



**Fairfield County  
Board of County Commissioners  
Lancaster, Ohio**

**Press Release, for immediate release December 9, 2014**

*Fairfield County Job and Family Services*

*Aundrea N. Cordle, Director*

*Kristi Burre, Deputy Director of Protective Services*

**Fairfield County Job and Family Services Receives Two State Grants for Child Protective Services**

Lancaster, Ohio – The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services recently requested applications from child protective services agencies across Ohio for one-time Efficiency and Innovation fund grants, totaling \$6.8 million. The state allowed each county to apply for \$250,000; additionally, counties could apply jointly for another \$250,000. The state received a total of 83 applications and chose only 51. Fairfield County submitted two grant proposals and is pleased to announce that the state awarded both grants to the County.

The Visitation Services to Promote Permanency grant, totaling \$139,955.38, is an innovative approach to child welfare visitation, designed to reduce the time to achieve reunification and permanency for children. This particular model emphasizes visitation as a case service, requiring specialized staff with dedicated visitation caseloads. Using this model allows increased frequency of visits and parent education services.

In partnership with Perry County Children Services, the Therapeutic Capacity Beyond County Borders grant, totaling \$233,185.92, promotes enhanced mental/behavioral health service delivery and expedited diagnostic psychological assessments for children, youth, and adults linked with the Fairfield and Perry County child protection systems. This concerted effort to identify case-specific treatment for individual, family, and wrap-around services considers the time-sensitive and often crisis-driven nature of child welfare.

The Visitation Services to Promote Permanency and the Therapeutic Capacity Beyond County Borders grants will lead to more positive outcomes, better child safety, and informed decision-making for permanency for children in Fairfield County. Deputy Director of Protective Services, Kristi Burre, states, "The efforts that went into the development and organization of these two programs are the result of months of work and collaboration with community partners. We are excited to begin implementing new services for children and families."

For further information about the grants, please contact Keely Pearce at [Keely.Pearce@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:Keely.Pearce@jfs.ohio.gov) or 740.652.7892.

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