



Youth Advocate Services

2012 Annual Report



Our Mission:

To support children, youth, and families to realize their potential, hopes, and dreams.

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 Motto:

Promoting Positive Futures

Our Programs & Services:

Foster Care (Family & Therapeutic)
Adoption
Emergency Shelter Care
Community Respite
Help Me Grow Early Intervention
Help Me Grow Home Visiting
Community/ SchoolBased Mental Health
HomeBased Mental Health
Independent Living

Our Values:

We believe the family is an institution.

We believe ALL children have the right to be in a safe, secure, family-centered environment.

We believe that sound, culturally competent, clinically relevant services should be available and easily accessible to children and families.

We believe the short term interventions we provide should focus on promotion of health, wellness, and self-sufficiency of families.

We believe it is important to use placement ONLY as treatment for children and families.

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 Story:

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 35 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.

In recent years, YAS has branched out and now:

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

This strategic growth and expansion of services led to a need for larger office space, and YAS recently moved to 825 Grandview Avenue, one block north of the Grandview Avenue Exit off of I-670. The new YAS location provides better facilities, training space and opportunities for foster parents, children, families and staff. It enables YAS to continue and build on its tradition of serving thousands of children and families in our community.

Our 2012-2013 Board of Trustees:

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Dear Friends of YAS,

On behalf of Youth Advocate Services (YAS) I would like to thank you for your continuing support of our agency. So many great things happened this year we are excited to share. We appreciate your support to advance our mission “to support children, youth, and families to realize their potential, hopes and dreams.” Through our 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 we have seen many lives changed for the better.

The year of 2012 has been a full and exciting year for us at YAS. Every day, our Clinicians, Home Visitors, and Service Coordinators are providing needed services and supports to over 1,087 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 increased the number of families who joined the YAS network from 17 in 2011 to 27 in 2012. Additionally, YAS was able to provide placement for 117 foster youth in a YAS licensed foster home. These youth remained in care for an average of 6.21 months, and the majority of them had a successful and planful discharge to their family, a kinship provider, host home, emancipation, or adoption. 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, where we welcomed our new Foster Care Program Manager, Lindsay Stone, to YAS. Georgia and Joe Durroh were honored too, as our Foster Parents of the Year. We celebrated our families again in December during our Annual Snowflake Festival where guests enjoyed a holiday meal, gifts donated by Insight Global and the Gap, holiday movies, holiday crafts, and pictures with Santa.

YAS also added a Home Visiting to its Help Me Grow Program and was successfully awarded a direct contract with the Ohio Department of Health in order to provide home visiting services to children and their families in Central Ohio. In 2012, the new Home Visiting Program served 73 children and their families in addition to the 350+ clients served through the Help Me Grow Early Intervention Program in 2012. The YAS Help Me Grow Program continues to achieve high client satisfaction scores from its clients and has continued to provide high quality service throughout the year demonstrated by successful audits.

The YAS Mental Health Program continues to partner with both Columbus City Schools, Groveport, and Whitehall City Schools. Currently, YAS Mental Health Clinicians are providing needed behavioral and mental health counseling to children in over 98 schools in Central Ohio serving 498 students. Additionally, YAS continues to be a Qualified Provider of Homebased and Independent Living Services to the department of Youth Services. In 2012, YAS also accepted over 50 referrals from Franklin County Children’s Services for intensive Homebased and/or Aftercare Mental Health Services through the Therapeutic Intervention and Aftercare Contracts.

YAS was also selected by the William J. and Dorothy K. O’Niell Foundation as the recipient of a \$14,000 grant in 2012. This grant has given YAS the ability to implement SharePoint as part of a technology upgrade in documentation management project. This project allows Youth Advocate Services to further our mission of keeping children safe and families together while reaching their fullest potential by having access to clinical data and creating clinical documentation in the community where the clinical services are being provided. This award allows YAS to implement a SharePoint Server to house our full electronic medical record, provide the background for an interactive intranet and improve the delivery of clinical services by providing a platform of real time data that can be used with clients directly in the community.

The major fundraiser this year was our 2nd Annual Youth Advocate Services All-Class Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show presented by Rife’s Autobody. This event was judged a success by sponsors, participants and spectators and helped raise over \$10,000 for the children and families served by our agency. This event was held in conjunction with the City of Grandview Heights’ Mayor Ray DeGraw’s Community Party. A vehicle parade through The City of Grandview Heights followed the event.

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 customer service and quality care 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 2013.

Best regards,

Tracey Izzard

Our Programs & Services

Foster Care

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 homestudy 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.

S.A.I.L. Succeed At Independent Living

The S.A.I.L. (Succeed At Independent Living) program is for youth ages 10-21 referred by The Ohio Department of Youth Services and others. It provides comprehensive, youth centered, family inclusive strength based services at the youth's home and in the community. YAS Clinicians provide individualized, asset-building independent living skill development with the goal of preparing youth for self-sufficiency within the community and to become more prepared to meet the requirements of responsible citizenship.

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 also assist families in learning about other community resources to help meet other needs. Service coordination also includes ensuring the Individualized Family Service Plan is complete and up to date. Service Coordinators also provide parent education regarding child development.

Help Me Grow 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.

Community/ SchoolBased Mental Health

YAS serves children in 98 schools in Franklin County 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.

HomeBased Mental Health

Franklin County Children's Services (FCCS) has put its trust in YAS to provide services to some of the most difficult cases with the hope of maintaining them in the home or helping them be successful following residential treatment. YAS works closely with families and FCCS staff to provide wrap-around treatment in order to meet the complex needs of the client and family and prevent the need for out-of-home placement. Clinicians, again, provide leadership and direction towards improvement and success. Clients presenting the need are also able to see the YAS psychiatrist on staff.

Our 2012 Events

Foster Parent Banquet

Youth Advocate Services (YAS) celebrated this year's many successes at the YAS Annual Foster Parent Banquet held June 19th, 2012 at Berwick Manor. Tracey Izzard, Executive Director of Youth Advocate Services welcomed guests to the dinner and introduced new Foster Care staff. Ed Miner, Training & Licensing Coordinator gave the



invocation and introduced this year's newly licensed foster parents. Lindsay Stone, Foster Care Program Manager presented foster parents with flowers designed and created by current foster children. Flowers described what the children were most thankful for or most loved about their foster parents. Children put everything from "they feed me good" to "they took me in when no one else would." YAS also honored Georgia and Joe Durroh as the Shining Star Foster Parents of 2012 for their extensive work maintaining a challenging sibling group and commitment to the program through providing needed transportation to YAS foster parents. Those also honored were the Youth Advocate Services 2012 graduating seniors who have not only travelled a long road, but successfully reached this pivotal accomplishment in their lives. Much of the time these successes don't occur without a stable loving family committed to seeing the child through to the end, and for those parents, we call them the "Heart of our Mission." These parents were recognized with the help of Foster Care Clinician Audrey Bradshaw who had the privilege of working with these special foster parents.

2nd Annual All-Class Car & Motorcycle Show presented by Rife's Autobody

The major fundraiser this year was our 2nd Annual Youth Advocate Services All-Class Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show presented by Rife's Autobody. This event was judged a success by sponsors, participants and spectators and helped raise over \$10,000 for the children and families served by our agency. This event was held in conjunction with the City of





Grandview Heights' Mayor Ray DeGraw's Community Party. The Youth Advocate Services 2nd Annual All-Class Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show presented by Rife's Autobody was held on Sunday, September 23rd from 12:30pm-5:00pm on Goodale Boulevard & Grandview Avenue in front of Wyman Woods. Attendees of enjoyed viewing custom and vintage vehicles as well as

children's activities, bounce house, face-painting, a DJ from Digital Sound Waves, Dave and Buster's Prize Wheel, free ice cream from the Sunny95/Meijer Treat Truck, a corn-hole tournament and more! The Mayor's Community Party will feature live music in Wyman Woods by the band Little Professors, free root beer floats and a city touch-a-truck event including Grandview's own vintage fire trucks. State Representative Ted Celeste (D-24th District) was welcomed as the celebrity judge. A vehicle parade up through The City of Grandview Heights followed the event.



Winter Snowflake Festival



Foster, adoptive, and staff families joined together for the annual Snowflake Festival held on December 12, 2012. Along with dinner, families were able to participate in a number of activities including ornament making in the Elves Workshop, a Holiday Movie at Tinsel Town Theater, and of course pictures with Mr. and Ms. Clause and their furry "sidekick" Chloe. Insight Global donated a number of gift cards to Youth Advocate Services thus allowing the agency to provide gift cards for all children living in a foster home including foster, adoptive, and biological children. Overall, it was a great evening that allowed current and perspective foster/adoptive families an opportunity to enjoy good food and company during the holidays.

Thank You to Our 2012 Sponsors

Presenting Sponsor:

Rife's Autobody

Premier Sponsors:

Affiliated Resource Group

Baker Concrete Construction

Barnes and Thornburg

Dublin Road Auto Care

Inviting Conversations Sundays 6:30-7:30am on Sunny95

Structured Employee Benefits of Ohio

Elite Sponsors:

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Infiniti of Columbus

Kristy Smeltzer of Merrill Lynch

Lauterbach and Eilber, Inc.

Members First Branch of Pathways Financial Credit Union

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Edward Segelken, Esq.

Safeguard

Thank You to Our 2012 Donors and Community Supporters

2Shea Creative	Harley Davidson
7up	KOBO
Arena Grand	Mac Worthington
AutoZone	Mad Mex
Bed Bath and Beyond	MAG
Build a Bear	Magic Mountain
Cameron Mitchell	Matt the Miller's
CAPA	Meijer/ Sunny 95 Treat Truck
Catering by Scott	Newport Aquarium
Cincinnati Museum Center	Rendezvous
Columbus Crew	Scotty's Café
Columbus Laser Spa	Snow Trails
Columbus Museum of Art	Splatter Park
Comfort Photography	State Representative Ted Celeste (D-24th District)
Dave and Busters	Sterling Fundways
Digital Sound Waves LLC	Target
DK Diner	Technicare
Donatos	The Cheesecake Factory
Evolved	The Munchbox
Funny Bone	The Oilery
GFS	United Skates of America
Grandview Chamber of Commerce	Vital Film Works
Grandview Heights Fire Department	VSA
Graters	Wal-Mart

Our Accomplishments of 2012

- YAS was awarded a \$14,000 grant from the William J. and Dorothy K. O'Neil Foundation which gives YAS the ability to implement SharePoint as part of a technology upgrade for our documentation management system
- YAS partnered with students from DeVry University in 2012 to complete an internal outcomes database project. This database will be utilized to monitor individual client clinical progress from intake to discharge, guide the referral assignment process, and guide the direction of future staff trainings, the database also provides the ability to monitor client satisfaction across programs

WILLIAM J. AND DOROTHY K.



- YAS raised over \$10,000 this year during its 2nd Annual All-Class Car, Truck, & Motorcycle Show presented by Rife's Autobody. This year's car show doubled in size from 50 to over 100 registered vehicles from all over Ohio including vehicles from as far as the Dayton, Mansfield, Cambridge, and Cincinnati areas
- 117 foster youth found homes in YAS' foster care network this year
- 71% of youth served in Foster Care in 2012 were assessed at a treatment level of care; 29% of youth were assessed as a traditional level of care
- The average length of stay in Foster Care at YAS in 2012 was 6.21 months, and the majority of discharges from Foster Care were planned. When discharges from are planned ahead of time, outcomes for children are much improved
- 40% of youth discharged from YAS Foster Care this year reunified with their biological family; 11% of discharged youth entered into a kinship placement with relatives, 5% of discharged youth entered into a host home placement with their

foster family, 3% of discharged youth emancipated, and 1% of discharged youth were adopted

- YAS reached out to over 13,000 people for foster/adoptive parent recruitment throughout the year at events such as the Baby Bonanza & Kid's Expo, Franklin County Children's Services Provider Fair, Lazy Daze of Summer Festival, Pastors Appreciation Breakfast, Reynoldsburg Tomato Festival, Stonewall Columbus Pride Festival, Westerville Arts Festival, and the Youth Advocate Services 2nd Annual All-Class Car, Truck, & Motorcycle Show presented by Rife's Autobody



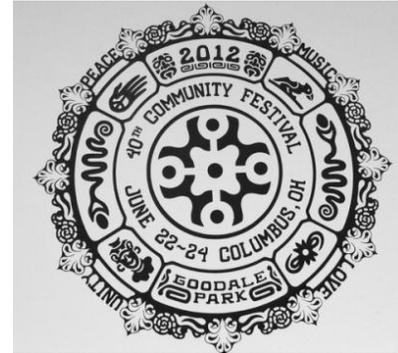
- In 2012, the YAS Training Program offered 74 hours total of monthly training opportunities for current YAS Foster Parents on a range of topics including: First Days, Compassion Fatigue & Self-Care, Disruptions & Conclusions, Mental Health Issues, Levels and Types of Care, Crisis Management & De-escalation, Resource Management, and Foster Parent Ethics
- The YAS Training Program held its two-day Annual Spring Training Weekend March of 2012 with special guest speakers Robin Seymour-Hicks from the Department of Public Health, Robert Caldwell from The Center for Urban Poverty Solutions, and Mandi Pierson from the Youth Advocate Services Mental Health Department
- This year the YAS Training Program provided new this year, a “Constructing Compassion” Class Series for Foster Parents based on nonviolent communication led partially by staff, but also by foster parents who served as facilitators
- The YAS Training Program also offered preservice training four times this year in the Columbus area, as well as once in the Mansfield area, for Future

Foster/Adoptive Parents to attend on their journey to becoming Foster/Adoptive Parents at YAS

- YAS continued their commitment to increasing the number of quality foster homes in Ohio for youth in need by recruiting, training, and licensing 27 new YAS foster/adoptive families this year. 63% of these families were newly licensed, and 37% of families transferred to YAS from other agencies
- YAS currently has 54 foster families in the following locations: Columbus, Reynoldsburg, Mansfield, Pickerington, Bexley, Whitehall, Pataskala, Lockbourne, Groveport, Powell, Gahanna, Canal Winchester, Westerville, Delaware, Columbiana, and Youngstown
- YAS approved 4 families as “dually licensed” in 2012. Dually licensed families (sometimes referred to as “foster-to-adopt families”) are approved to care for foster children and/or for children who are able to be adopted. The family has an active foster care license as well as an approved adoption homestudy
- YAS Mental Health and Foster Care Programs added and diversified staff in 2012 to adapt to the increasing demands and changing needs of the community
- YAS Mental Health Program provided needed mental/ behavioral health services to 498 children and families in Central Ohio this year
- YAS Mental Health Program accepted 232 new admissions into the program in 2012. Of these, 78% were accepted into the Community/Schoolbased Program, 16% were accepted into the intensive Homebased Therapeutic Intervention Program, 6% were accepted into the Residential Aftercare Program, and 1% was accepted into the Early Childhood Mental Health (ECMH) Program
- The YAS Mental Health Program served children and their families from 98 schools in Central Ohio in 2012 including 5th Avenue Alternative Elementary, Alum Crest High School, Asbury Elementary, Beechwood Elementary, Binns Elementary, Cedarwood Alternative Elementary School, Dana Avenue Elementary, Duxberry Park Alternative Elementary, East High School, Etna Road

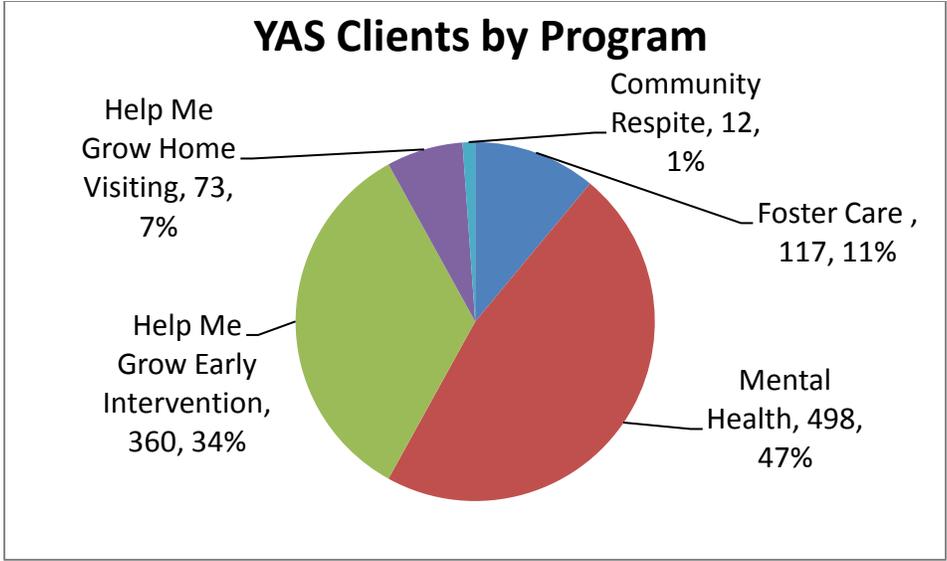
Elementary, Imagine Groveport Community School, Hamilton Elementary, Kae Avenue Elementary, Madison Elementary, North Linden Elementary School, Parsons Elementary, Rosemore Middle School, Imagine Academy at Sullivant, Watkins Elementary, and Whitehall-Yearling High School

- The YAS Mental Health Program was awarded a grant from The Community Festival (ComFest) Grants Program in 2012 which funded the YAS Summer Girls' Group. The group addressed such mental health topics as social skill development, character building, and community involvement through volunteering and activism

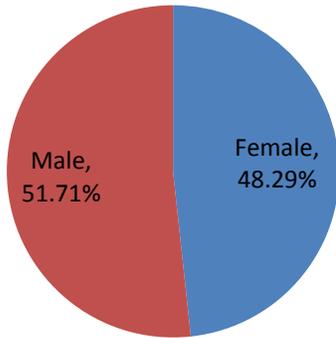


- YAS Mental Health Program and successfully discharged 154 clients from the program in 2012. The average length of time receiving services for the year was 240 days or 8 months
- This year, YAS was awarded a direct contract with The Ohio Department of Health to provide Help Me Grow Home Visiting Services to children and families
- In 2012, YAS' Help Me Grow Early Intervention Program served over 360 children and families, and the Help Me Grow Home Visiting Program served another 73 children and families in Central Ohio
- YAS Help Me Grow Program staff have increased their clinical skill level by obtaining their Early Intervention Specialist Certification
- The YAS Help Me Grow Program, Mental Health Program, and Foster Care Program continue to receive high satisfaction results from client satisfaction surveys. The average client satisfaction in the Foster Care Program was 83%, in the Mental Health Program average client satisfaction was 94%, and in the Help Me Grow Program client satisfaction averaged at 91% for 2012

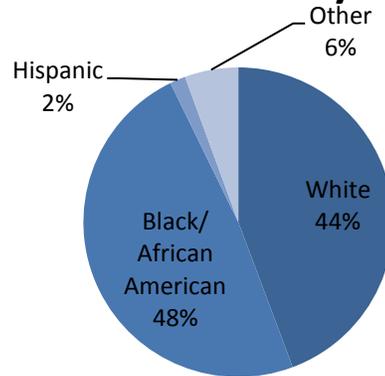
YAS Clients by Program



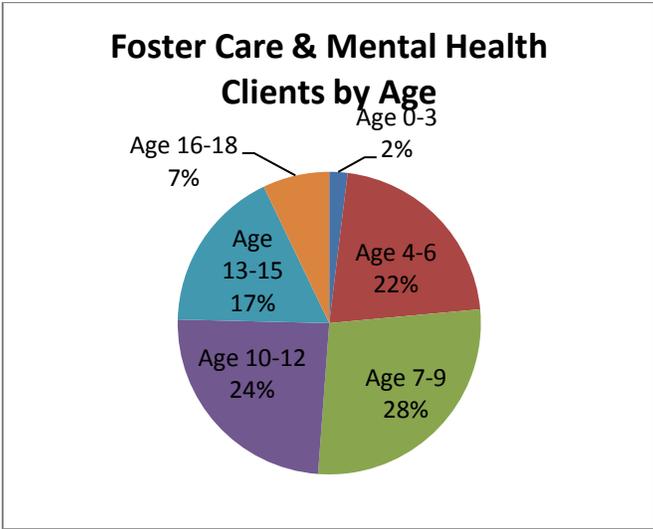
Foster Care & Mental Health Clients by Gender



Foster Care & Mental Health Clients by Race



Foster Care & Mental Health Clients by Age



YOUTH ADVOCATE SERVICES
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

June 30, 2012 and 2011

ASSETS	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 801,763	\$ 819,623
Accounts receivable:		
County and other agencies	243,900	353,101
Prepaid expenses	<u>26,451</u>	<u>24,030</u>
Total current assets	<u>1,072,114</u>	<u>1,196,754</u>
Property and equipment		
Leasehold improvements	21,982	21,982
Land and building(net)-pending auction	-	-
Furniture and fixtures	72,954	70,150
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(19,972)</u>	<u>(9,986)</u>
	<u>74,964</u>	<u>82,146</u>
Other assets		
Deposits	<u>12,554</u>	<u>12,554</u>
	<u>\$ 1,159,632</u>	<u>\$ 1,291,454</u>
 LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 55,355	\$ 72,285
Grant payable	22,595	-
Accrued payroll and payroll taxes	<u>124,842</u>	<u>131,531</u>
Total current liabilities	<u>202,792</u>	<u>203,816</u>
 Net assets - unrestricted	 <u>956,840</u>	 <u>1,087,638</u>
	<u>\$ 1,159,632</u>	<u>\$ 1,291,454</u>

YOUTH ADVOCATE SERVICES

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITY

Year Ended June 30, 2012 and 2011

UNRESTRICTED

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
Support:		
Franklin County Children Services/other placements	\$ 999,239	\$ 1,374,045
Help Me Grow Grant	349,002	421,351
Mental Health	821,642	834,215
Contributions	14,673	51,294
Training revenue	40,812	54,700
Other income	5,910	0
	<u>2,231,278</u>	<u>2,735,605</u>
Expenses:		
Program expenses		
Foster Care	\$ 1,013,550	\$ 1,107,420
Help Me Grow	349,195	422,464
Mental Health	780,072	661,196
General and Administrative	214,675	451,391
Fund-raising expenses	5,676	1,714
	<u>2,363,168</u>	<u>2,644,185</u>
Operating income (loss)	(131,890)	91,420
Other income and (expenses):		
Realized loss on investments/assets	-	(192,987)
Interest income	1,092	882
	<u>1,092</u>	<u>(192,105)</u>
Increase (decrease) in net assets	(130,798)	(100,685)
Net assets, beginning of period-unrestricted	<u>1,087,638</u>	<u>1,188,323</u>
Net assets, end of period-unrestricted	<u>\$ 956,840</u>	<u>\$ 1,087,638</u>

“From my very first encounter with Help Me Grow to my exit letter, I have been nothing but thrilled! Throughout our learning and growing process everyone was kind, gentle, knowledgeable, and professional. Each of you were delightful as you enriched our lives!” – **Parent of a child in the YAS Help Me Grow Program**

“YAS addresses referrals in a timely manner and there is never a wait list for clients to be seen. The clinicians at YAS have become a positive addition to the Whitehall community. Youth Advocate Services has shown dedication and creativity when working with our students. They are always willing to partner with schools of other agencies as more complex needs arise.” –**Janice A. Carlson, PCC-S, LSC, Rosemore Middle School**

“I feel my specific situation is understood and valued. I feel appreciated.” –**YAS Foster Parent**

“The organized and caring staff (are) very helpful and resourceful in all aspects of foster care.” –**YAS Foster Parent**

“Help Me Grow has been instrumental in our son’s successes and I, as a Mom, will forever be grateful” –**Mother of a child in the YAS Help Me Grow Program**

“The responsiveness of the Clinicians is great, fast and helpful” –**YAS Foster Parent**

“We have been very pleased with the services provided to the students at Imagine Groveport Community School. I am confident whenever making a referral to YAS that the student will receive high quality services in a timely fashion. The families in Groveport have expressed gratitude that their kids can get help in such a convenient way. Additionally, it has been refreshing to see clinicians willing to keep trying when students come up against barriers. They provide invaluable services for families and have enabled our students to reach new successes.” –**Cynthia Kleinhenz M.Ed., NCAP, Imagine Groveport Community School**



“As a COA accredited agency, Youth Advocate Services has evidence that it adheres to national standards of best practice. For over 33 years, it has been a valuable resource to the Central Ohio community and has assisted many families through difficult situations and has promoted positive outcomes. We are pleased to be associated with such a wonderful association.” –**Richard Klarberg, President and CEO of Council on Accreditation**

“The training is regularly available and informative.” –
YAS Foster Parent

“As an educator, it is heartwarming to see the positive changes that many of our students have made with the help of the professional staff of YAS. They share our concern for children and the obstacles they often face. By helping our students improve their behaviors, our mutual educational goals can be attained.” –**Judith Dobbert-Meloy, Superintendent of Whitehall City Schools**

“The counselors at YAS have proven both knowledgeable and dedicated. Regardless of the intensity of the cases, YAS clinicians have met the challenges as they arise. I trust YAS to provide the best care possible to the families I refer to them. I appreciate the services they provide to the community.” –**Jennifer Windnagel, MSE, School Counselor of Parsons Elementary School**



YOUTH ADVOCATE SERVICES

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www.yasohio.org
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