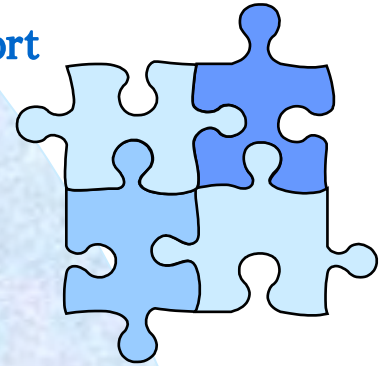


Huron County Workforce Investment Act Board

Mike Adelman, *Huron County Commissioner*
Mike Allen, *International Metal Hose*
Gary Bauer, *Huron County Commissioner*
John Clark, *BGSU Firelands*
Bill Crawford, *Carpenter's Union*
Bethany Dentler, *Norwalk Economic Development*
Bill Dotson, *Gaymont Nursing Home*
Erich Dumbeck, *Huron County Job & Family Services*
Ralph Fegley, *Huron County Commissioner*
Kay Fletcher, *Huron County Consumer*
Ken Honigford, *BIOMEC*
Bill Kaltenbach, *Pepperidge Farms*
Sue Lesch, *Mayor of Norwalk*
Bryan Myers, *National City Bank*
Phil Oglesby, *Sandusky Bay Construction*
Jack Savage, *Wilbur Plastics Co.*
Todd Shiningier, *Willard Chamber of Commerce*
Jerry Shoemaker, *Empire Credit Union*
Donna Slack, *Norwalk City Schools*
Kitty Smith, *EHOVE Joint Vocational School*
Bob Talcott, *Sandusky Bay Area Goodwill*
Bob Utter, *Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 42*
Charlotte Wagner, *Erie/Huron/Ottawa Ed. Services*
Jim Wiedenheft, *Huron County Development Council*
Marla White, *Huron County Job & Family Services*

HURON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB & FAMILY SERVICES

2006 Annual Report



The mission of the Huron County Department of Job & Family Services is to Empower communities to use our agency as a stepping stone, through the delivery of social, financial, and support services, to enhance quality of life and foster independence.



HURON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB & FAMILY SERVICES

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Norwalk, Ohio 44857
419-668-8126 or 1-800-668-5175
Fax 419-668-4738

Erich Dumbeck, Director

Huron County Commissioners

Mike Adelman

Gary Bauer

Ralph Fegley

Human Resources

Agency Staff

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Sara Anderson
Carol Andres
Scott Andres
Andrea Angst
Stacia Badovick
Nichole Baker
Pat Ball
Beth Bartlett
Heather Bennett
Becky Berendt
Carrie Bischoff
Betty Bivens
Joni Blystone
Virginia Blystone
Linda Bradley
Lavonda Brant
David Broehl
Nancy Brown
Jayne Boos
Gayle Capell
Janet Canterbury
Leslie Casper
Ivy Collins
Michelle Daniel
Leigh-Anne Deering
Stephanie Dillon
Mary Downing
Evelyn Drake
Erich Dumbeck
Jaime Endsley
Mary Eskins
Rebecca Fair

Jeanne Fisher
Kay Fletcher
Barb Fries
Margarita Ganz
Paulette Gargasz
Carol Gornek
Carol Gottschling
Julie Gubala
Alice Hamons
Connie Hemenway
Jenny Hess
Janet Highlander
Megan Holland
Corrie Horn
Lynne Horrigan
Robin Hunt
Lindsey Ingram
Heather Johnson
Jo Johnson
Adam Karbula
Jon Kelley
Sue Komosinski
Barry Laird
Dottie Langhals
Amy Leibold
Connie Leimbach
Jordan Leto
Brian Lindsley
Judith Loughton
Brenda Milks
Lenora Minor
Susan Nardecchia
Marsha Nichols
Connie Ott
Kathy Ott
Heather Portner

Janet Poyer
Stacy Rader
Bonnie Richards
Lisa Ringlein
Chris Robertson
Sue Ryan
Darlene Saunders
Candice Sayre
Suzanne Sidell
Jeanne Singer
Jeanne Soisson
Charlene Steffanni
Carla Stegaman
Cora Stoddard
Mary Stoll
Tara Sturts
Mitzi Tucker
Sally Turner
Kim Turnley
Eileen Ungerer
Rhonda VanScyoc
Myriam Wade
Marcy Wilkinson
Marla White
Sandy Wilhelm
Nancy Wilken

Intermittent Staff

Julie Cashen
Lea Elmer
Lisa Fritz
Lisa Hull
Stacey Marcum
Tina Ruffing
Susan Stockard
Marjorie Yonek

Fiscal Expenditures



Public Assistance Payments

Adoption Assist./IV-E/State Foster Payments	\$557,347
OWF Cash	\$1,017,098
Disability Cash	\$90,128
Disability Medicaid	\$57,112
Direction Card	\$4,868,024
PRC Payments	\$1,266,165
Aged/Blind/ Disabled	\$23,469,594
Family & Children	\$18,497,535
Foster Care/Adoption/Transitional	\$2,101,478
Nursing Home	\$8,303,476
Total	\$60,227,957

Administrative Expenses

WIA	\$202,202
Food Stamp Admin.	\$794,224
Income Maintenance/Medicaid (Other)	\$878,946
TANF/OWF/PRC	\$483,320
Social Services (Children/Adult)	\$1,033,338
Child Support Enforcement Agency	\$579,527
Food Stamp Employment & Training	\$57,753
Adult Protective Services	\$42,787
Child Care Admin.	\$240,733
Total	\$4,312,830

Purchase of Services/Contracts

Transportation	\$70,579
Child Care Providers	\$1,770,945
Foster Care Payments for Children in Custody	\$1,444,843
Child Care Quality	\$12,855
Help Me Grow Grant	\$110,982
WIA Contract/youth, adult, dislocated	\$707,987
Total	\$4,118,193

PRC Funded Projects

PRC	\$153,188
Summer Storm Program	\$61,653
Spread the Warmth Program	\$1,051,324
Total	\$1,266,165



Through the Business Career Track Co-op at Ehow, Kay Fletcher was able to obtain a position with Huron County Job & Family Services as a Clerical Specialist II. Since joining the Human Resources Department in October 2005, Kay has become an integral part of the agency by serving on the WIA Board as a voting member and handling the duties of the mailroom.

First Annual Recognition Week!

The Huron County Commissioners declared the week of May 15th in 2006 the first annual Huron County Public Employee Recognition Week. The week started off with a proclamation presented on the steps of the Huron County Courthouse. A cookout was held at three county office buildings throughout the week. A tour of New Horizons Baking Co. was enjoyed by county employees. The week wrapped up with an Olympic Challenge held at the Ernsthausen Community Center and an evening at the Norwalk Raceway Park.



Family Support Services

In 2006 there were 4,413 new applications filed requesting assistance. Over 1,770 Hospital Admission Notices were received. There were 94 Adult Protective referrals made in 2006. Two caseworkers managed 496 Nursing Home & Home Based Community Waiver cases.



Medicaid Changes

A monthly average of 11,690 individuals receive Medicaid coverage. This is a 6% increase from the previous year. The average monthly cost for Medicaid claims was \$5,013,890. The two major changes in the Medicaid program were that Medicare recipients became eligible for the new Medicare Prescription Discount Program, also known as Medicare Part D. The other change was the roll out of Medicaid Managed Care. This affected a large number of the Medicaid population. The hope is that this will save the state of Ohio money by promoting preventative care and having primary care physicians in place.

Child Care Program Continues to Grow

The total amount paid to the 107 Huron County child care providers was \$2,078,298 in 2006. The county bears 86% of the cost for the Child Care Program which amounted to \$1,786,360. Parents paid copayments for the remaining \$291,818. There are 300 Child Care cases which represents a 10% increase from 2005.

Improvements to Food Stamp Card

The 1,778 Food Stamp cases represent 4,173 eligible individuals. The total issuance averages \$5,803,221 per month. The Ohio Direction Card was improved in 2006. The card no longer has to be "loaded" each month with the Food Stamp amount as this is now done electronically.

Increases in Cash Assistance (OWF)

There were 2,627 individuals receiving OWF assistance in the amount of \$444,294 for the year. This is a 12% increase from the previous year. Most of the OWF cases in Huron County are made up of families where the parent or parents are disabled, or children are being raised by grandparents or other non-parental relatives.



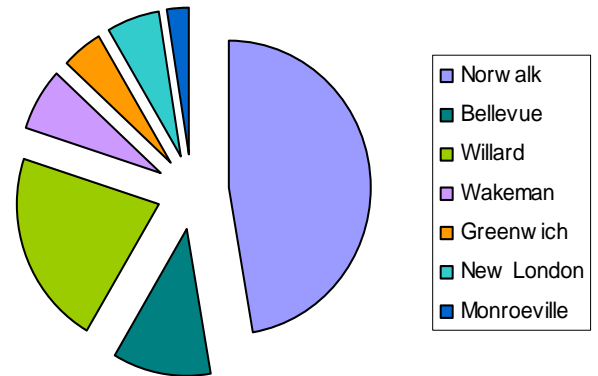
Children Services

Reports of Abuse

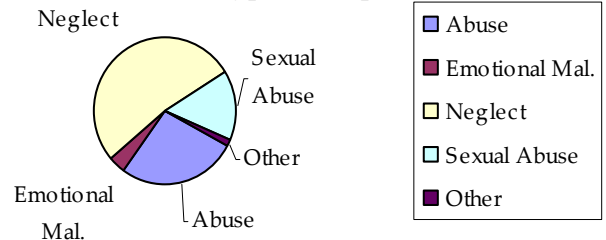
Of the 782 alleged reports of child abuse in 2006, there were 266 investigations conducted. 188 investigations were based on reports of abuse or neglect, 62 of sexual abuse, 11 for emotional maltreatment, and 5 others. The city of Norwalk had the highest number of investigations at 101, Willard had 51 and Bellevue, 29.



Reports of Child Abuse by Town



Types of Reports Made



Child Abuse Awareness Breakfast

Special awards were given at the Child Abuse Awareness Breakfast on April 13th, 2006 to:
Scott Ford and Hazel Ward recognizing them as Child & Family Volunteers of the year.
Dr. Glenn Trippe, Paul Hiszem, and Randy Sommers for Child & Family Professionals of the year.
Brenda and Ken Conley were honored as Foster Parents of the year.
Nancy Lozano and Ashley Flucsa received the Rising Up and Moving On award for their accomplishments.

Huron County Children Services currently has 4 investigators, 7 ongoing social workers, and 2 workers that handle adoption and foster home recruitment.

Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA) & Overpayment Recovery

Huron County CSEA managed 6,059 child and/or spousal support cases. Child support collections in 2006 totaled \$12,228,166. This represents an increase of \$57,463 from 2005. Of the total amount collected, \$740,479 was collected through Ohio and Federal tax refunds. \$50,250 was intercepted from bank accounts, a 126% increase from last year. Overall collection totals increased by .47%.

License Suspensions Prove Successful

CSEA used driver's or professional license suspensions for those delinquent in paying child support in 1,404 cases to date; 938 remain suspended for failure to pay child support.

For every \$22.18 collected, CSEA's administrative cost was \$1. Huron County had the most cost efficient ratio in the state. Because of the overall excellent work in the support arrears collection, paternity and support establishment, Ohio as a whole earned significant incentives from the Federal government. Huron County received \$124,122 in new incentives for the fiscal year 2006.

Paternity by genetic testing was established for 105 fathers in 2006; 73 through the CSEA administrative procedures and 32, judicially.

Legal Department Processes Felony Cases

The CSEA IV legal department represented our agency in 680 hearings. In 2006, there were 8 cases referred to the Huron County Prosecutor's office for felony non-support; 4 individuals were indicted on felony non-support charges.

ORU Collections Continue to Rise

In 2006, ORU collected \$75,055 in overpayments from Public Aid and \$17,401 from overpaid child support payments. ORU investigators saw a 52% increase in investigative referrals from the previous year (381 for 2006, 251 for 2005). They secured 38 voluntary agreements from food stamp consumers who supplied inaccurate information when applying for food stamp benefits. This agreement results in a 12 month disqualification from future food stamp benefits for each consumer.



Workforce Development

In 2006, Workforce

Development managed 100

WIA cases; 58 of those were

dislocated workers. WIA

participants are many times

enrolled in education or

training programs to prepare

them for employment. The Northcoast Job Store had 8,360 visitors

in 2006. The youth Job Store had 441 visitors.



Changing Lives For The Better

A customer came to Workforce Development in March of 2006. She wanted the WIA program to help her obtain her State Tested Nurse's Aid license. After successfully completing the program she obtained a job at a local nursing home where she worked for 5 months. Just about that time, her background check came back showing two misdemeanor charges from a state in which she lived before moving to Ohio. Due to this, the nursing home had to let her go, although they were reluctant to do so as she was an exceptional worker. The WIA caseworker referred her to the Transformation Network, a program that works with individuals with criminal records, hoping that they could find her employment until the misdemeanors dropped off of her record. A Transformation Network counselor was able to make some contacts and found out that she could still work in the health industry if the individual nursing home would allow it. After contacting the nursing home, they immediately hired her back. She is now earning \$9.25 hourly and has high accolades from her employer.

Jobs First For Teens Pilots Character-Building Program

The Jobs First For Teens created a new character building program for 6th graders. The response was phenomenal from the pilot group at the Norwalk Main Street School. More schools will be on board for the 2007-2008 school year. The classes addressed responsibility, trustworthiness, honesty, and what makes for good character in a person.

Mobile Unit Sees 1,249 Visitors

The Huron County Mobile Unit boasted another banner year with increased customer visits, follow-up, and adding a new stop in Wakeman. The Mobile Unit was involved in hiring events throughout the area, and was present for the Plymouth Silver King Festival and the Workforce Services Celebration in September at Huron County Job & Family Services. Over 150 people attended the celebration where local cosmetologists



coordinated with Project Daymaker to give 35 job seekers free haircuts.