



annual REPORT 2014





our mission



TO SUPPORT CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES TO REALIZE
THEIR POTENTIAL, HOPES AND DREAMS.

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a message from our EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



TRACEY IZZARD
MA, MBA, LPCC-S, LICDC-SC, LSW
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Thank you for the support you have continued to offer Youth Advocate Services (YAS) while we strive to advance our mission “to support children, youth, and families to realize their potential, hopes and dreams.” This year YAS has benefitted from the outpouring of generosity from our community which has improved our efforts to serve children and families. We have seen many lives changed for the better in each of our programs: Foster Care, Adoption, Help Me Grow Early Intervention, Help Me Grow Home Visiting, Early Childhood Mental Health, Home Based and School Based Mental Health Programs.

The year of 2014 was an exciting year for us at YAS. A satellite office was opened in Mansfield, Ohio in the TownsEdge Plaza at 1623 W. 4th Street where foster care, adoption, community-based and school-based counseling services are provided. YAS had five foster homes in the area and received significant interest for our mental health services which led to the establishment of a branch office. The opening of a second office location is the first in YAS history.

Every day, our Family Counselors, Clinicians, Home Visitors, and Service Coordinators provided **needed services and supports to over 1,200 children and families in the Central Ohio area**. To help support the needs of foster youth in our community, YAS continues to successfully recruit, train, and license a number of new foster families. This year, YAS **added 20 foster homes** to our network. Additionally, YAS was able to provide placement for **157 foster youth** in a YAS licensed foster home. We also facilitated a wonderful **4 adoptions** this year, growing families for a lifetime.

YAS celebrated our successes with our foster and adoptive families through two events this year. The first was in June at our Annual Foster Parent Banquet. We celebrated our families again in December during our Annual Snowflake Festival where guests enjoyed a holiday meal, gifts donated by our community through a giving tree at Pathways—Members 1st Credit Union, holiday movies, holiday crafts, and pictures with Santa. Additionally,

Buckeye Community Health graciously donated hams and turkeys to give to our families during the holidays.

In 2014, the Help Me Grow Home Visiting Program served **178 children and their families** in addition to the **329 clients** served through the Help Me Grow Early Intervention Program. The YAS Help Me Grow Program continues to achieve extremely high marks on client satisfaction and has continued to provide high quality service throughout the year demonstrated by successful audits. The YAS Mental Health Program continues to partner with Columbus City Schools, Groveport Schools, and Whitehall City Schools. Currently, YAS Mental Health Clinicians are providing needed behavioral and mental health counseling to children in over **200 schools** in Central Ohio serving **616 students**.

Our 4th Annual Youth Advocate Services All-Class Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show presented by Rife’s Autobody was held in 2014. This event was again judged a success by sponsors, participants and spectators and helped **raise over \$14,000 for the children and families** served by our agency. Not only did the event raise funds, we raised friends. Two car show participants generously adopted three of our families in most need, to give them a most wonderful holiday. This event was held at the Grandview Yard

on Bobcat St., which is where the 5th Annual Show will be held in September of 2015.

The goal of Youth Advocate Services is to continue to make a difference in our community by strengthening families, which are the core of our community. Our vision is to improve every life we serve by putting quality care and customer service above all else. We are so grateful to all of our friends for your support of our efforts promoting positive futures. You truly help to make our mission and vision possible. May peace and good prosperity bless you in 2015.

WE ARE SO GRATEFUL TO ALL OUR FRIENDS FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR EFFORTS PROMOTING POSITIVE FUTURES. YOU TRULY HELP MAKE OUR MISSION AND VISION POSSIBLE.



Warmest regards,
Tracey Izzard

who we are & WHAT WE BELIEVE



YOUTH ADVOCATE SERVICES (YAS) IS A NATIONALLY ACCREDITED, STATE-CERTIFIED, 501(C)(3), NON-PROFIT CHILD/FAMILY CARING AGENCY WHO HAS SERVED THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SINCE 1978.

For 37 years, Youth Advocate Services (YAS) has believed in the premise that all children, and especially those who are vulnerable or at-risk, should live in a family-centered, caring and nurturing home. As the oldest **therapeutic foster care** program in Ohio, YAS has provided high-quality treatment foster care, while working collaboratively with other child serving agencies to develop and implement a community support system for families.

YAS is proud to provide:

- Mental health and behavioral health services to children and families through a holistic, wrap-around approach;
- Coordination services for families with children ages birth to three and links them with resources through the Help Me Grow programs;
- Respite and emergency care for children who must leave their families temporarily; and
- Family support, home-based and school-based programs to prevent the need for children to be placed away from home.

YAS' main office is located at 825 Grandview Avenue, one block north of the Grandview Avenue Exit off of I-670. The YAS location provides state of the art facilities with a large training space and opportunities for foster parents, children, families and staff to grow and develop. It enables YAS to continue and build on its tradition of serving thousands of children and families in our community each year.

YAS expanded the outpatient mental health program to Mansfield, OH (Richland County) in May 2014. The agency opened it's second office in Mansfield to provide outpatient mental health services to Richland County and surrounding counties and is the first addition in YAS history. The new office is located in the Townsedge Plaza at 1623 W. 4th Street.

our philosophy

YAS APPLIES INNOVATIVE THINKING ALONG WITH EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES TO PARTNER WITH CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY AND TREAT THEIR NEEDS. YAS INCORPORATES A PREVENTATIVE PHILOSOPHY INTO ITS MODEL WITH THE INTENTION OF STRENGTHENING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN THEIR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, WHILE DECREASING THE NEED FOR MORE RESTRICTIVE OR OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS.

our vision

IN ORDER TO IMPROVE EVERY LIFE WE SERVE, YOUTH ADVOCATE SERVICES DEDICATES ITSELF TO A CULTURE THAT PUTS CUSTOMER SERVICE AND QUALITY CARE ABOVE ALL ELSE.

our values

WE BELIEVE...

- In family.
- ALL children have the right to be in a safe, secure, family-centered environment.
- Sound, culturally competent, clinically relevant services should be available and easily accessible to children and families.
- Short term interventions we provide should focus on promotion of health, wellness, and self-sufficiency of families.
- It is important to **ONLY** use placement as a form of treatment for children and families.

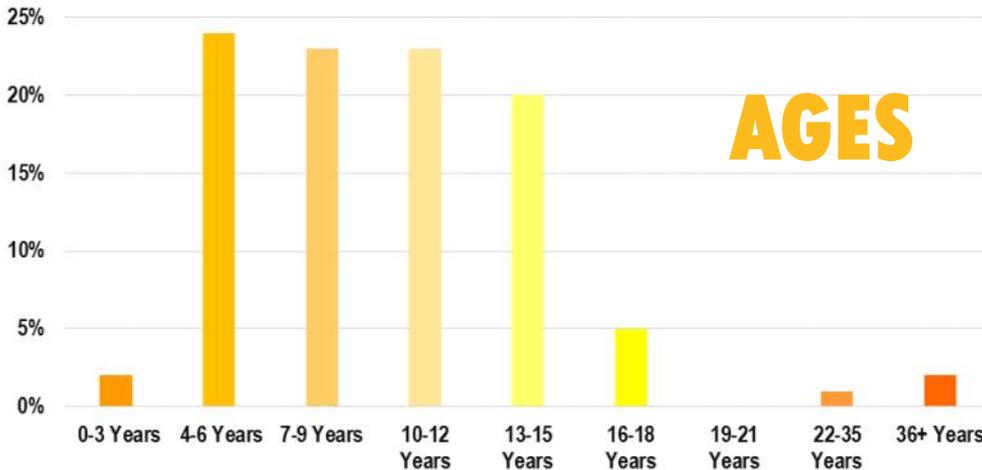
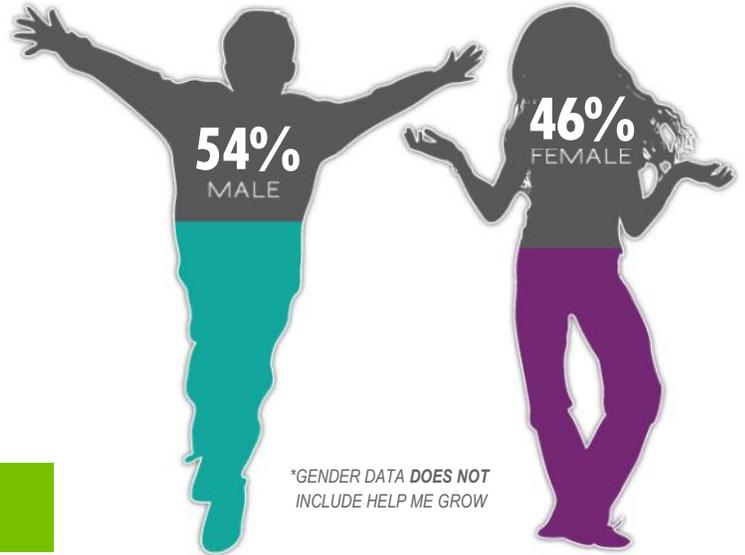


our programs & services

2014 PROGRAM POPULATION

- 616** MENTAL HEALTH CLIENTS
- 329** HELP ME GROW CLIENTS
EARLY INTERVENTION
- 178** HELP ME GROW CLIENTS
HOME VISITING
- 157** FOSTER CARE CLIENTS
- 16** COMMUNITY RESPITE CARE CLIENTS

1,296 TOTAL CLIENTS SERVED



* AGE DATA DOES NOT INCLUDE HELP ME GROW, AS HELP ME GROW SERVES 100% AGE 0-3

41%
WHITE

51%
BLACK / AFRICAN
AMERICAN

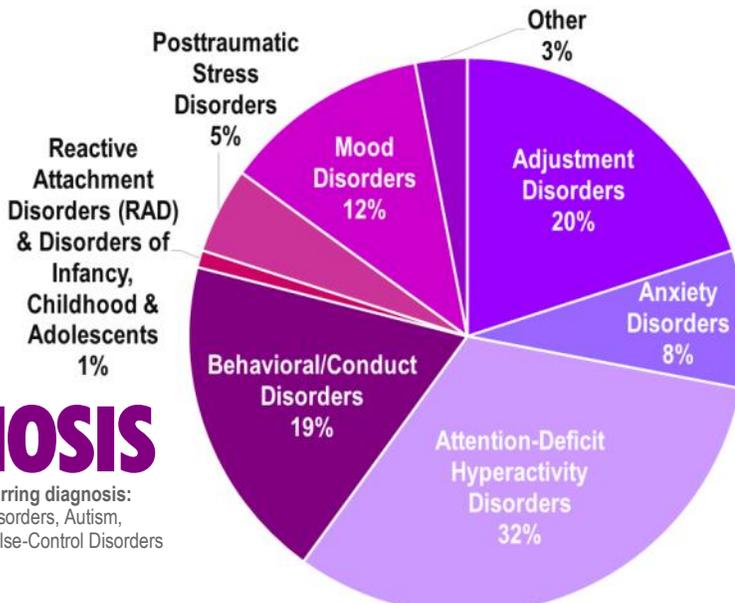
2%
HISPANIC

6%
OTHER
INCLUDES ALASKAN,
NATIVE & ASIAN

DIVERSITY

DIAGNOSIS

*OTHER Includes reoccurring diagnosis: Sleep disorders, Eating Disorders, Autism, Learning Disabilities, Impulse-Control Disorders



* DIAGNOSIS DATA DOES NOT INCLUDE HELP ME GROW

*RACE DATA DOES NOT INCLUDE HELP ME GROW

our programs & services

FOSTER CARE



TRADITIONAL & TREATMENT FOSTER PLACEMENT

YAS provides family and therapeutic foster care services to youth ages 0-18 in and around the central Ohio region. Foster parents with Youth Advocate Services are specifically trained to provide a safe and therapeutic environment for children and teens of all races, genders and socioeconomic status'. Masters-level licensed clinicians provide ongoing and crisis support to foster parents. Clinicians also deliver home-based counseling and CPST services to foster youth in order to achieve positive outcomes and continued success. Program staff, clinicians, and foster parents work collaboratively with the custodial agencies of youth in care to achieve their case plan goals. Youth Advocate Services actively recruits interested foster/adoptive families in the local community throughout the year. Parents attend Pre-Service training and complete a home-study to become a licensed foster family. YAS offers licensed foster parents monthly on-going training opportunities as well as annual dinners, holiday events, and picnics.



ADOPTION

YAS supports those who are interested in adopting by providing the necessary training to prepare them for adoption as well as providing a thorough adoption home study. YAS also provides pre- and post- adoptive counseling as well as respite support to families that are growing their family through adoption.

EMERGENCY SHELTER CARE

Through this contract YAS provides short term placement housing to youth in crisis. Youth are placed in a Treatment Foster Home and assessed for needs to assist the youth with a plan to successfully discharge. The goal of this program is to provide a safe home, quickly assess youth's needs, and recommend the appropriate setting for each youth in order to ensure their success.

COMMUNITY RESPITE

YAS provides respite to at-risk families in the community through our Family Foster Homes as well as our Therapeutic Foster Homes. Through this program, families in our community are able to utilize respite in order to maintain their children in their home in order to prevent their children from being placed in foster care or another higher level of care. YAS provides both short term and long term respite for children and teens.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR FOSTER PARENTS

OUR DEDICATED FOSTER PARENTS ARE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE YAS TEAM. WE GREATLY APPRECIATE AND RESPECT THEIR ONGOING COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE A SAFE, NURTURING HOME TO A CHILD OR YOUTH IN NEED AND THE TIME AND PERSEVERANCE IT TAKES TO BE A FOSTER PARENT.



our programs & services

HELP ME GROW

EARLY INTERVENTION

The Help Me Grow Early Intervention Program is a home visiting program for children 0-3 with developmental delays or diagnosed medical conditions likely to result in developmental delays. YAS Service Coordinators assist in providing developmental evaluations for children to identify needs and linkage to Early Intervention services if recommended. The service coordinators assist families in learning about additional community resources to help meet other needs. Service coordination ensures the Individualized Family Service Plan is complete and up to date. Service Coordinators also provide parent education regarding child development.



HOME VISITING

The Help Me Grow Home Visiting Program began in July 2010, replacing the old At Risk program. It is a home visiting program for children of first time parents who are prenatal or under six months of age and at risk for developing developmental delays. Children under the age of 3 with one parent on active military duty are also eligible for Home Visiting. Home visitors provide parent education using the Parents As Teachers Curriculum and

assist families in linking with community resources and other programs that may be helpful to their family. The home visitor is a support to the family and assists them in helping make sure that their child is developmentally on target.

HOME-BASED MENTAL HEALTH



YAS serves children in over 200 schools in Franklin County, Richland County, and surrounding areas by addressing needs that present both in the home and in the school. Referrals often arise out of behavior management issues in the classroom as well as other needs that present as children acclimate to school and other life stressors or changes. Licensed clinicians meet with children and their families as well as school personnel in order to best identify and meet the needs of the client. YAS clinicians strive to empower families to identify their own goals. Together, families and clinicians set goals and celebrate successes large and small. YAS is able to provide individual, family, and group counseling as well as community support and psychiatric services.



2014 highlights

SATISFIED CLIENTELE

94% HELP ME GROW

86% FOSTER CARE

92% MENTAL HEALTH

90% OVERALL CLIENT SATISFACTION



\$14,615

RAISED AT THE 4TH ANNUAL CAR SHOW

20 HOMES

WERE LICENSED AND ADDED TO OUR FOSTER CARE NETWORK



200+ SCHOOLS SERVED



4 ADOPTIONS

OVER 70 FOSTER CHILDREN RECEIVED GIFTS AT OUR ANNUAL SNOWFLAKE FESTIVAL, GRACIOUSLY DONATED BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY.



JOINED STATE-WIDE PILOT PROGRAM

The YAS Help Me Grow (HMG) Home Visiting Team was asked by the Ohio Department of Health to take part in a nine month long Home Visiting Collaborative Learning Network, comprised of only 8 agencies throughout Ohio.

90 CLIENTS DISCHARGED

FROM OUR FOSTER CARE PROGRAM WITH AN AVERAGE OF

8.9 MONTHS

IN SERVICE

BUCKEYE COMMUNITY HEALTH

DONATED 24 HAMS & 6 TURKEYS TO GIVE TO OUR FAMILIES

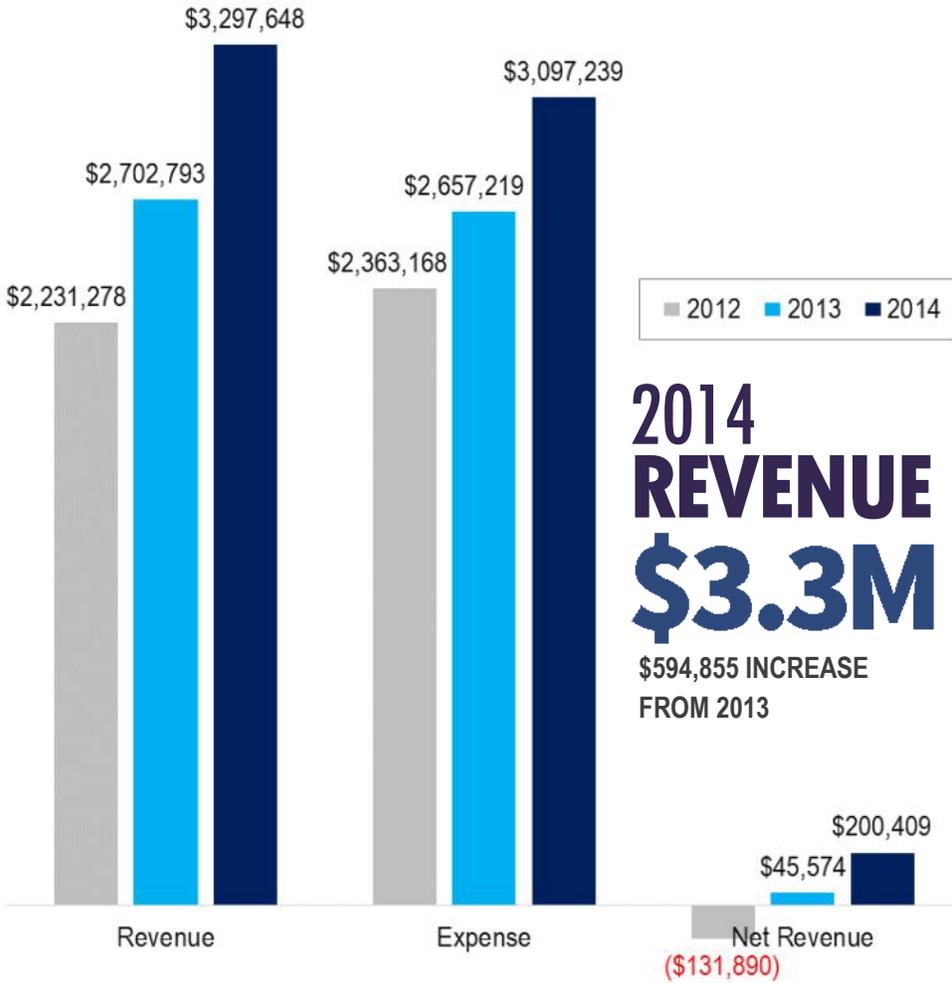


131  **SUCCESSFUL DISCHARGES**

FROM OUR MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM



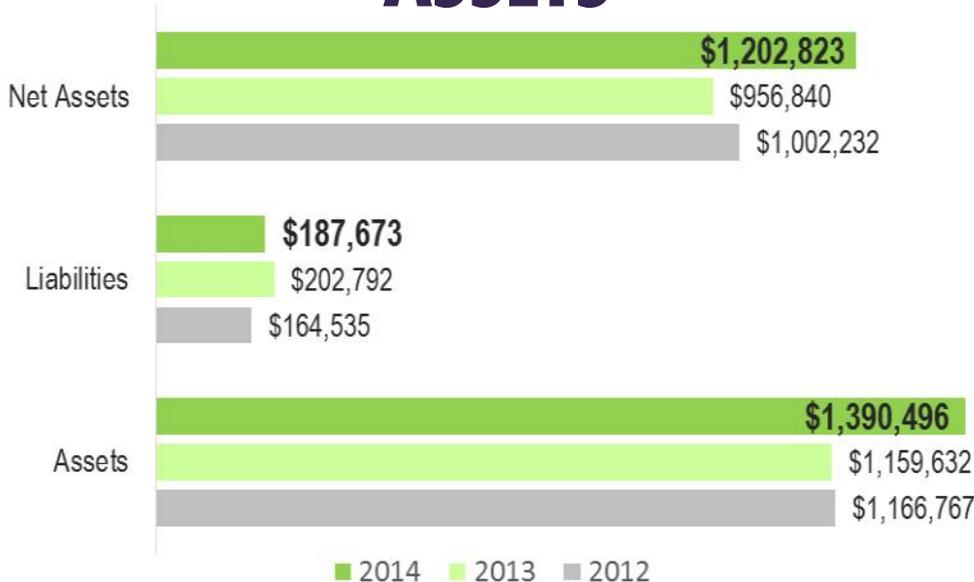
financial highlights



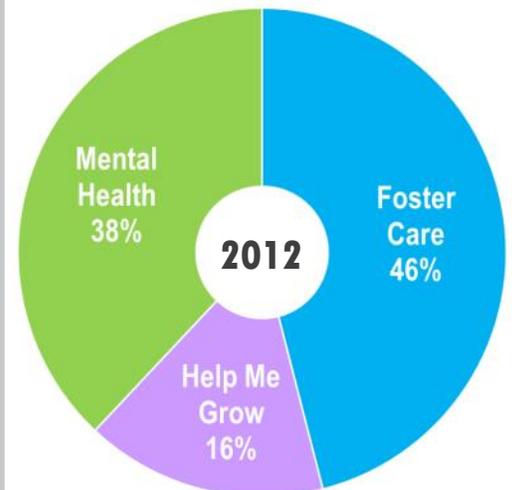
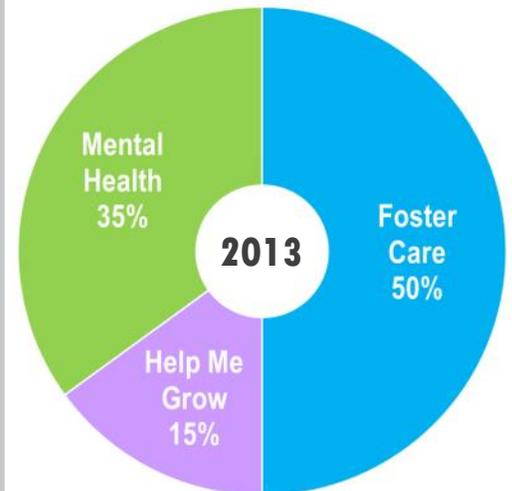
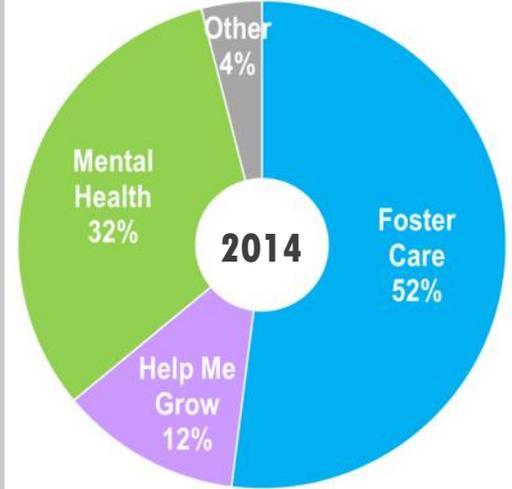
**2014
REVENUE
\$3.3M**

\$594,855 INCREASE
FROM 2013

ASSETS



REVENUE BY PROGRAM





thank you to our 2014 SPONSORS & DONORS

ACTIVE EDGE CHIROPRACTIC
AD FARROW MOTORCYCLES
AFFILIATED RESOURCE GROUP
AKADA SALON
AUTOZONE
AVOLA LANZA HAIR STUDIO
BARNES & THORNBURG
BASF
BASI ITALIA
BIG BURRITO
RESTAURANT GROUP
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BLAGOI'S INTERNATIONAL
CAR SERVICE
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BUCKEYE COMMUNITY
HEALTH PLAN
BUCKEYE HALL OF
FAME GRILL
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CHEESECAKE FACTORY –
POLARIS
CINCINNATI MUSEUM
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CINCINNATI REDS
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CLEVELAND BROWNS
CLINTONVILLE AUTO
REPAIR SERVICE
COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS
COLUMBUS CHILDREN'S
THEATRE
COLUMBUS FUNNY BONE
COLUMBUS LASER SPA
BY PREMIER
COLUMBUS MUSEUM
OF ART
COSI CENTER OF SCIENCE
& INDUSTRY
COWLIN INSURANCE FOR
HAGERTY CLASSIC CARS
CROWN CHRYSLER JEEP
DODGE RAM DUBLIN
DESTINATION GRANDVIEW
DEWEY'S PIZZA
DIGITAL SOUNDWAVES, LLC
DONATOS PIZZARIA
DUBLIN ROAD AUTO CARE
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EVOLVED BODY ART
FARMERS INSURANCE
FIGLIO RESTAURANT
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FRISCH'S RESTAURANTS, INC.
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THRILL CENTER
GRANDVIEW AREA
CHAMBER
GRANDVIEW DENTAL CARE
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FIRE DEPARTMENT
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FITNESS
JAMIE GENTRY OF
ENTERPRISE ADVISORY GROUP
JEAN BOHAN
JEGS
JESSICA MCMILLEN
KABUKI BODY ART
KENNETH'S HAIR SALONS
& DAY SPAS
MAYOR KENT STUDEBAKER
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LEMONFREE.COM
LGR REALTY
LIVINGSTON UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
LOOPS
MAD LAB
MAGIC MOUNTAIN
FUN CENTERS
MARK WILL
MEISTER'S BAR
MERRILL LYNCH
MILLER'S ALE HOUSE –
COLUMBUS
MITTS ICE
MOOMOO CAR WASH
NED SEGELKEN
NEWPORT AQUARIUM
NORTH HIGH BREWING
NURTUR THE SALON
OCCASIONALLY CUSTOM
CORRESPONDENCE
OHIO ROOF COMPANY
PATHWAYS FINANCIAL
CREDIT UNION, INC.

MEMBERS FIRST BRANCH
PATHWAYS FINANCIAL
CREDIT UNION, INC.
POWERCO BRANCH
PAUL & KAY MARSHALL
REFECTORY RESTAURANT
& BISTRO
RENDEZVOUS HAIR SALON
RICART AUTOMOTIVE
GROUP
RIFE'S AUTOBODY
RIFE'S MARKET
ROCK AND ROLL HALL OF
FAME AND MUSEUM
ROCKMILL BREWERY
ROCKY BOOTS
ROSCOE VILLAGE
FOUNDATION
SHADOWBOX LIVE
SNOW TRAILS
SPLATTER PARK PAINTBALL
STUDIO MOVIE GRILL -
ARENA GRAND
STUDIO VON HASENBALG
SUMMIT RACING
EQUIPMENT
SUNNY 95 MEIJER
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VINO VINO
WALT DISNEY WORLD CO.
WASCO
WESTERN RESERVE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2015 YOUTH ADVOCATE SERVICES **LEADERSHIP TEAM**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TRACEY IZZARD

MA, MBA, LPCC-S, LICDC-SC, LSW

ADMINISTRATIVE

GLENN RICHARD

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & BILLING

JOCELYN HASENBALG

PERFORMANCE & QUALITY IMPROVEMENT COORDINATOR

MAKAYLA FISHER

EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

FOSTER CARE

KA'DAI CRAIG

MSW, LISW –S
PROGRAM MANAGER

LISA CHAKROFF

MSW, LSW
CLINICAL SUPERVISOR

HELP ME GROW

SARAH COCHEY

BS, EIS
PROGRAM MANAGER

MENTAL HEALTH

KRYSTAL MARTIN

MSSA, LISW-S
PROGRAM MANAGER

MATTHEW KSIAZK

MSW, LSW
CLINICAL SUPERVISOR

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JON MCKNIGHT**

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES



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