....	\$65,146.80
Independent Living.....	\$41,227.26
Partner Support Services.....	\$34,740.30
Community Education and Engagement.....	\$7,290.66
Total Operating Expenses.....	\$7,212,883.29

Services are aligned with our mission and a national set of measures in three areas: child safety, well-being and permanency.

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

2025 Expenditures



COLLABORATION IS THE



Partnerships increase our ability to connect our families to the best resources. 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
Mackenzie Bonfiglio
Ann Bristoll
Dan Downes
Elizabeth Moore
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.

Marion Community,

Marion County Children Services is proud to look back on a year of expanded growth and meaningful impact for the children and families in our community. We are excited to share that Marion County Children Services was selected as one of only 15 counties in Ohio to take part in Practice in Action Together (PACT). This practice model was developed in partnership with families, workers, and leaders from public children services agencies to make children services better. We look forward to learning from parents, former foster youth, and caregivers with lived children services experience. Their stories and perspectives will help us grow and improve.



Marion County Children Services is a proud partner of Kinnect to Family and remains dedicated to a kin-first culture. We believe all children have family and deserve to remain connected to their culture, community, and family. Diligent efforts are made to search for kinship connections and identify safe placements for children. Unfortunately, options are not always immediately available, resulting in the need for foster care. In 2025, we experienced the highest number of children in foster care in the past five years. The need increased, but available homes to meet the individual needs of the children did not, resulting in some children ending up far from their neighborhoods, schools, and the people they love. Every child deserves a safe, stable, and caring home. If you are interested in opening your home to a child or teen who needs one, we need you. You do not have to be perfect; it just takes 100% heart. It takes a community working together to protect children and keep families strong, and we are grateful for ours.

Much appreciation,

Jacqueline Ringer, MPCA/LSW