



**The Center for Family Safety and Healing**  
*2023 Impact Report*



## Message From Our Interim President



With the generous and unwavering support of The Center for Family Safety and Healing's (TCFSH) board, Nationwide Children's Hospital's leadership and community partners, our staff have moved the needle in a remarkable way to actualize the vision to end family violence and create safe and healthy communities. As you read this report, I believe you will be as excited and hopeful about our path forward as we are.

This report describes the many ways our services have touched the lives of those who come to us for care and support and offers a glimpse of what is to come in 2024. I also want to honor our staff and some of the many things they have done. Together, our staff have:

- Received the Community Champions, Advocate for Families and Children award from Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services for efforts as a transformational force in programs and communities.
- Received new funding to provide community-based housing services and technical assistance on trauma-informed care to unhoused survivors.
- Partnered with an organization in Athens County to develop our first satellite Child Assessment Center (CAC), expected to begin in 2024.
- Worked with Nationwide Children's and Franklin County Children Services (FCCS) to implement an electronic platform that brings together child welfare and medical information so almost real-time data can be used to develop safe case plans and provide timely medical care.
- Worked tirelessly across 40 counties to support locally provided prevention activities and home visitation services in eight of these counties.
- Led the state-wide Adolescent and Health Care Resiliency Project and provided education to professionals on trauma-informed guidance for creating safe, supportive connections to trusted adults within the community.
- Soft-launched Green Flags, our new healthy relationships campaign, to provide call, text and chat support to teens seeking information on safe and healthy relationships.
- Hosted, for the first time, a Magnet® Recognition Program for Excellence in Nursing Care certification event, supporting the hospital's success in maintaining longstanding Magnet designation.
- Responded to record numbers of individuals seeking immediate domestic violence safety planning. We are working effectively across the court, law enforcement and child welfare systems to improve timely access.

Last year, we expressed gratitude to Lynn Rosenthal for her leadership. Now, we convey great excitement for our new president, Melissa Graves, who joined us in March 2024. She comes with exceptional experience in family violence and community-based social services, and I anticipate our teams' successes will multiply under her leadership.

Our work is serious business. For the sake of our staff, for the safety of victims and survivors, and for the wellness of families in our community, we need all of you to be on this journey with us. Thank you for your support.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nancy Cunningham, PsyD".

**Nancy Cunningham, PsyD**

Interim President, The Center for Family Safety and Healing

## Melissa Graves Announced as President of The Center for Family Safety and Healing

The Center for Family Safety and Healing (TCFSH) at Nationwide Children's has announced the appointment of Melissa Graves as president, effective March 4, 2024.

Graves is a nationally recognized leader with more than 20 years of experience guiding nonprofit organizations focused on vulnerable children and families. Since 2018, she has served as CEO for Journey Center for Safety and Healing in Cleveland which assists 15,000 women, children and families experiencing child abuse and domestic violence each year. During her tenure at Journey Center, the organization launched the first successful child advocacy center in Cuyahoga County.



“Melissa was the perfect choice among a very impressive national field of candidates,” said Abigail Wexner, chair of TCFSH’s board. “We sought a worthy visionary with proven experience to extend the organization’s legacy of strong leadership. Melissa has expertly led Journey Center in Cleveland which carries a very similar mission, vision and values to The Center for Family Safety and Healing. She has dedicated herself to this space and has proven herself an effective and passionate agent for change. We are thrilled to have Melissa’s expertise at the helm of The Center as she leads this strong multidisciplinary team into the future, accelerating our collective mission to break the cycle of family violence and restore hope.”

From 2002 to 2016, Graves served in a variety of leadership roles at Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area, including nine years as the organization’s chief executive officer. This multi-jurisdictional human services agency serves some of the most vulnerable children and families in the Washington, D.C. metro region through adoption, foster care, refugee resettlement, employment, caregiver support and HIV/AIDS programs.

“I am honored by this opportunity to lead The Center for Family Safety and Healing and serve with this incredibly talented team,” said Graves. “Working at a peer organization within the region has given me tremendous respect for TCFSH as an exemplary leader in family violence intervention and prevention. They have broken new ground in addressing violence across the lifespan, and I am eager to begin working with such smart, dedicated colleagues to serve children and families.”

# 2020-2025 Strategic Plan

*A place for healing. A vision for change.*

For those impacted by family violence, the path to healing can be complex.

**1 in 7**

children have experienced child abuse or neglect in the past year in the United States

**1 in 3**

teens report abuse by a dating partner

**1 in 3**

women

and

**1 in 4**

men

have experienced rape, physical violence and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime

## MISSION

The Center for Family Safety and Healing is dedicated to the well-being of children and families. Together, with our partners and communities, we support victims of family violence and advocate for social change to prevent abuse.

## VISION

End family violence and create safe and thriving communities.

## CORE STRATEGIES



Provide integrated services to children and adults that focus on healing, prevent re-victimization and address racial disparities



Stop perpetration of family violence



Act with urgency to respond to victims



Provide housing and supportive services to victims and families so they can live safely and with self-sufficiency

## Preventing Family Violence and Restoring Hope

TCFSH addresses all aspects of family violence including child abuse and neglect, teen dating abuse, domestic violence and elder abuse. We offer a continuum of research-based prevention, intervention and treatment programs for individuals who have experienced family violence.

Benefits of this integrated team approach include:

- A coordinated response to child abuse and child-welfare involved families through partnerships with law enforcement, child protection services, prosecutors and a wide range of community resources
- A network for domestic violence survivors to access services and support to improve safety and well-being
- An expanded forum for education, advocacy and ongoing research
- Integrated strategies that promote local and regional family violence prevention services



The Center for Family Safety and Healing

## Our Partners in Hope



LSS CHOICES for Victims of Domestic Violence, a Member of the Lutheran Social Services Family



Columbus Division of Police Special Victims Bureau



Franklin County Children's Services



Franklin County Prosecutor's Office



Big Lots Behavioral Health Services at Nationwide Children's Hospital

## 2023 Board of Directors

### **Dallas Baldwin**

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### **Kaydian Comer**

Community Advocate

### **Nancy Cunningham**

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### **Andrew Grossman**

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Vice President, Total Rewards, American Electric Power

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Community Advocate

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Community Advocate

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Community Advocate

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Community Advocate

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### **Abigail S. Wexner**

Founder & Board Chair, The Center for Family Safety and Healing

### **Sue Zazon**

Central Ohio Region President, The Huntington National Bank

# Giving

## Volunteers Engage With Families

Volunteers and community groups continue to support TCFSH. The role of a volunteer includes everything from interacting with children during appointments to coordinating a donation drive for stuffed animals or essential care items like diapers and baby wipes. Learn more about volunteering at [FamilySafetyandHealing.org/Volunteer](https://FamilySafetyandHealing.org/Volunteer).

## Donations Make the Difference

We appreciate the individuals and groups who donated stuffed animals, pajamas, blankets/quilts, toys, diapers and other supplies to TCFSH or purchased items from our Amazon Wish List. Your generous gifts provide comfort, care and healing for our children. Learn more about donating at [FamilySafetyandHealing.org/Donate](https://FamilySafetyandHealing.org/Donate).

**83**  
in-kind  
donations  
received



## Rock 'N Bowl 2023 Raises \$118,477

The Development Board of Nationwide Children's coordinates Rock 'N Bowl, an annual TCFSH fundraising event. In February 2023, more than 600 bowlers participated at the Columbus Bowling Palace and raised \$118,477. Learn more about sponsoring or donating at [NationwideChildrens.org/RockNBowl](https://NationwideChildrens.org/RockNBowl).

**\$118K**  
raised

**600+**  
bowlers

## BalletMet Columbus Donates Tickets for Families

Since 2017, BalletMet Columbus has donated tickets for TCFSH clients and families to experience the arts through their KidTix Program. Sponsors include the Greater Columbus Arts Council, the Ohio Arts Council and The Columbus Foundation.

## More Than 670 People Enjoy a Meal at Holiday Party

Thank you to the Development Board of Nationwide Children's, and other partners, who supported the Maternal-Infant Home Visitation team's clients and families during the holiday season. TCFSH hosted a holiday event for client families at St. Charles Preparatory School. Families took pictures with characters including superheroes and princesses, viewed beautiful holiday lights and decorations and enjoyed a meal. Families also received new pajamas and gingerbread kits.

**670+**  
families  
attended

## Prison Assault Survivors Receive Season's Greetings

TCFSH collaborated with Just Detention International (JDI) to send more than 750 holiday cards to incarcerated survivors of prison sexual assault. This is the second year TCFSH joined the project and expanded its reach across more than six TCFSH departments and 25 volunteers from Capital University.

**750+**  
cards  
distributed

*"Receiving cards from people who support us and from JDI was such a gift. It's like receiving things from family. It got me through the holidays and definitely gave me the strength for yet another day of fighting for my freedom and for safety." - Survivor*





# Excellence in Service

Prioritize excellence in all services for children and adults that focus on healing, prevent re-victimization and address racial disparities

*Excellence in service remains at the heart of everything we do. We strive to fulfill this core value through program quality and growth, operational effectiveness, systems advocacy, partnerships, and culture and wellness.*

## Child Assessment Center (CAC)

The CAC provides responsive and timely medical assessments and interviews for children who may have experienced child abuse as well as supportive mental health services for these children and their caregivers.



**928**  
visits



**899**  
patients served

## Counseling Improves Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine and Birth Control Rates

The CAC continued its focus on quality improvement (QI) initiatives. In 2023:

- The percentage of patients receiving HPV vaccination counseling increased from the baseline of 22% at the start of the project to 96%.
- The percentage of teen girls receiving contraceptive counseling increased from 16% to 55% since launching a project focused on improving contraceptive counseling.

## CAC Meets Each Family's Unique Needs in Clinics

- CAC advocates now address families' urgent mental health needs, like counseling referrals, psychoeducation and support for social determinants of health during clinic visits.
- The CAC now addresses physical abuse and family violence exposure in response to community needs. Collaborating with Nationwide Children's, the CAC coordinates services for families in CAC and Child Assessment Team (CAT) clinics.

## Child Assessment Team (CAT)

CAT is the hospital-based inpatient consultation service for children with suspected child maltreatment.



**815**  
consults provided to  
Nationwide Children's

## Child Assessment Team Clinic (CATC)

CATC is an outpatient clinic for children with suspected physical abuse to receive coordinated follow-up care.



**236**  
patients served

## New CAC to Open in Athens

To provide specialized services to an underserved community, the CAC is working with the Survivor Advocacy Outreach Program (SAOP) to establish a satellite CAC in Athens, Ohio. In 2024, families in this community will be able to receive forensic interviewing and medical services locally.

## Intervention Shows Reduced Recurrent Abuse Reports

The CAT is collaborating with Nationwide Children's child protection coordinator to expand interventions targeting a decrease in recurrent reports of physical abuse throughout the hospital. The CAT's efforts in the clinic have shown a significant reduction in recurrent reports of physical abuse among patients.

## Fostering Connections Program (FCP)

The FCP is a specialty clinic that provides health care services to children and adolescents residing in out-of-home care environments.



**1,878**  
visits



**775**  
patients served

## FCP Selected as Magnet Site

A TCFSH registered nurse led the FCP program to be selected as an American Nurses Association Magnet site during Nationwide Children's site redesignation. In 2023, Nationwide Children's earned the Magnet designation again, showcasing their commitment to health initiatives for youth in out-of-home placement.

## FCP Serves Refugee Children Needing Care

The FCP collaborated with the National Youth Advocate Program's (NYAP) La Jornada program to deliver medical services to children under the care of the Office of Refugee Resettlement's Unaccompanied Refugee Minors program. Focused on the most vulnerable minors, including those who entered the U.S. without a parent or guardian due to violence or abuse, the FCP worked with La Jornada to address their medical needs in a safe, temporary foster home.

## QI Projects Address Health Equity and Transitional Care

With TCFSH's Evaluation and Research team, the FCP created a data dashboard to understand the population they serve, track QI initiatives and identify areas for improvement, including health equity. The FCP is part of a QI project helping foster youth transition to independent living by educating them on health topics and providing tools to manage their health care as young adults.

## New Data Platform Helps Clinicians and Caseworkers Better Serve Youth in Care

The FCP led efforts to partner with Franklin County Children Services (FCCS) to implement Cordata IDENTITY, a platform that securely exchanges information between hospitals and child welfare systems. This technology allows for timely sharing of information to provide optimal health care for youth in protective custody and will facilitate continuity of care and integration of services. The project will launch in 2024.

***“Fostering Connections is an incredible service and program. I love all of the passionate and caring providers/staff. Highly recommend!”***  
***– Program Participant***

## Social Justice Initiatives

Nationwide Children's and TCFSSH are working toward a community where all children and families affected by the justice system can reach their full potential. Black and Brown children are disproportionately and adversely impacted by the criminal justice system. We are engaging with internal and external partners to mitigate these impacts. We are addressing the issue of incarceration in our society through our work with:

- Children in the juvenile justice system
- Children of incarcerated parents

## Providing Medical and Dental Care for Detained Youth

For over 10 years, Nationwide Children's has provided medical care to youth detained in the Franklin County Juvenile Intervention Center (JIC). Youth in detention have:

**10x**  
the rate of sexually transmitted infections as their peers

more than **25%** have a mental health disorder that needs immediate treatment

more than **50%** need dental care

## Care Coordination and Services Help Youth Work Toward Goals

We work to help these youth get much-needed services to help them realize their goals.

- Partnered with the JIC to **expand Nationwide Children's hair equity project** to ensure detained youth have access to haircuts and texturally appropriate hair care.
- Partnered with School-Based Health teams to **provide health education classes** to youth.
- Successfully advocated for hiring **a full-time therapist** to provide one-on-one and group therapy for detained youth.
- Partnered with the Ohio Department of Health to **become a Vaccines for Children clinic**, allowing youth to receive immunizations for free.
- Care coordinators worked with youth while detained and when they are back in their communities to ensure their **health needs are met and family goals are realized.**

**153**  
goals reached

**176**  
youth supported

## Programs and Services Support Families With Incarcerated Parents

Approximately 10 million children have experienced parental incarceration in their lives. Children of incarcerated fathers tend to exhibit behavioral and emotional difficulties. Other family members are subject to emotional, financial and physical stress. TCFSSH is committed to mitigating these stressors by supporting family bonds and providing resources to caregivers.

*"My goal is to bring light to this hidden epidemic and help parents become trauma-informed. I believe being trauma-informed can help every parent and caregiver feel more equipped to respond to stress."*

*- Social Justice Program Coordinator*

- **Provided outreach and services to parents** from the Franklin County Jail, Alvis House and Community Based Correctional Facility (CBCF) as part of a grant with the Franklin County Office of Justice Policy and Programs. Fathers received parenting classes while their families received support to help identify and address needs due to the incarceration.



**45 families supported**

- **Sponsored Developing Positive Parental Influences programming** to help fathers at CBCF confirm or establish reasonable and healthy beliefs regarding personal and family alcohol/drug use or non-use. This course helps participants develop a healthy and informed understanding of alcoholism by learning to recognize it as a disease with effects on family, friends and other relationships.

- **Hosted a Family Engagement Day** for fathers and children to spend quality time together, fostering positive relationships and strengthening bonds. We've created a safe, nonjudgmental atmosphere where families interact, communicate and express emotions freely while enjoying food, music and games. This day contributed to the emotional well-being of fathers and children.

**34**  
fathers  
participated

**69**  
children  
participated

- **Developed and co-facilitated First Fridays for Fathers**, a monthly education session for youth parenting while incarcerated at the Department of Youth Services. The program helped them understand baby and toddler milestones and emotions. They receive diapers, clothes and toys that help support their families.

**46**  
youth  
reached

- **Developed a website, [NationwideChildrens.org/Incarcerated-Parent](https://www.nationwidechildrens.org/Incarcerated-Parent)**, for people interested in or impacted by parental incarceration. This website provides information, tips, resources and a pathway to connect with TCFSH staff for services and support.



## Research and Evaluation

Research and Evaluation supports continuous quality improvement and investigates family violence issues impacting victims across their lifespan and between victims within the family unit.



6

international or national  
conference presentations



28

regional or local presentations



15

publications

### TCFSH Joins Pediatric Research Project to Improve Care for Children of Abuse

Among its research portfolio, TCFSH is dedicated to advancing research on identifying and addressing child maltreatment. This research focuses on using machine learning to accurately detect physical abuse and develop models to identify and assess abusive injuries on radiographic images. As part of CAPNET, a federally funded research network, TCFSH collaborated with 10 pediatric hospitals to collect standardized data on suspected cases of physical abuse. This nurtures research projects aimed at improving the care and safety of abused children and their families. TCFSH's commitment is also evident in the numerous evidence-based publications in peer-reviewed journals.

### Family Violence Research Collaborative Connects Researchers and Providers

TCFSH continues to use a unique approach to addressing research needs through the Family Violence Research Collaborative. This ongoing, interdisciplinary collaboration fosters a rich, mutually beneficial dialogue between researchers and provider agencies.

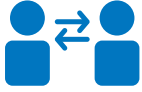
In 2023, TCFSH hosted an inaugural networking event, Building Research-Practice Connections Across Ohio to Enhance the Field of Family Violence. This event brought together over 60 researchers, faculty, students, providers, and state partners to connect, develop opportunities for research-practice partnerships, and build a network to support the dissemination of vital information in the field.



## Collaborative Initiatives

### Capital University Family Advocacy Clinic

Capital University provides legal assistance and/or representation to victims of domestic violence who cannot afford to hire private counsel. The Contested Custody Unit provides legal representation to victims of domestic violence in cases where child custody is, or is likely to be, contested. The Civil Protection Unit provides legal representation to victims of domestic violence to secure civil protection orders and to assist clients with housing needs, employment concerns and/or divorce proceedings.



**452**

individuals received advice and counsel



**80**

civil protection orders opened



**26**

contested custody cases

### Family Support Program

The Family Support Program, provided by Big Lots Behavioral Health Services at Nationwide Children's, offers counseling for children and adolescents who have been sexually or physically abused and/or exposed to family violence.



**6,059**

counseling visits

### Home Based Team

The Home Based Team, provided by Big Lots Behavioral Health Services at Nationwide Children's, offers intervention within the home and community setting to assist caregivers in developing a strong relationship with their child and learning healthy, effective discipline strategies.



**3,105**

counseling visits

### The Ohio State University (OSU)

TCFSH and OSU co-teach the Family Violence: Perspectives and Interventions course through OSU's College of Social Work. 2023 marked our eighth year of collaboration. Due to popular demand, the course continues to grow and is offered twice a year. In 2023, one student from OSU's Program 60 (for Ohio residents ages 60 and older) enrolled in the course.



**41**

undergraduate students



**18**

graduate students



# Prevention

## Stop perpetration of family violence

*Prevention starts with programs that shift the conversation and the effort toward ending perpetration of family violence. Our goal is to infuse new practices into the community that will stop the cycle and destigmatize family violence.*

### Training and Advocacy

TCFSH Training and Advocacy Department programs are developed to shift the social norms that promote power-based violence in various communities.

Goals:

- Change attitudes and beliefs to shift social norms
- Change behaviors to shift social norms
- Increase awareness of community resources available to support individuals experiencing family violence



**5,110**  
adults trained



**1,844**  
youth trained

### Best Friends Conference

Over 150 Black teen girls in grades 9-12 representing over 25 high schools, and their safe adults, had a day of learning and fun at the Best Friends Conference in October 2023. TCFSH hosted the event in partnership with Black Girl Rising, Inc., with funding provided by a grant from the Allstate Foundation. Event highlights include:

- Keynote presentations from Fran Frazier (Black Girl Rising, Inc.) and Angela Lee (Love is Respect)
- Workshops from incredible, diverse organizations that support Black girls
- A lunch panel to increase connection and conversation between youth and adults
- An engaging resource fair



#### Youth Increased Areas of Knowledge

- eHealth literacy and identifying safe online spaces
- Setting boundaries
- Identifying healthy relationship behaviors

*“I loved the whole conference. I made a friend and felt extremely supported by everyone. I don’t feel that way at school.” – Youth Participant*

#### Adults Increased Areas of Knowledge

- Understanding adultification bias
- Honoring Black girls in their communities (experiences, identities, strengths and impact)

*“This was an amazing opportunity for both my daughter and I to attend together.” – Adult Participant*



# Green Flags

In October 2023 at the Best Friends Conference, TCFSH announced Green Flags, a campaign that:

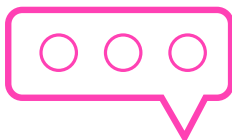
- Educates teens on the characteristics of healthy relationships
- Encourages boundary setting
- Equips youth to identify signs of abuse
- Shares resources to address and prevent abuse



“Red flags” mean stay away. With Green Flags, we are flipping the conversation on teen dating abuse. Green Flags provides a positive, approachable framework for building skills and supporting healthy relationships for teens in central Ohio.



In addition to a website filled with educational topics, Green Flags provides call, text and chat support resources operated by our specially trained team of experts to address teens’ questions or concerns about relationships and dating abuse. Green Flags also provides safe adults, like parents, guardians and educators, with resources to help support and talk to the teens in their lives about healthy relationships and dating safety. Learn more at [GreenFlags.info](https://GreenFlags.info).



Green Flags Pros are available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.:



CALL  
844-234-5463

TEXT  
844-283-3393

CHAT  
[GreenFlags.info](https://GreenFlags.info)

## Trauma-Informed Leadership Cohort Shares Learnings

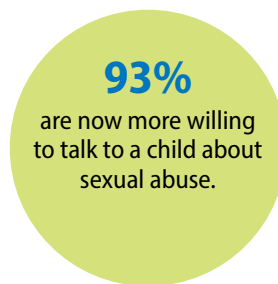
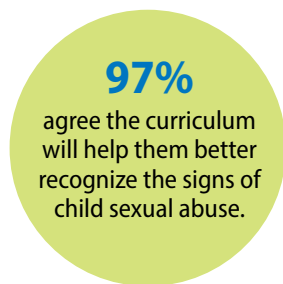
In 2023, TCFSH developed a pilot cohort of human service organization leaders to participate in a nine-month learning collaborative. In partnership with the Franklin County Human Service Chamber, 12 senior leaders from local nonprofits and government agencies learned about trauma-informed care approaches and compassion resilience. The learning collaborative serves as a space for peer support, accountability and compassion distress prevention.

*"I have learned a lot thus far to take back to my team and to use myself. I'm really grateful to hear others' feedback and suggestions throughout this process to help review my own leadership and relationships with others." – Cohort Participant*

## Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training Grant Benefits 700 Professionals and Parents

Funded through the Ohio Children's Trust Fund (OCTF) Grant, 700 professionals and parents were trained in Darkness to Light's Stewards of Children®, an evidence-based child sexual abuse prevention program.

Results from participants:



## Identifying the Prevalence Rate of Child Sexual Abuse

Following training, attendees were better able to correctly identify the prevalence rate of child sexual abuse in the United States.



## Ohio Children's Trust Fund

TCFSH's Prevention Team on the OCTF Grant are making strides in their ability to prevent child abuse and neglect throughout 36 counties in central, east and southeast Ohio. In 2023:

**2,464**  
caregivers and youth  
were supported through  
child abuse and neglect  
prevention services from 20  
local providers

spent  
**\$1.1M**  
across central, east and  
southeast parts of Ohio

spent nearly  
**\$104k**  
to support 462 caregivers  
and address barriers,  
including rental assistance,  
food, household items and  
gas cards

Evidence-based child abuse and neglect prevention services offered via local providers across the three regions include:

- Parent Café peer support groups
- Parenting Wisely (Young Child and Teen)
- Mentoring
- Triple P (Positive Parenting Program)
- Strengthening Families
- Nurturing Families™ (Parent and Teen)

Triple P and Parent Café providers engaged in peer learning and support across the central and southeast portions of Ohio. TCFSSH utilized the regional structure to successfully apply for an EndCAN grant in 2023 to increase service capacity and concrete support funding within the east and southeast parts of the state. Program funding will be implemented in 2024.

All regions are planning for expansion of their prevention efforts by subcontracting with additional local providers to support the growth of the free virtual Triple P Online series, now available to all caregivers and early childhood educators in Ohio.

### Impact Story

Caregivers generated a lot of discussion in a Parent Café support group around protective factors, social connections and resilience. They compared their own upbringing and how they saw building community makes a difference for their children, their own sense of safety and resources. One participant started hosting Sunday dinners in her neighborhood. The provider was able to connect the participant with other groups so they have volunteers to help purchase, cook and serve food.

### Expanding Access to Peritrauma and Trauma Treatment for Families in Ohio

TCFSH received a five-year grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), which allows for integrated partnerships with behavioral health, medical social work and local mental health agencies. The SAMHSA grant also allows TCFSSH to expand the current system of trauma care and improve outcomes by increasing access to peritrauma and trauma services in Franklin and surrounding counties. TCFSSH aims to improve family engagement and satisfaction by providing integrated, family-driven trauma services that align with each family's cultural needs and preferences and address barriers to care.

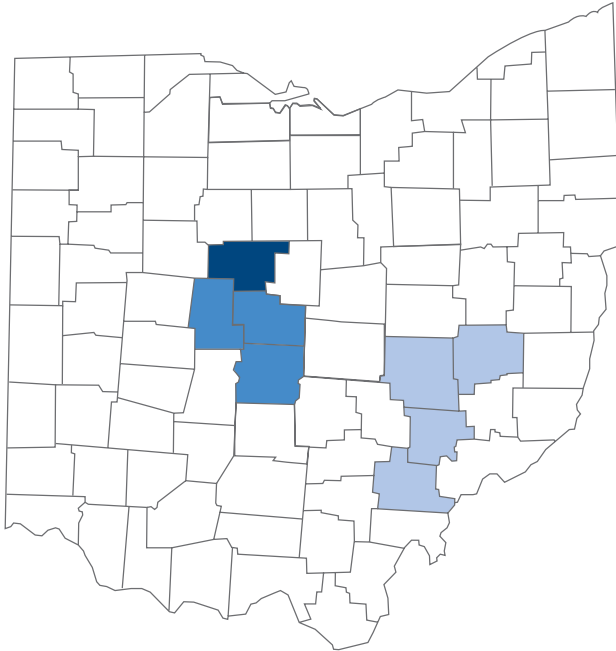


**95**

child and family traumatic  
stress intervention visits

## Maternal-Infant Home Visitation

TCFSH's Healthy Families America (HFA) and Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) evidence-based programs improve pregnancy outcomes and reduce child abuse and the number of children in the welfare system by encouraging prevention health practices that address child abuse and screen for intimate partner violence. In 2023, NFP expanded services to Marion County and now provides care in eight counties including Franklin, Delaware, Union, Athens, Muskingum, Morgan and Guernsey. Our services are now the largest in the region.



- 2021: Franklin, Delaware and Union counties
- 2022 Expansion: Athens, Muskingum, Morgan and Guernsey counties
- 2023 Expansion: Marion county



**12,391**  
home visits



**1,102**  
families served

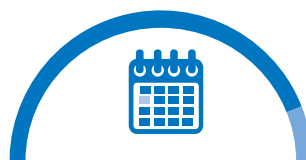
### Impact Story

An NFP client was pregnant and a human trafficking survivor. Due to the circumstances of her trafficking, she had not been seen by an OB or medical provider. Upon being connected with NFP through a community partner, NFP nurses contacted her the same day and arranged an urgent OB appointment. The client enrolled with NFP and was provided with a baby emergency box donated by [welcomebabyusa.org](http://welcomebabyusa.org) and connected to community resources, including mental health assistance and Ohio Job and Family Services. The client delivered, and is successfully caring for, her baby. The client has been engaged with NFP and is working on her GED. She remains connected to her OB provider and she has a pediatrician for her baby.

### 2023 Maternal-Infant Prevention Outcomes



**88%**  
of mothers received  
depression screening



**87%**  
of infants  
born full-term



**90%**  
of infants breastfed  
by 6 months of age





# Crisis Response

Act with urgency to respond to victims

*Crisis response takes on many forms. Enhanced identification, immediate live support and mobile advocacy remain top priorities.*

## Adult Services Program for Survivors of Domestic Violence

- Hired two advocates for the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act Grant to provide specialized domestic violence advocacy for African American and Black immigrant caregivers involved in child welfare systems, who are often disproportionately represented in this system while still receiving inadequate services.
- Diversified workforce to support the development of clinical and advocacy services for adult survivors.



**1,864**

requests for services or referrals

## Adult Services Program Advocacy

Advocacy services include assistance with the development of safety plans, linkages to community resources and shelter and legal system navigation.



**1,116**

advocacy clients served



**9,005**

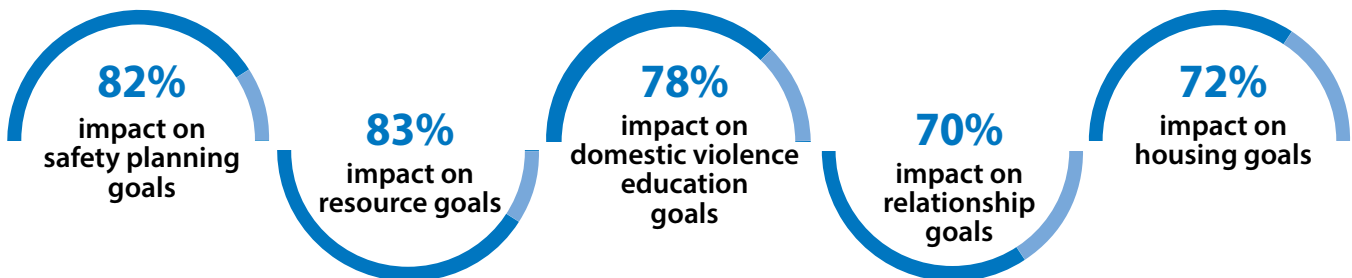
advocacy contacts



**88%**

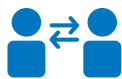
of advocacy referrals were high lethality

## Advocacy Clients' Reported Impact on Survivor-Driven Goals



## Adult Services Program Counseling

Counseling services include evidence-based, trauma-informed counseling in a confidential and secure setting.



**910**

counseling visits



**72**

counseling clients served

**85%**

of closed counseling cases had improved clinical progress

## Advocacy Crisis Team (ACT) - Domestic Violence Community Response Team

TCFSH is increasing family safety by responding with law enforcement to provide a trauma-focused on-scene advocacy to domestic violence survivors. TCFSH partnered with the Columbus Division of Police, LSS CHOICES and Blueprint for Safety leaders to launch the Advocacy Crisis Team in May 2023.

- 40 clients served on-scene with law enforcement
- 355 survivors served at the Family Protection Center
- Columbus Police Department's Strangulation Team Operation for Prosecution (STOP) officers were trained in domestic violence dynamics and co-response programs

## Blueprint for Safety Raises Awareness for Domestic Violence Risk Factors

TCFSH continues to be a leader and active partner in Franklin County's domestic violence initiative, Blueprint for Safety. Working with county, city and local social service agencies, Blueprint for Safety is a justice system response model proven to reduce domestic violence deaths and raise awareness for domestic violence risk factors. The initiative coordinates training, response directives and information-sharing practices across agencies.



### In 2023 the Blueprint for Safety initiative:

Increased victim safety and engagement in justice processes including:

- Advocacy for felony and misdemeanor domestic violence victims at municipal and domestic relations courts
- Advocacy with law enforcement responding to domestic violence calls
- Referrals to community-based advocacy at all steps in the justice process

Improved cross-agency information sharing including:

- Increased communication among prosecution teams, law enforcement, detectives, community control, advocacy teams and Franklin County Sheriff Office Civil Unit
- Probation and prosecution teams now have access to Columbus Police Department's case management system
- Training on domestic violence law and lethality factors (including strangulation and firearms)

Improved interagency collaboration to close system gaps and problem-solve active cases including:

- Minimum standard bonds requests for high-risk cases and higher bond amounts and location-tracking on all domestic violence cases involving significant physical harm and/or firearms
- Collaboration on cases resulting in improved service of domestic violence Civil Protection Orders and arrests on domestic violence warrants
- Collaboration resulting in improved domestic violence firearm seizures/surrenders, case documentation and evidence collection supporting prosecution

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In addition to our efforts to improve urgent response to intimate partner violence, we act with urgency across other programs by:

- Expanding intake hours
- Improving coordination of response with the emergency department and the psychiatric crisis department
- Enhancing collaboration with community partners to address immediate shelter needs



# Housing and Support Services

Provide housing and supportive services to victims and families so they can live safely and with self-sufficiency

*Housing and support services provide the foundation to help families feel safe and rebuild lives. We strive to fulfill this core value through advocacy, funding for housing and basic needs, and collaborations with housing and social service partners.*

## Direct Assistance Fund Supporting Housing and Basic Needs

The Direct Assistance Fund was established in 2020 to respond to the needs of clients and patients. Funds go directly to addressing food insecurity, emergency housing, utilities and immediate safety needs.

**More Than \$345,000 in Assistance Provided to Families in 2023**



**\$140,000+**  
mortgage and rent



**\$144,000+**  
grocery and gas gift cards



**\$4,000+**  
hotels and lodging



**\$37,000+**  
utilities and bills



**\$10,000+**  
moving expenses



**\$9,000+**  
other supplies

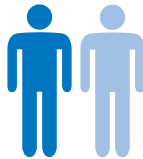
## Connecting Underrepresented Populations, Survivors and Families With Safe Housing and Financial Independence

Through an integrated response TCFSH continues to:

- Work with hard-to-reach and vulnerable populations experiencing housing instability.
- Provide systemwide trauma-informed care training and technical assistance to our local Homeless Hotline, housing programs and shelter systems.
- Reduce barriers in access to housing supports and services and HUD-funded programs within our local continuum of care for survivors of domestic violence.
- Bridge the economic gap through our financial empowerment match program services.
- Safely triage and connect at-risk and houseless survivors and families to the appropriate community resources and safe havens to address housing safety and insecurity.
- Lead monthly domestic violence system coordination with agencies within the continuum of care to address system gaps.



**284**  
housing requests



**261**  
clients served



**52%**  
clients housed

### Housing and Support Services Partnerships

#### LSS Choices

TCFSH continued their partnership with LSS CHOICES to develop policy and procedures to safely triage survivors into hotels and provide community advocacy services through the Ohio Domestic Violence Network relocation program. Services included safety planning, short-term housing stabilization planning, transportation, personal hygiene and reducing food insecurity.



**44**  
clients served

#### Impact Story

After enduring physical and verbal abuse, a client with three children reached out to LSS CHOICES for safe, emergency shelter. The client received viable housing leads from our housing team and secured a two-bedroom home. TCFSH's Direct Assistance Fund helped this client with the security deposit, allowing them to use their income to pay the first month's rent.

## Sunshine Community Foundation Supports Financial Independence for Survivors

TCFSH partnered with the Sunshine Community Foundation to provide survivors of domestic violence with the knowledge and support they need to leave an abusive relationship and begin a path to financial independence to improve safety for the survivor and child.

- 26 survivors completed the Financial Empowerment Readiness Program
- 21 survivors contributed up to \$400 to their savings account, with \$8,700 total matching funds provided
- 7 survivors requested a referral to the Columbus Urban League for the Journey to Wealth Program

### Testimonials

*“I really appreciate all your help and perseverance in getting me to this finish line. You are really the best and your dedication to what you do to change lives is amazing.” – Survivor*

*“I shared this information with a friend who also is working towards financial independence. I hope me completing this program will inspire her to do it too!” – Survivor*

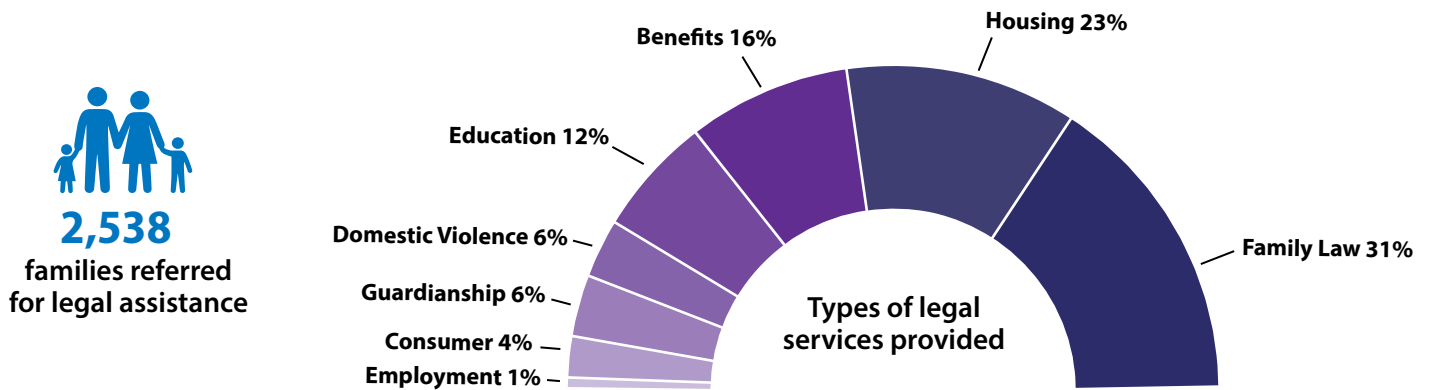
## Targeting Funding Sources to Expand and Maximize Use of Existing Community Funds

TCFSH continued their partnership with the City of Columbus and was successfully awarded the **2023 City of Columbus Stable Housing Initiative** and **Central Ohio Stable Housing Network** funds. Both grants support the emergency rental assistance programs and fund a housing resource specialist position. These initiatives support our community response to housing instability and survivors and families who are at-risk of houselessness. It allows us to expand and impact our housing efforts across all TCFSH programs and partnerships.

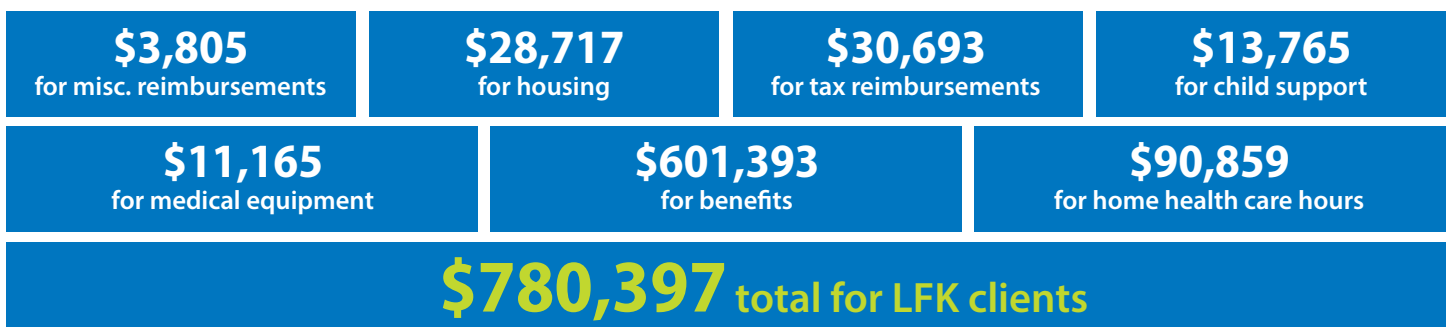
TCFSH was also awarded the **Domestic Violence Support Services Only Coordinated Entry** bonus project through the Continuum of Care Program in collaboration with the Community Shelter Board. Our efforts have focused on survivors and families who are fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, including technical assistance to our systems partners.

## Lawyers for Kids (LFK)

LFK provides direct legal services to patients and families receiving services at TCFSH and Nationwide Children’s.



## Families Saved \$780,397 With Legal Services in 2023



## Program Highlights

- 2,538 referrals by Nationwide Children’s clinicians to LFK for their patients and families, a 36% increase from 2022. 840 consultations by LFK attorneys with Nationwide Children’s clinicians, a 125% increase from 2022.
- 117 clinicians on average per session attending 9 lunch and learns hosted by LFK. Topics included custody, addiction, immigration, housing, Medicaid, education, bullying, record sealing and rental assistance.
- LFK began expansion to Behavioral Health. All Nationwide Children’s patients will be eligible for LFK services by the end of 2024.
- 250% increase in Arabic referrals, 91% increase in Nepali referrals and 74% increase in Somali referrals.
- LFK created its first video for use in fundraising and education and multiple legal firms are reaching out to discuss financial contributions and pro bono network involvement.

## Testimonials

*“The LFK attorney helped me understand the importance of boundaries and advocating for myself. I could not have made it through the last year of my life, and all that I have been faced with, without her.” – Survivor*

*“The LFK attorney was always there when I had questions or concerns regarding my custody situation. He took his time with me and helped me every step of the way and never made me feel like I was a burden.” – Survivor*

## Case Highlights

- Assisted a 19-year-old disabled green card holder in obtaining U.S. citizenship.
- Helped a family save over \$8,000 by negotiating with a landlord after their father and breadwinner passed away.
- Helped a family get guardianship over their disabled adult son so they could consent to a needed surgery.
- Obtained a safety plan and apology from a school district after a patient was inappropriately touched by another student.
- Helped a Spanish-speaking survivor obtain a 5-year Civil Protection Order and full custody of her five children.
- Prevented the expulsion of a 10th grader after a fight with an individual who had been bullying him.
- Obtained thousands of food stamp benefits for many families who were denied food stamps for failure to complete their initial interviews, due to flawed phone systems that created barriers for clients attempting to complete these required interviews.

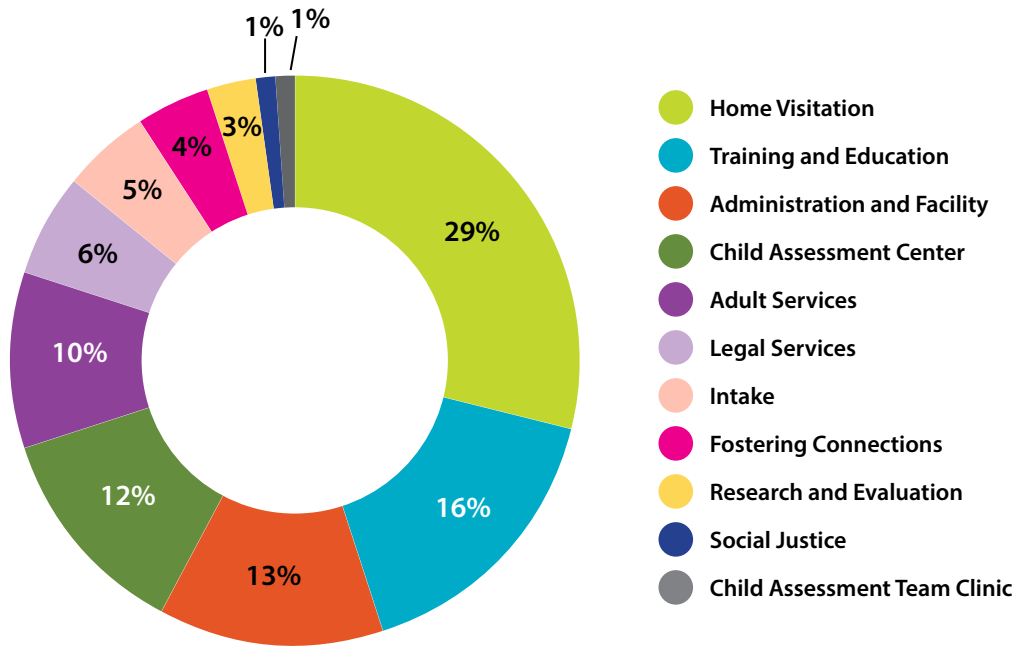
## Impact Story

A juvenile client was convicted of a criminal offense. The client had no other record and had plans to go to college. Because of the felony conviction, they were ineligible for financial aid they would need to attend college. The Lawyers for Kids attorney assisted with the paperwork to seal the conviction. Because the client had made positive progress, such as getting a job and staying out of trouble, the judge granted the request. The client will now be eligible to apply for financial aid.

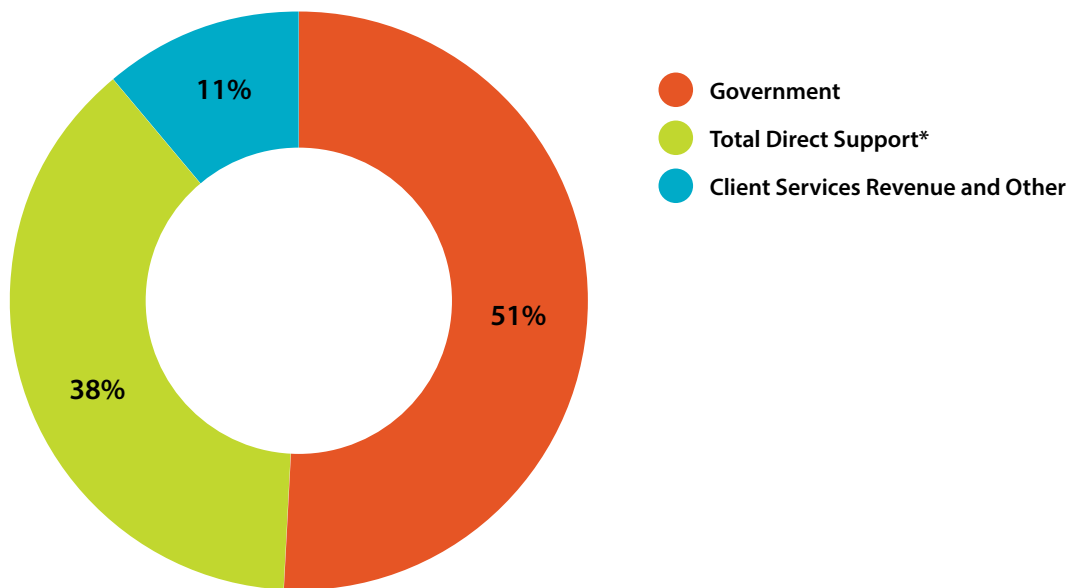
# Financials

TCFSH is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization supported by an impressive combination of public and private resources.

## 2023 Expenses



## 2023 Revenue



*\*Direct support includes a combination of funding from Nationwide Children's and philanthropic resources. The information presented here reflects an aggregation of programs that TCFSH manages but are also housed in Nationwide Children's clinics and the Abigail Wexner Research Institute.*





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 The Center for Family Safety and Healing

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