



# CREATING FUTURES OF HOPE

THROUGH MENTAL HEALTH, EARLY LEARNING & OUT OF HOME CARE  
2013 Annual Report to the Community



**Child Focus, Inc.**  
**Making THE Difference!**  
[www.child-focus.org](http://www.child-focus.org)





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## Bright Futures of Hope

This past year brought a lot of changes, both on the national, state, local and agency level. While change continues to dominate the headlines and our lives, Child Focus, Inc. continues to do what we're known for: providing the best mental health, early learning and out of home care possible to kids.

We are committed to strengthening families and improving the quality of life for children and consistently produce some of the best outcomes anywhere. This all means we are helping kids of all ages and their families improve coping mechanisms, promote school readiness and success and encourage growth and self-sufficiency in our community.

This annual report is our chance to show you how all this work comes together and to express our deep gratitude to the people and organizations that continue to support our mission. I look forward to sharing these outcomes and highlights from the year with you as we can continue to provide bright futures of hope for children.

James L. Carter, CEO  
**Child Focus, Inc.**

# Mental Health

Child Focus provides mental health services that parents and caregivers report are helpful and informative, as well as provide meaningful information, such as how to implement treatment recommendations in the home and educational settings. Behavioral indicators and additional service outcomes are from the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year.

**100%** of parents, or families who received juvenile court home-based (JCHB) services reported satisfaction through the outcomes questionnaire.

**97%** of parents reported they were extremely or moderately satisfied with the case management service through the outcomes questionnaire.

**94%** of respondents reported they were satisfied with the crisis intervention service and agreed with the statement: *“The service was helpful and helped me to develop a useful plan.”*

**91%** of parents/guardians of active clients surveyed reported the counseling service as effective for their child with a rating of 8-10 on a 10 point scale.

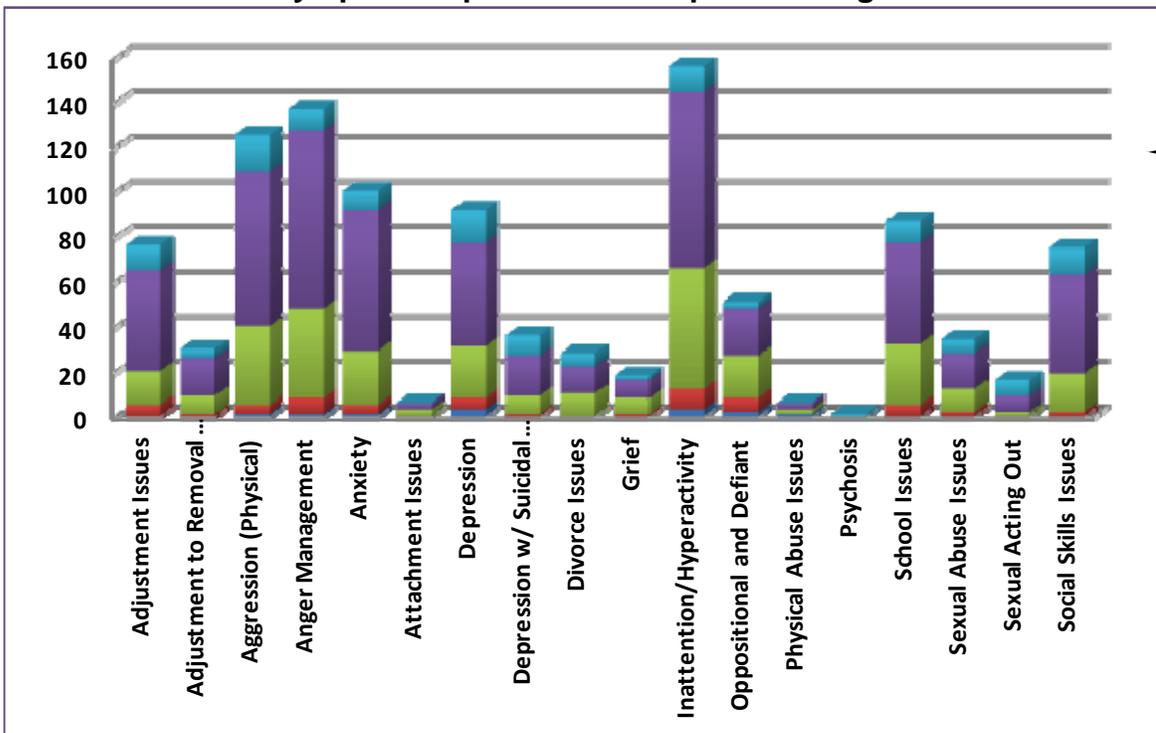
**90%** of parents reported that they felt more in control following the crisis intervention service. The average amount of improvement reported is **36%**, or 1.8 points on a 5 point likert scale.

**79%** of parents from all programs (therapeutic support, counseling, juvenile court home based (JCBH) and group) combined report “somewhat” to “complete” improvement in their child’s identified behavioral difficulty.

**69%** of Wasserman Youth & Adolescent Center parents reported their child’s symptom(s) to be improved as indicated by a response of “better” or “significantly better” using the outcomes form.



**1<sup>st</sup> Half FY 2013**  
**Symptom Improvement Outpatient Programs**



*66% of parents from the counseling, therapeutic support, group, and JCHB services combined report their child’s identified symptom(s) to be better or significantly better with a rating of 4 or 5 out of 5 after starting treatment.*

## School-Based Mental Health

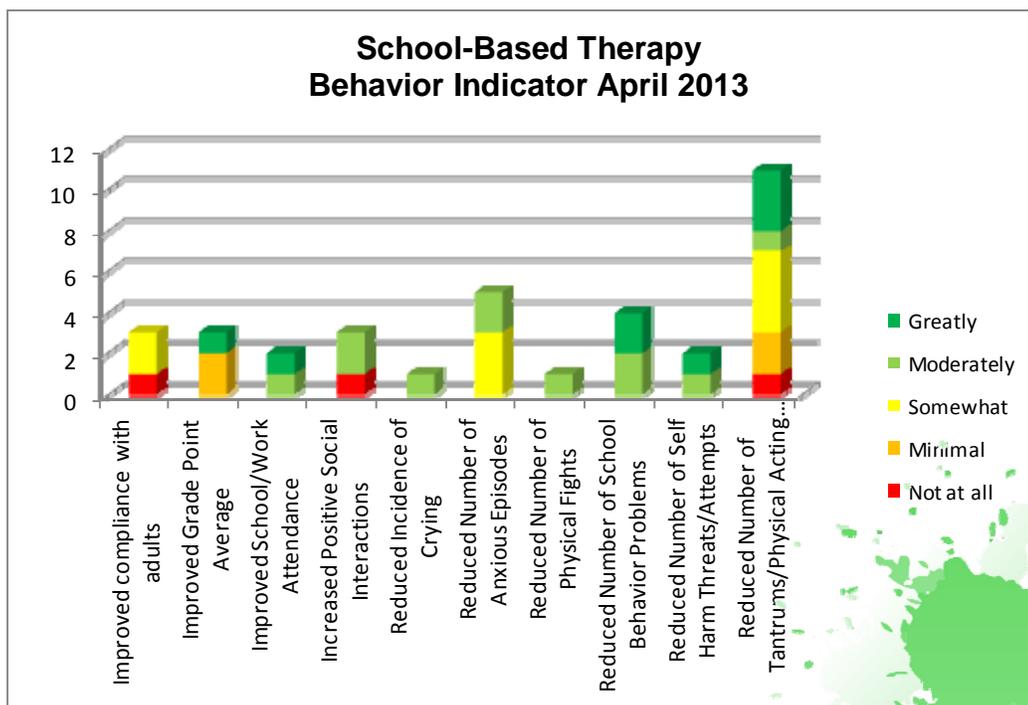
School-Based services are designed to promote positive mental health, provide early identification of psychological and social problems to reduce non-cognitive barriers to learning, and reduce the risk factors associated with school failure for grades Kindergarten through 12th grade. Behavioral indicators and additional service outcomes are from the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year.

**100%** of parents and caregivers reported satisfaction with school-based counseling services.

**96%** of parents and caregivers report they are satisfied with the school based case management service.

**80%** of parents and caregivers reported somewhat to complete improvement in their child's behavioral indicator with the school-based case management service.

School Based Prevention provides early identification of mental health needs. **67%** of students served in school-based prevention are referred on for additional services.



*80% of parents reported somewhat to great improvement in their child's identified behavioral indicator with the school-based therapy service.*



## Early Learning

Children birth to eight enter Child Focus Early Learning Programs with a wide range of skills and abilities. Some are well on their way to kindergarten readiness, while others are missing many of the key fundamental skills they will need to succeed in school and later in life. Child Focus uses a variety of screening tools and assessments to determine each child's developmental level, strengths, and areas for improvement. **In 2012-2013 the following school readiness goals were achieved:**

### Social & Emotional Development:

- 92% of children control strong emotions in an appropriate manner
- 96% of children are able to follow simple rules, routines and directions
- 97% of children help, share and take turns with adults and peers

### Language & Literacy Development:

- 97% of children name at least 10 letters of the alphabet
- 98% of children print their first name
- 100% of Dual Language Learners comprehend and use English

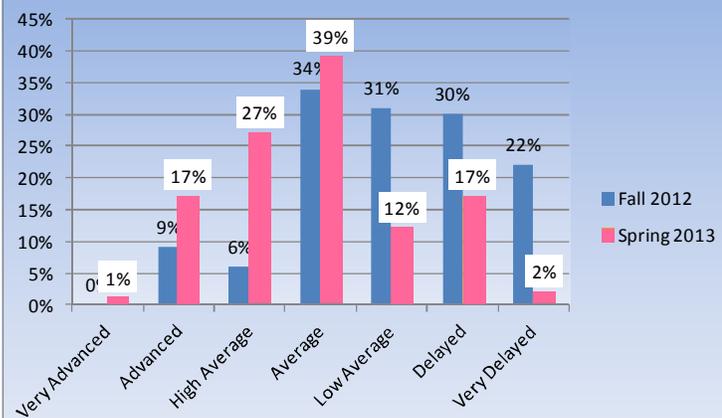
### Learning & Cognitive Development:

- 99% of children explore, investigate and make comparisons
- 97% of children are able to begin and finish activities with persistence and attention
- 93% of children seek multiple solutions to a question, task or problem

*68.5% of preschool children scored on track for Kindergarten in the spring compared to 49% in the beginning of the school year.*

*By the end of the year, children scoring in the Advanced and Very Advanced categories have doubled.*

**Bracken Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 Test Comparisons**



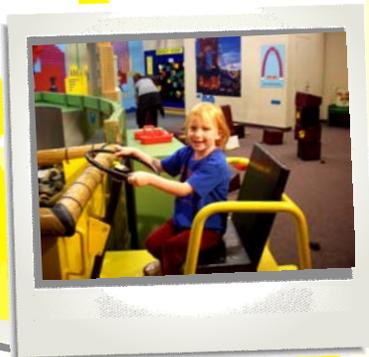
*In 2012-2013, over 30 children were identified as needing glasses to correct vision deficits.*

**Health screenings** are completed for all children enrolled. When children do not pass screenings, parents are assisted to access further evaluation and treatment. As a result, children receive treatment for vision and hearing deficits, low iron levels, or other health concerns that may likely impede a child's ability to learn.

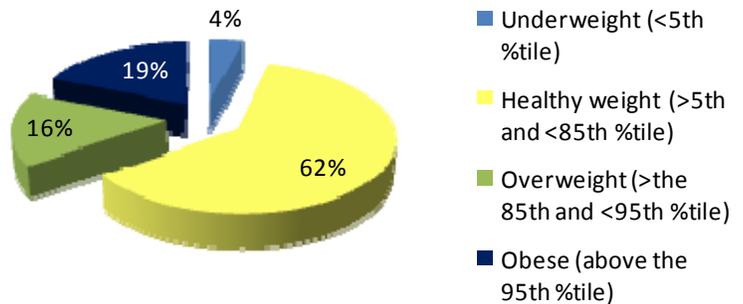
**Childhood obesity** has become an important priority for Child Focus. We have been concerned with the high number of children considered overweight or obese based on Body Mass Index (BMI) and are working with parents and the community to create positive change.

Early childhood obesity continues to be a concern for our program. Promoting physical development, proper nutrition and health is an important part of our work with children. While daily programming incorporates best practices for children in these areas, we realize we must promote healthy habits at home. **Families CAN (Choose Activity and Nutrition)** is a 3 sessions series that provides parents with the knowledge, strategies, and tools necessary to make positive lifestyle changes at home. Parents participating in CAN reported:

- an increased understanding and awareness of unhealthy habits,
- a decrease in screen time, increase in activity including time spent outdoors, and
- an increased intake of fresh fruits and steamed vegetables for the entire family.



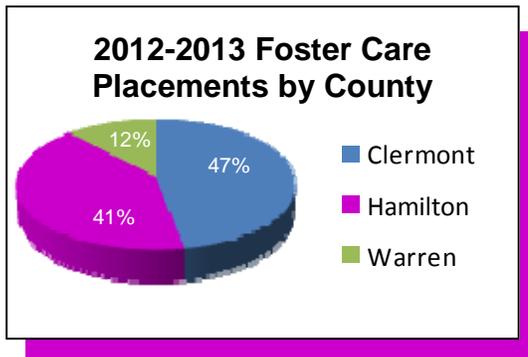
### 2012-2013 Body Mass Index (BMI) Results



*In 2012-2013, 35% of children ages 3-5 had a BMI at or above the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile.*

## Out of Home Care

Out of Home Care Programs at Child Focus, Inc. serve many of the community's most vulnerable children and families. Programs are designed to promote healthy child development, safety and family stability. Services provided include, Traditional and Therapeutic Foster Care for children ages birth to young adulthood, Family Stability for children birth to 12 and their families and Life Skills Prep for young adults ages 15 and older.



### Foster Care

In FY13, 79 foster children were placed in foster homes with an average length of stay of 12 months.

- 85% of children had a single foster home placement for the duration of their stay with Child Focus, Inc.
- 100% of children were safe and healthy during program placement.
- 100% of children attended school regularly; and, 79% evidenced passing grades in all academic subjects.
- At discharge, 41% of children were reunified with family, 27% were adopted, 22% transitioned to a non-agency setting and 2% emancipated to independence.

*Foster Parent - "Child Focus, Inc. Foster Care Staff are great, they always go above and beyond in offering help when I need it."*

### Family Stability

In FY 13, 62 families received Family Stability Services representing care to a total of 79 adults and 116 children; the average length of service was 20 weeks.

100% of parents improved in core parenting beliefs, values and child rearing practices and evidenced increases in concrete resources and supports resulting in a reduced risk of child abuse and neglect.

*Parent - "The parent educator helped me learn to be more patient with my children and to use time out. There is a lot less conflict in our home and I am grateful."*

### Life Skills Prep

Life Skills Prep self-sufficiency program is targeted at young adults and prepares them for the transition to independence. In FY 13, 20 youth participated in the Life Skills Prep Program.

100% of program youth evidenced improvement in Life Skill core competencies. Youth evidenced the practical use of job seeking and maintenance skills as well as the ability to develop a personal budget and track income and expenses.

*Youth - "I learned about making responsible choices, cooking, finding a job and a place to live."*



## Community Partners

Community volunteers played a vital role in supporting Head Start children and families. Companies like **Liberty Mutual, TQL, Park National Bank, PNC Bank, Mercy Health Center and The Clermont County Public Library** have donated their time, staff and money to provide valuable learning and experiential activities for children and families.

Child Focus would also like to thank **Kroger, Channel 9** and all community supporters for the **Channel 9 Toy Drive at Kroger Eastgate!** Special thanks also goes to **Sharefax, Kroger, PPG, TQL, LSR Law Firm, Newtonsville United Methodist Church, Mt. Moriah, Alliance Data, Macy's, GfK Custom Research, LLC, Village of Amelia, Star One Realtors, Lovins Insurance, Dr. Sharon Phillips, Rotary Club, TalMed, ADP,** Child Focus staff, volunteers, board members and other generous supporters for helping sponsor all 100 Giving Tree families with 245 children and youth ages birth to 18! With their help we were able to provide each family with grocery and gas gift cards, cleaning supplies, coats, clothing, shoes/boots, hats, gloves, toys and books!

Families and others in our community participated in home-based and centered based Head Start and Early Head Start program activities and supported the program as volunteers, advocates and Policy Council members. Donations reflected below include the financial value of inkind donations and volunteer hours.



**2012-2013 Inkind Value**



*In 2012-2013, 1,310 individuals volunteered 42,947 hours.*

# Financials

The final, agency-wide audit report for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2013 was conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained the Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Controller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133. The audit contained one finding. The recommendation to change a procedure was immediately put into place and accepted by the funding source. The audit did not reveal any material weaknesses in the agency's internal control system.

## Statement of Activities Year Ended June 30, 2013

	<u>Total</u>
Support:	
Federal grants	3,374,078
State Subsidies	1,527,541
Title XIX and other federal funds	2,902,057
School district contracts	283,284
Therapeutic Foster Care Funds	830,900
Early Head Start	1,293,189
In-Kind program revenue	143,045
United Way	304,999
Contributions	<u>114,371</u>
	10,773,154
Revenue:	
Day Care funds	495,531
Fees:	
Self Pay	70,835
Agency	107,641
Miscellaneous income	118,608
Special events less expenses of \$6,804	8,768
Child/Adult Care Food Program reimbursement	223,783
Homebased intervention	198,401
Ohio Children's Trust Fund	67,502
Day Treatment	252,355
Interest income	9,105
Training	49,248
Insurance fees	198,835
Rental Income	46,844
Unrealized gain on investment	1,887
Gain on sale of property and equipment	<u>4,782</u>
Total Support and Revenue	12,627,279
Expenses:	
Program services	10,461,948
Management and general	1,851,534
Fundraising	7,116
Total Expenses	<u>12,620,598</u>
Change in net assets	306,681
Net Assets, beginning of year	6,847,417
Net Assets, end of year	<u>7,154,098</u>

*Federal, state and local government grant funds, contracts with other agency and school partners, private fees, insurance, subsidies from the Clermont County Mental Health & Recovery Board and local levy funds allow us to serve our families.*



The Mission of Child Focus, Inc.  
is to join with communities  
in strengthening families  
and improving the quality of life  
for children.



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