

Gallia*, Athens, Jackson, & Meigs Counties

Judge Thomas J. Moulton, Jr.,
Judge Robert W. Stewart,
Judge Stephen Michael,
Judge L. Scott Powell

Program Snapshot

(As of June 30, 2016)

Gender:

Male 76.5%, Female 23.5%

Race/Ethnicity:

White 94%, African American 3%, Other 3%

Age Range:

12-17

Offense Level:

Felony, Misdemeanor

Youth Re-offense Risk Level:

Moderate & High

Screens & Assessments:

Ohio Youth Assessment System (OYAS)
Wraparound Fidelity Index (WIFI)
Adverse Childhood Experience (ACES)

Program Start Date:

July 1, 2015

Received Services:

34 Youth and Families

Program Completion Successes:

6 Youth & Families
23 Youth and Families Continuing into FY 2017

Average # of Service Units:

31.78 Direct Service Hours Per Successful Youth

Program Partners:

- Juvenile Courts: Athens, Gallia, Jackson, and Meigs Counties
- Ohio Department of Youth Services
- Woodland Centers, Inc.
- Health Recovery Systems, Inc.
- Family and Children First Councils in Athens, Gallia, Jackson, & Meigs Counties
- Gallia-Jackson-Meigs Board of ADAMHS
- Job and Family Services in each county
- Integrated Services in all four counties
- Hopewell Health Centers
- Wing Haven

Program Name

Family Coach

Program Intervention

Family Coach/Wraparound

Primary Service Location

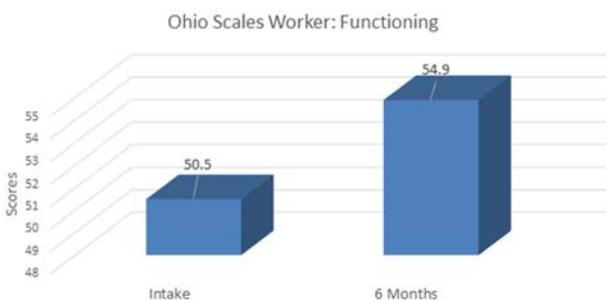
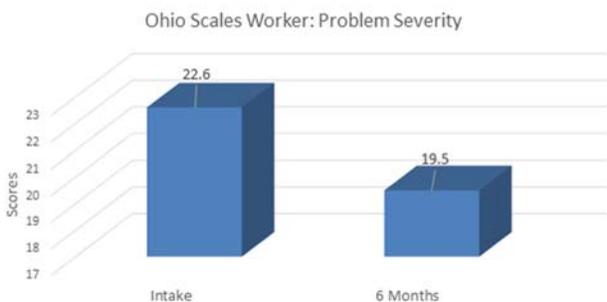
In-Home

Program Description

This project takes a regionalized approach using Family Coaches within all four counties to keep youth in their home as well as their communities. A Family Coach is assigned to each participating county and coaches engage youth and families referred by the juvenile court. Coaches are trained in several evidence based practices such as Moral Reconciliation Therapy, Strengthening Families, and Dialectical Behavior Therapy, and determine the best approach for each youth and their family. The regional partners selected this approach in an effort to reduce out of home placements, reduce recidivism, and increase positive community outcomes for participants. Youth and families are taught to recognize possible problems and how to better alleviate those issues through improved communications and decision making skills.

Outcomes

The program is designed to improve behavioral health outcomes for participating youth as measured by the Ohio Scales. Lower scores on Problem Severity indicate fewer problems, while higher scores on Functioning indicates better functioning. After six months in the program, youth reported improvements in both Problem Severity and Functioning scores.



Program Information Contact

Gallia County Juvenile Court
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Lessons Learned

The program must be willing and able to be flexible in order to make small adjustments to meet the needs of the students and their families to the best of our abilities.

We have had difficulties figuring out how work with students and families that are involved with both Competitive RECLAIM as well as ENGAGE. The difficulty was figuring out what roles the Family Coach and FCFC would play in the families lives. I believe we have made great strides in figuring this out and what works in each county.

Gallia County Early Successes – Family Coach

“The Family Coach has helped to reduce our recidivism rates by 60% among its participants”

Thomas S. Moulton, Jr.
Gallia County Juvenile Judge

“Mother has been more engaged with treatment and now has a plan to keep youth in the home.”

Jessica Tackett
Probation Officer Jackson County

“Since SH has entered the program, he has passed every class and his attendance has been great. He only had one discipline issue, and even then he was honest and cooperative. He is a positive addition to our school and a role model for what you can do if you submit to the program and want to really improve your life.”

Richard Stephens
Assistant Principal/Athletic Director
River Valley High School

“The grant has brought in monies that wouldn’t have normally be available to these families. I sometimes struggle with my role in the RECLAIM grant and what is really expected, but I work closely with the family coach, and attend team meetings, which helps to get all providers on the same page about these kids.”

Wendy Shields Athens County FCFC & ENGAGE Coordinator

“For the first time Sebastian seems to believe in a more positive future story”.

Chris Wallis
Probation Officer
Jackson County Juvenile Court

“The services provided by the Family Coach are supportive to the family, court, and schools. It increases quality direct service to family driven needs.”

Nancy Hill
Chief Probation Officer
Meigs County Juvenile Court

Youth Success Story (Athens County) - Client # 150829 has shown improvement in several aspect of life. When this client first entered the program she was living in her parent’s house where the youth had no supervision, no rules or consequences, no electric and no running water. She was placed on probation for truancy and drug charges. The client was put in her grandmother’s custody. She has been diagnosed with mild depression and ADHD. Now that she is out of her parents’ house, life has greatly improved for her. Through the family coach program, we have been able to provide her with case management, mental health counseling, family coaching, and family counseling. She is now on antidepressants, and reports feeling more hopeful about her own life. Through this grant, the family coach has been able to provide this youth with proper fitting clothing, an Easter basket, recreational activities, gas cards for the family, and help with tutoring for her GED. This youth is now goal oriented and is driven to get her GED and then go on to the adult technical program. The client has made good choices for herself, including getting a summer job. With this program the family coach was also able to refer the family to a kinship navigator, who is a support for the client’s grandma.

This client laughs more, and has said to the family coach several times how much happier she is with the way her life is heading. She admits that she still struggles somedays, but feels more confident she can remain sober and on the right track because of the support she has. The client’s grandma has made several comments to the family coach about how the youth is now cooking, and cleaning up the house, and “is making strides towards a better life for herself, away from the drugs, towards a good life.”

Youth Success Story (Gallia County) – SH - services were offered in June however client and mother relocated to another county due to housing difficulties and/or mom's legal problems. Mother and client were housed in a shelter but due to mom's outstanding warrants and court orders she was placed in a drug rehabilitation program. Upon mom's entrance into Rehab-Grandmother gained guardianship of student. Referral and releases were sent to the facility in Athens county however services were not provided until client returned to Gallia County in September under grandmother's care and guardianship. Client enrolled in county school district and has been involved in team meetings and family coach services. Prior to grandmother having custody, client attended City School District with main participation being in Alternative School, Client had a hx of poor attendance, inappropriate behaviors, legal problems and a poor support system. The Family Coach makes contact weekly with client, grandmother and school. Grant was able to assist client with necessary items at home due to personal property being lost or discarded upon mom's move. Client is exhibiting pro-social behaviors, improved academics and attendance, development of empathy and appropriate peer relationships, communication and conflict resolution skills. Client's overall mood is more positive, presents with improved self-esteem and decision making. His attendance improved dramatically. Client went from 6th grade level at enrollment to 10th grader at end of school year. He was invited to play football which has instilled school spirit, a sense of belonging and overall improvement. He provides valuable insight to others during group and appropriate feedback. Client is now visiting with mother weekly.

Youth Success Story (Jackson County) –

Client #131667 is our most prominent success story with improvements in all areas of his life. When the client entered into the Family Coaching program, he continued his use of alcohol and drugs, received new charges on a weekly basis, and ran away from home with no contact for as long as two weeks at a time. The client and his family have engaged in all aspects of treatment including wraparound services, mental health counseling, drug testing, case management, mentoring, and family coaching. The client has been passing his weekly drug screens, attending all scheduled sessions, and taking an active role in his treatment.

The team assisted the family with transportation to the Job and Family Services office so that the client could complete his interview and orientation. This was positive for the family as the client was able to buy his own school clothes and now assists his mother as needed to be able to feel more independent. The client also has received needed dental care to repair missing teeth. He states that “I now have my smile back and that makes me happy.”

The team has noticed major improvements in the client's behavior at home and in the community. The client is now able to have healthy relationships and to express his feelings without lashing out and running away. He now focuses on his goals of staying sober, making new positive friends, and continuing his education. He also hopes to get a job, obtain driving privileges, and successfully complete his term of probation.



Youth Success Story (Meigs County) - 16-year old AE completed the terms of his probation. He quit smoking pot for the duration of probation, and brought his grades up. He is currently seeking a job and helping his girlfriend take care of their 3 month old infant girl. He is proud of his baby and plays an active father role (watching at night and diaper changing!) He can be seen in his town, pushing a stroller down the sidewalk, arm in arm with his girlfriend, and a couple buddies tagging along.

Program Success Story - The original goal of this program was to reduce the recidivism rate for students in the four county area that score moderate to high risk on the OYAS. We have been very fortunate with initial outcomes that we are seeing up to this point with the reduction being in the 60-75% range. We have seen whole families begin to change their family culture and move towards more pro social behaviors. We have also had the opportunity to connect parents with the resources they need to help them overcome their own issues. In other words, we have not just seen a reduction of recidivism in our juveniles but also in some of our parents through the help and guidance of the Family Coach. Our coaches have had numerous trainings that include 40 Developmental Assets, Strengthening Families, Bridges out of Poverty, OYAS, Trauma Informed Care, as well as others. With all these tools available to them they are a tremendous asset to the family and also the court staff. Our motto for our students and families that we tell them often is "Do not allow your past to define your future." Then we give them the tools to make the necessary changes and guide them through that time. I also tell my coaches that if you don't experience heartache and disappointment then you probably are not doing your job. We are pleased and excited to see what the future holds for this program.

Lessons Learned

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