

# ALLEN COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES

## 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

### Permanency For Allen County Children



#### Spotlight On ACCS



Allen County Children Services took center stage Friday, September 19th, at the annual PCSAO Conference in Columbus, when NBC-Lima's Stephanie Davis was presented with the "Journalist of the Year" award. Davis received the honor for improving the public's understanding and awareness of child protection with her series "Innocent Victims". Davis is pictured above with ACCS Executive Director Scott Ferris and Supervisor of Ongoing West, Karen Martin.

Dear Community Member:

In 2008, Allen County Children Services staff worked diligently to help children achieve stability in their lives. During the year, 91 children were placed into ACCS custody and 111 children left the court ordered custody of ACCS. A snapshot of this data shows that on January 1, 2008, there were 150 children in care and 127 children in care on December 31, 2008. Still, during the year, 241 children spent at least one night in ACCS custody.

Permanency for a child looks very different for each child. Many children were safely reunited with their biological family. Other children went to permanently live with a grandparent or other relative. For 20 Allen County children, a forever family petitioned the court and finalized their adoption. These outcomes for children: adoptions, the safe reunification of children to their families and the custody and guardianship awards to relatives could not have happened without the hard work and support of ACCS caseworkers, substance abuse and mental health counselors, mentors, parent educators, Guardians ad Litem, Juvenile Court staff and many other partners that are a part of our community safety net.

On behalf of the Allen County Children Services Board and its staff, I thank you for your never ending efforts to protect, nurture and support our community's children.

Scott H. Ferris, MPA, LSW  
ACCS Executive Director

The **MISSION** of **Allen County Children Services** is to protect children by supporting and strengthening families in partnership with the community.

## Adoptions Up In 2008

It was a record year for adoptions in Allen County. Children Services helped facilitate 20 of them. An adoption awareness campaign included radio advertisements featuring the voices of Pastor Lamont Monford and NBC Lima anchor Mindy Pauris, interviews on television, an article in the Lima News and a display at the Lima Public Library. An adoption program hosted by Henry Winkler was shown several times on GTV2 during November, Adoption Awareness Month. The agency also hosted an open house and reception for adoptive parents at which time Allen County Commissioners issued a proclamation.



Greg & Kim Dray adopt Isabella Bradley, Rebecca Bradley and Hope Wisecup.

## New Agency Logo Unveiled



For more than a year, Allen County Children Services searched for a new logo to represent the agency. Area school students and agency employees were asked to submit ideas. Finally, 17 year old Andy Allen, a junior at Shawnee High School, who attends Apollo Career Center, came up with a winning design. The logo depicts a family safe inside their home. The design’s meaning can be summed up with the phrase “Home is Where the Heart Is”, said Andy. ACCS is grateful to Andy and his mother Missy Makley, an agency employee, for their contributions. The new logo was unveiled and a certificate and gift card awarded to Andy during the Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Allen County Commissioners.

## 2008 Child Placement Types

*Averaged Monthly Cases*

Allen County Foster Homes .....	66
Other Foster Homes .....	48
Relative Homes .....	16
Non-Relative Homes .....	1
Institutions .....	3
Detention .....	1
Hospital .....	1
Licensed Group Home .....	1
DYS Licensed .....	1
MH Licensed .....	1
Own Adoptive Homes .....	2
Other Adoptive Homes .....	3

## 2008 Reporting Sources

Family/Relatives.....	79
School Personnel.....	64
Medical Personnel.....	99
Social Services.....	105
Neighbor/Friend.....	23
Law Enforcement.....	122
Self/Child.....	25
Other.....	25
Attorney/Court.....	8
Anonymous.....	9
Daycare.....	2
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>561</b>

## 2008 Investigations Conducted

Sexual Abuse.....	132
Physical Abuse.....	147
Emotional Maltreatment.....	53
Supervisional Neglect.....	32
Physical Neglect.....	32
Medical Neglect.....	22
Nutritional Neglect.....	01
Environmental Neglect.....	38
Educational Neglect.....	25
Drug Exposed.....	07
Dependency.....	24
Family in Need of Services.....	30
Mandated Interview.....	15
Courtesy Supervision.....	03
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>561</b>

\*These statistics recognize families served, not individual children.





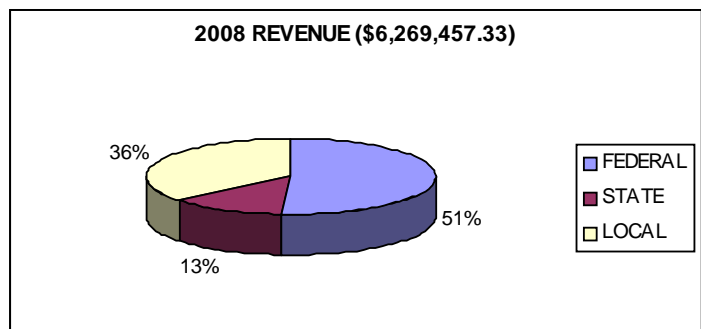
## Longtime ACCS Employee Retires

“There are so many things I have enjoyed doing in my life, but never found the time due to the demands of the job. One of my goals is to record a CD”. After 29 years at Allen County Children Services, Julia Nunez is ready to begin the next chapter in her life. Her last day on the job as Social Services Director at the Agency was November 24th. Julia says she has enjoyed working with children and families and will miss the interaction with peers dedicated to protecting children and strengthening families. However, she is ready to “Start Working At Living Vs. Living At Work.”



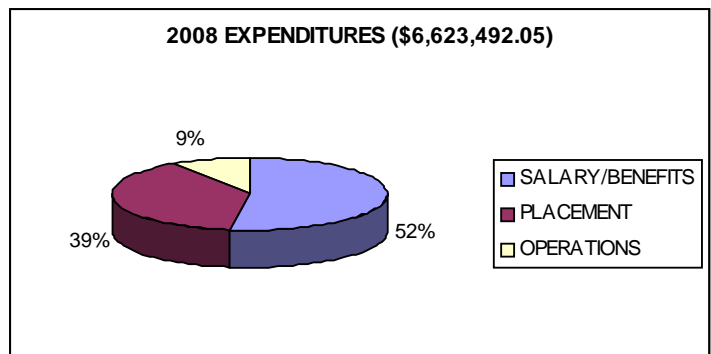
### 2008 REVENUE

FEDERAL	\$3,199,185.01	51%
STATE	\$809,182.20	13%
LOCAL	\$2,261,090.12	36%
TOTAL	\$6,269,457.33	100%



### 2008 EXPENDITURES

SALARY/BENEFITS	\$3,463,862.07	52%
PLACEMENT	\$2,555,481.54	39%
OPERATIONS	\$604,148.44	9%
TOTAL	\$6,623,492.05	100%



## **ALLEN COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES**

123 W. Spring St.  
Lima, OH 45801  
Phone: 419-227-8590

**We're on the Web!**  
**www.allencsb.com**

### **Board of Directors**

Richard Meredith, Retired  
Jennifer Hughes, MSW, LISW  
Donald Brubaker, Professor  
Christine Provaznik, VP SRMC  
Wilbert Cason, Jr., VP SRMC  
Bruce Wells, Allen County  
Josh Ebling, Family Resource Ctr.  
Linda Buckley-Skaja, LCS  
Mary Jane Hawk, Retired  
Greg Garlock, Lima Police Chief  
Missy Roush, LSW, Retired  
Brad Settlege, American Twp.

### **2008 Staff**

#### **Community Involvement**

ACUTE  
Allen Co. Family & Children First Council  
Allen Co. Health Insurance Committee  
Allen-Lima Leadership  
Apollo GRADS Committee  
Black Achievers  
Black Swamp Council of the Boy Scouts  
Bluffton University Social Work Advisory Council  
Board of Trustees of The Arc  
CAST Advisory Committee  
Chamber of Commerce  
Child Abuse Response Team  
Child Fatality Review Board  
Early Childhood Mental Health Committee  
Family Abuse Prevention Team

#### **Administration**

Scott Ferris, Exec. Director  
Jacquelyn Loescher, Director  
Pamela Meihls, Director  
Michelle Vorhees, Director  
Brenda Kidd  
Mike Carpenter

#### **Management Services**

Cindy Prye, Supervisor  
Johanne Hairston  
Donna Guerra  
Jenna DeRose  
Joanne Sidener  
Kim Swallow

#### **Quality Improvement**

Michael Hensley, Manager  
Dena Sunderland  
Sharleen Hartzog  
Sharon Jones  
Kris Romo  
Pam Swickrath  
Bonnie Toth

#### **Intake/Investigations Unit**

Staci Nichols, Supervisor  
Jenny Knippen, Supervisor  
Linda Andrews  
Dave Baldauf  
Seth Bowersock  
Kylee Cramer  
Sharon Fenton  
Ken Gross  
Liz Lengerich  
Amber Litsey  
Amy Murphy  
Bill Pierce  
Sarah Pierce  
Wendy Winder

#### **Family Stability**

Shelly Conrad, Supervisor  
Megan Coffman  
Megan Harmon

Debbie Jamison  
Zerian Peterson  
Sylvia Schulz  
Jan Waltmire

#### **East Family Services**

Brent Bunke, Supervisor  
Sara Bayliff  
Yvonne Cusac  
LaTasha Macklin  
Missy Makley  
Kelly Smith  
Lawrie Warner

#### **West Family Services**

Karen Martin, Supervisor  
Nicole Christy  
Tiffanie Geren  
Abigail Herbst  
LaKenya Johnson  
Amber Martin  
Michelle Miller  
Marion Roach  
Christin Suever

#### **Special Services Unit**

Ericka Boddie  
Elizabeth Dilworth  
Volanda Kirkman  
Nicole Long  
Jessica Parsley

#### **Treatment Unit**

Brad Rabley, Supervisor  
Tobias Adkins  
Lori Hubbard  
Bonnie Monford  
Barb Nichols  
Anna Rex

As of June 1,  
2009



Family Promise  
Girl Scouts of America  
Healthy People 2010  
Help Me Grow Core Committee  
Lima/Allen Co. Housing Consortium  
Lima Exchange Club  
Lima Rotary Club  
Partnership for Violence Free Families

Public Child Safety Assn.  
of Ohio  
Teen Pregnancy Prevention  
Task Force  
\*The staff of Children Ser-  
vices participated in more than  
50 different community pres-  
entations or training events in  
2008.