



# Statewide Child Maltreatment Needs Assessment and Evaluation Services Project

David Murphey, Ph.D

Kristine Andrews, Ph.D

Lori Delale-O'Connor, Ph.D

Dylan Knewstub, B.A.

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## Our Mission

Child Trends seeks to improve outcomes for children by providing research and analysis to the people and institutions whose decisions and actions affect children:

- Programs that serve children and families
- Policy makers
- Foundations and philanthropists
- The media

## What We Do

- Track & analyze trends and identify emerging issues
- Evaluate programs and policies
- Provide data-driven, evidence-based guidance on policy and practice
- Design and analyze surveys
- Create new measures of child wellbeing
- Design and conduct qualitative studies
- Summarize, synthesize and communicate research literature
- Help inform the nation's research agenda for children

## Child Trends' Expertise

Our researchers work in a wide range of issues and areas:

- Early childhood development
- Youth development
- Education
- Health and mental health
- Child poverty
- Child welfare
- Fertility & Family structure
- Parenting
- Fatherhood
- Marriage



# **Assessing County-Level Risk for Maltreatment**

## Selecting Risk Factors

**No single predictive model for maltreatment, but a number of factors known to be associated with higher rates of child abuse and neglect, including:**

- Poverty
- Teen parenting
- Single parenting
- Parents' drug abuse
- Parental mental health issues

## County Risk Indicators Used in This Analysis<sup>1</sup>

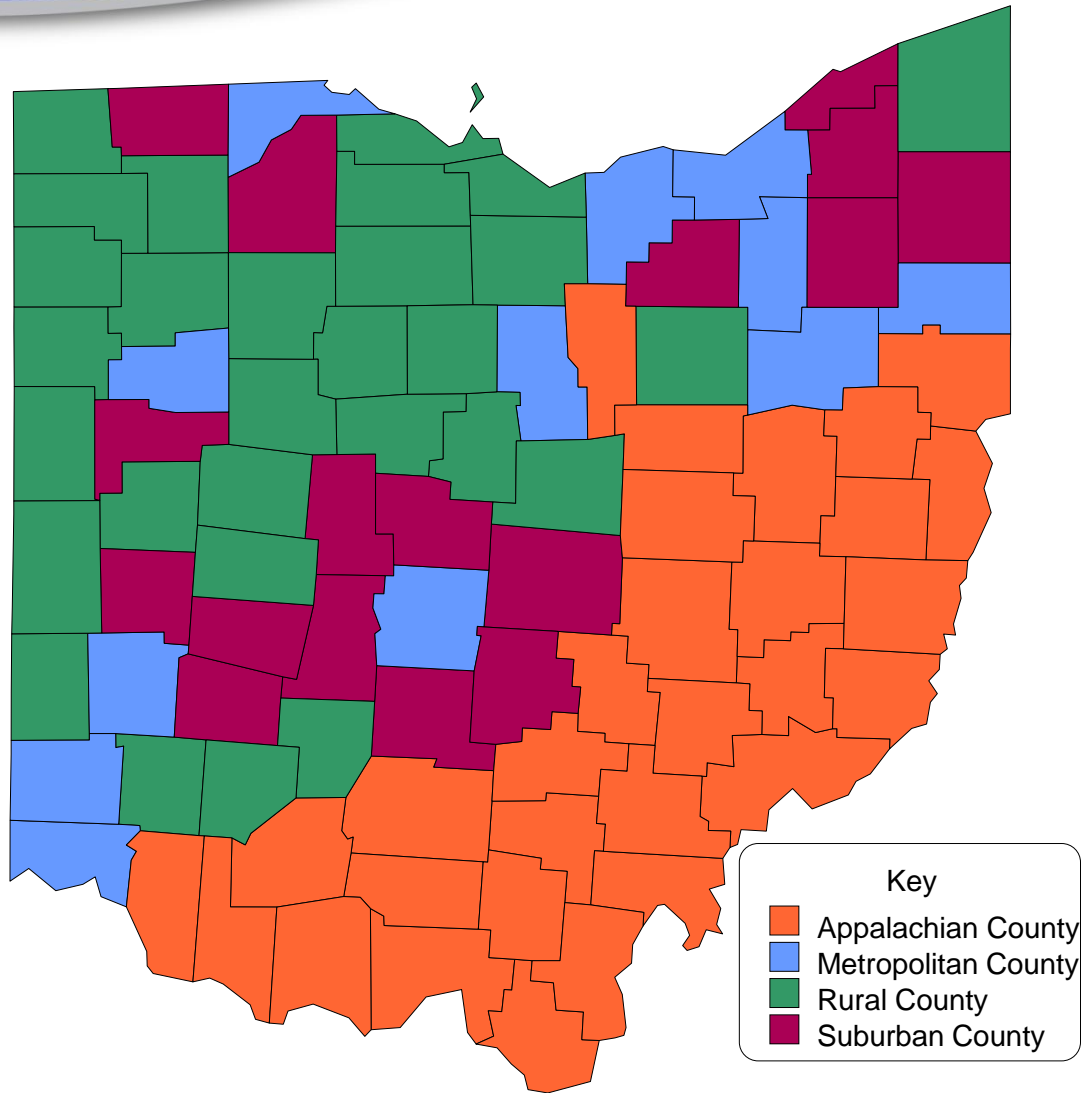
- **2009 maltreatment rates  
(# unduplicated allegations per child population)**
- **2008 rates of child poverty**
- **2008 per-capita income**
- **2008 rate of teen births  
(per 1,000 females ages 15-19)**

<sup>1</sup> Data from 2010-2011 PCSAO *Factbook*

## Methodology

- **Separately examine four types of counties— Appalachian, Rural Non-Appalachian, Metropolitan, and Suburban.**
- **Within each county type, for each risk indicator, compute *mean* value, and *standard deviation*.**
- **Identify counties that are more than one *standard deviation* above or below the *mean*.**





## Counties “High” on Risk, According to *Maltreatment Allegations* Indicator, by County Type

Appalachian	Rural Non-Appalachian	Metropolitan	Suburban
Monroe Hocking Clermont Guernsey Athens	Marion Ashtabula Champaign	Richland	Portage Lake Trumbull Madison

## Counties “High” on Risk, According to *Child Poverty* Indicator, by County Type

Appalachian	Rural Non-Appalachian	Metropolitan	Suburban
Athens Vinton Adams	Marion Ashtabula Hardin Clinton Huron	Lucas Mahoning	Trumbull Pickaway Portage

## Counties “High” on Risk, According to *Per-Capita Income* Indicator, by County Type

Appalachian	Rural Non-Appalachian	Metropolitan	Suburban
Noble Vinton Morgan Meigs Holmes Perry	Hardin Morrow Crawford	Stark	Pickaway Trumbull

## Counties “High” on Risk, According to *Teen Births* Indicator, by County Type

Appalachian	Rural Non-Appalachian	Metropolitan	Suburban
Pike Jackson Ross Adams	Marion Fayette Clinton Wyandot	Richland	Pickaway Miami

## Methodology (continued)

- **Create composite risk-scores within each county type**
- **Total risk-score is the number of indicators on which the county met the risk criterion (0 to 5, where maltreatment rate was weighted twice as high as the other three indicators)**

## Counties “High” on *Composite Risk Measure*, by County Type

<b>Appalachian</b>	<b>Rural Non-Appalachian</b>	<b>Metropolitan</b>	<b>Suburban</b>
Athens	Marion Ashtabula	Richland	Trumbull Pickaway Portage



# **Assessing County-Level Funding Related to Maltreatment**



# Methodology

- Look at total of federal, state, and local expenditures, as reported by PCSAO
- Compute per-child-capita expenditures using child population estimates
- Separately examine four types of counties—Appalachian, Rural Non-Appalachian, Metropolitan, and Suburban.
- Within each county type, compute *mean* value, and *standard deviation*.
- Identify counties that are more than one *standard deviation* above or below the *mean*.

# Expenditures on Child Maltreatment Services, by County Type

Appalachian	Rural Non-Appalachian	Metropolitan	Suburban
<p><b>Highest per-capita (children) expenses:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athens</li> <li>• Pike</li> <li>• Noble</li> <li>• Jefferson</li> <li>• Belmont</li> <li>• Guernsey</li> </ul>	<p><b>Highest per-capita (children) expenses:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinton</li> <li>• Ashtabula</li> <li>• Marion</li> <li>• Crawford</li> </ul>	<p><b>Highest per-capita (children) expenses:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Franklin</li> <li>• Cuyahoga</li> </ul>	<p><b>Highest per-capita (children) expenses:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trumbull</li> <li>• Licking</li> <li>• Clark</li> <li>• Greene</li> </ul>
<p><b>Lowest per-capita (children) expenses:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Holmes</li> <li>• Brown</li> <li>• Carroll</li> <li>• Lawrence</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lowest per-capita (children) expenses:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Warren</li> <li>• Van Wert</li> <li>• Putnam</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lowest per-capita (children) expenses:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lorain</li> <li>• Allen</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lowest per-capita (children) expenses:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delaware</li> <li>• Auglaize</li> <li>• Medina</li> </ul>

# Expenditures on Child Maltreatment Services, by County Type

-  = High Risk
-  = Average Risk
-  = Low Risk

Appalachian	Rural Non-Appalachian	Metropolitan	Suburban
<p><i>Highest per-capita (children) expenses:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Athens</li> <li>● Pike</li> <li>● Noble</li> <li>● Jefferson</li> <li>● Belmont</li> <li>● Guernsey</li> </ul>	<p><i>Highest per-capita (children) expenses:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Clinton</li> <li>● Ashtabula</li> <li>● Marion</li> <li>● Crawford</li> </ul>	<p><i>Highest per-capita (children) expenses:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Franklin</li> <li>● Cuyahoga</li> </ul>	<p><i>Highest per-capita (children) expenses:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Trumbull</li> <li>● Licking</li> <li>● Clark</li> <li>● Greene</li> </ul>
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## Caveats . . .

- It is not clear, on the basis of our current knowledge, what the relationship between risk and expenditures “should” be
- If funding is a *response* to risk, then *higher*-risk counties should receive more
- However, if funding has been intended to *reduce* risk, then those counties receiving more should be *lower* in risk

## Going deeper . . .

- Can expenditures be categorized as *prevention versus protection*?
- Is there *evidence of effectiveness* for funded programs?
- What is the quality with which programs are implemented?
- What is your *theory of change* about what it will take to “turn the curve” on maltreatment?



# **Needs Assessment Survey**

# Introduction

## Child Trends on behalf of Ohio Children's Trust Fund (OCTF)

- Conduct a statewide needs assessment of child maltreatment prevention services
- Identify primary & secondary prevention needs across the state and by county
- Identify gaps and barriers to service provision



# Data & Methods



# Approach

- **Maltreatment Risk Profile**
  - Representative subsample
  - PCSAO Factbook indicators
- **County Types**
  - Appalachian—Athens
  - Metropolitan—Richland
  - Major Metropolitan—Cuyahoga
  - Rural—Marion
  - Suburban—Trumbull

# Sample Collection

## ■ Survey Content

- Program history
- Services offered
- Barriers & facilitators to service
- Data systems
- Population served
- Funding sources
- Client retention
- Program context

## ■ Initial Contacts

- Child Advocacy Center
- Ohio Family and Children First Coordinator
- Children's Services Agency

## ■ Snowball sample (referrals)

# Sample Overview

## Interviews by County

<b>Athens</b>	<b>N=8</b>
<b>Cuyahoga</b>	<b>N=14</b>
<b>Marion</b>	<b>N=5*</b>
<b>Richland</b>	<b>N=3*</b>
<b>Trumbull</b>	<b>N=7</b>

## Overall

**N=36 Interviews**

# Data Analysis

- **Compile data**
  - Descriptive (qualitative) data
  - Trend (quantitative) data
- **Overall description**
  - Prevention efforts & Programming
  - Barriers & Facilitators to service
- **County-by-county overview**



# Findings

# Ohio Maltreatment Prevention Summary

- **Primary Early Intervention:** Parent education; Resources & Referrals; Child education; Home visiting; Parent support groups
- **Primary Preventive:** Brochures & fliers; Informational booths; Posters; School curricula; PSA's
- **Data:** Most (25) agencies collect & use data with own system.
- **Client Needs:** Agencies are modifying programming & offering alternate locations in response to client needs.
- **Limitations:** Agencies indicate that funding and recruitment/retention are their primary barriers.
- **Facilitators:** Partnerships & community support help to facilitate client recruitment and service provision

## County Service Summary: Athens

**N=8**

- **Population served:** 90%+ white
- **Participants:** ~50% female; ~50% single (few data available)
- **Program target(s):** Poverty; Rural; Low income neighborhoods; 1<sup>st</sup> time parents; Teen parents; Single parents; Families with children in foster care

## County Service Summary: Cuyahoga

**N=14**

- **Population served:** 75-85% African American
- **Participants:** 70-100% female; 85-90% single
- **Program target(s):** Poverty; Low income neighborhoods; 1<sup>st</sup> time parents; Teen parents; Single parents; Parents receiving treatment for substance abuse, domestic violence, or mental health; Individuals with disabilities



## County Service Summary: Marion

**N=5**

- **Population served:** 90%+ white
- **Participants:** 55-60% female; 50-55% single
- **Program target(s):** Poverty; Unemployed; Low-income neighborhoods; Teen parents; Single parents; Parents receiving substance abuse or mental health services; Individuals with disabilities; Families with children in foster care

## County Service Summary: Richland

**N=3**

- **Population served:** 75-80% white
- **Participants:** 55-75% female; 55-60% single
- **Primary program target(s):** Poverty; Unemployed; Homeless; Teen parents; Single parents; Families with children in foster care; Individuals with disabilities

## County Service Summary: Trumbull

**N=7**

- **Population served:** Varies though primarily white (50-85%)
- **Participants:** 50-100% female; 50-90% single
- **Program target(s):** Poverty; Low-income neighborhoods; Unemployed; Rural; Homeless; 1<sup>st</sup> time parents; Teen parents; Single parents; Parents receiving domestic violence services; Families with children in foster care

# Primary Prevention Efforts by County

	County					
	Athens	Cuyahoga	Marion	Richland	Trumbull	All
<b>Public Service Announcements</b>	6	6	3	3	5	21
<b>Informational Brochures/Fliers</b>	8	13	5	3	7	35
<b>Informational "Booths"</b>	8	13	5	3	6	34
<b>Posters</b>	4	9	3	3	4	22
<b>Television Ads</b>	1	1	1	2	2	9
<b>Radio Ads</b>	3	2	2	2	1	13
<b>Internet Ads</b>	0	3	2	0	2	9
<b>Infant Crying Education</b>	4	4	3	3	3	16
<b>School-Based Curricula</b>	5	8	3	2	4	22
<b>Other</b>	1	8	1	1	1	12

Primary Prevention Effort

# Prevention Programs by County

Program Offered

	County					
	Athens	Cuyahoga	Marion	Richland	Trumbull	All
Parent Education	7	14	4	3	5	32
Parent Support Groups	3	7	3	3	4	19
Parent/Child Interaction or Play Groups	4	6	2	2	4	17
Self-Advocacy	6	5	1	3	3	17
Fatherhood Programs	1	2	0	1	2	6
Planned and/or Crisis Respite Care	3	4	1	1	2	11
Homeless/Transitional Housing	2	4	0	0	2	8
Resources and Referrals	8	11	4	3	7	32
Family Resource Center	2	4	0	0	1	7
Skill Building/Education for Children	5	12	3	2	5	26
Adult Education	0	2	0	0	1	3
Job Skills/Employment Prep	2	2	1	1	1	7
Pre-Natal Class	1	5	2	0	0	8
Family Literacy	1	3	1	1	2	7
Marriage Strengthening/Rep	0	3	0	0	0	3
Home Visiting	7	9	4	3	3	25
Other	3	8	2	1	1	15

# Barriers & Challenges to Service

- **Funding**
  - Majority report funding decreases
  - Waiting lists
  - Cutting programs and/or staff
- **Lack of community/client understanding**
- **Client retention**
  - Transportation
  - Motivation
  - Chaotic lives

# Facilitators & Adaptations to Service

- **Community support**
- **Centralized location**
  - Public transportation (19 are close to stops)
  - Services
- **Program expansion**
  - New/modified programming (50 percent)
  - Alternate locations (e.g. in-home services)
- **Agency partnerships**
- **Broader services**



# Conclusions



# Implications

## Need for:

- Service expansion
- Assistance cultivating partnerships
- Increased awareness of the need for preventive (not just response) services
- Strategies for decreasing stigma of service for at-risk families

# Assessment Limitations & Challenges

- **Data Collection**

- Time limits
- Referrals
- Response & Follow up

- **Analysis**

- Representativeness of data
- Limitations of data source (survey)

## Possible Next Steps

- **Expand coverage using survey instrument**
- **Literature review to identify effective programs**
- **Identify EBP already in place**



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**Contact information:**  
**Sharon Vandivere**  
**svandivere@childtrends.org**  
**202-572-6044**

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[Twitter/childtrends](https://twitter.com/childtrends)

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