

***ASHLAND COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST
COUNCIL***

ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO

Regular Audit

For the Years Ended December 31, 2020 and 2019





88 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
IPARepor**t**@ohioauditor.gov
(800) 282-0370

Members of Council
Ashland County Family and Children First Council
110 Cottage Street, Suite 205
Ashland, Ohio 44805

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Ashland County Family and Children First Council, Ashland County, prepared by Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The Ashland County Family and Children First Council is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

August 06, 2021

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ASHLAND COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO
Regular Audit
For the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Ashland County Family and Children First Council
Ashland County
110 Cottage Street, Suite 205
Ashland, Ohio 44805

To the Members of Council:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for the governmental fund type and related notes of the Ashland County Family and Children First Council, Ashland County, Ohio (the Council), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to opine on these financial statements based on our audit. We audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit requires obtaining evidence about financial statement amounts and disclosures. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including assessing the risks of material financial statement misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In assessing those risks, we consider internal control relevant to the Council's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of management's accounting policies and the reasonableness of their significant accounting estimates, as well as our evaluation of the overall financial statement presentation.

We believe the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our audit opinions.

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 2 of the financial statements, the Council prepared these financial statements using the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), to satisfy these requirements.

Although the effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory accounting basis and GAAP are not reasonably determinable, we presume they are material.

Though the Council does not intend these statements to conform to GAAP, auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America require us to include an adverse opinion on GAAP. However, the adverse opinion does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit. Our opinion on this accounting basis is in the *Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting* paragraph below.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the *Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Council as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the years then ended.

Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for the governmental fund type, and related notes of the Ashland County Family and Children First Council, Ashland County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2020 and 2019 for the years then ended in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit, described in Note 2.

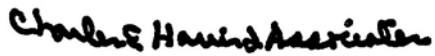
Emphasis of Matters

As discussed in Note 10 to the 2020 and 2019 financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Council. We did not modify our opinions regarding this matter.

As discussed in Note 9 to the 2020 financial statements, the Council made several changes to its reporting model. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 4, 2021, on our consideration of the Council's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Council's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.
June 4, 2021

ASHLAND COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN
FUND CASH BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS) - GENERAL FUND
For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

	General
Cash Receipts:	
Intergovernmental - State	\$ 160,160
Contract Services	33,569
Local Contributions	18,137
Miscellaneous	603
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	212,469
Cash Disbursements:	
Personal Services	24,597
Travel Reimbursements	53
Supplies and Materials	292
Treatment Services	78,223
Other	59,422
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	162,587
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	49,882
<i>Fund Balance, January 1, 2020</i>	31,396
<i>Fund Balance, December 31, 2020</i>	\$ 81,278

See accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements.

Ashland County Family and Children First Council

Ashland County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

Ohio Revised Code Section 121.37 created the Ohio Family and Children First Cabinet Council and required each Board of County Commissioners to establish a County Family and Children First Council. Statutory membership of County Council consists of the following individuals:

1. At least three individuals representing the interest of families in the County. Where possible, the number of members representing families shall be equal to twenty percent of the Council's remaining membership;
2. The Director of the Board of Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services that serves the County, or, in the case of a County that has a Board of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services and a Community Mental Health Board, the Directors of both Boards. If a Board of Alcohol, Drug Addition, and Mental Health Services covers more than one County, the Director may designate a person to participate on the County's Council;
3. The Health Commissioner, or the Commissioner's designee, of the Board of Health of each City or General Health District in the County. If the County has two or more health districts, the Health Commissioner membership may be limited to the Commissioners of the two districts with the largest populations;
4. The Director of the County Department of Job and Family Services;
5. The Executive Director of the public children services agency or the County agency responsible for the administration of children services pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 5153.15;
6. The Superintendent of the County Board of Developmental Disabilities or if the Superintendent serves as Superintendent as more than one County Board of Developmental Disabilities, the Superintendent's designee;
7. The Superintendent of the city, exempted village, or local school district with the largest number of pupils residing in the County, as determined by the Ohio Department of Education, which shall notify each County of its determination at least biennially;
8. A School Superintendent representing all other school districts with territory in the County, as designated at a biennial meeting of the superintendents of those districts;
9. A representative of the municipal corporation with the largest population in the County;
10. The President of the Board of County Commissioners or an individual designated by the Board;
11. A representative of the regional office of the Ohio Department of Youth Services;
12. A representative of the County's Head Start agencies, as defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 3301.32;

Ashland County Family and Children First Council

Ashland County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

Note 1 – Reporting Entity (continued)

13. A representative of the County’s Early Intervention collaborative established pursuant to the federal early intervention program operated under the “Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004”; and
14. A representative of a local nonprofit entity that funds, advocates, or provides services to children and families.

A County Family and Children First Council may invite any other local public or private agency or group that funds, advocates, or provides services to children to have a representative become a permanent or temporary member of the Council.

The purpose of the County Council is to streamline and coordinate existing government services for families seeking services for their children. In seeking to fulfill its purpose, a County Council shall provide for the following:

1. Referrals to the Cabinet Council of those children for whom the County Council cannot provide adequate services;
2. Development and implementation of a process that annually evaluates and prioritizes services, fills service gaps where possible, and invents new approaches to achieve better results for families and children;
3. Participation in the development of a countywide, comprehensive, coordinated, multi-disciplinary interagency system for infants and toddlers with developmental disabilities or delays and their families, as established pursuant to federal grants received and administered by the Department of Health for early intervention services under the “Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004”;
4. Maintenance of an accountability system to monitor the County Council’s progress in achieving results for families and children; and
5. Establishment of a mechanism to ensure ongoing input from a broad representation of families who are receiving services within the County system.

The Council’s management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Council is financially accountable.

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The Council’s financial statements consist of a statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis).

Ashland County Family and Children First Council

Ashland County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Fund Accounting

The Council uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the Council are presented below:

General Fund The general fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the Council for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Administrative/Fiscal Agent

Ohio Revised Code Section 121.37(B)(5)(a) requires the Council to select an administrative agent to provide fiscal and administrative services to the Council. The Council has selected the Ashland County Auditor. The Council authorizes the Ashland County Auditor, as fiscal agent and administrative agent, to subcontract with, designate, and/or seek assistance from any agencies and/or organizations that it deems necessary in order to complete the obligations set forth in the agreement. Ashland County agrees to be ultimately responsible for fulfilling the fiscal and administrative obligations of the agreement.

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (D). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Council recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit.

Budgetary Process

A Family and Children First Council established under Ohio Revised Code Section 121.37 is not a taxing authority and is not subject to Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705. As of October 1, 1997, all Family and Children First Councils are required to file an annual budget with its administrative agent. The Council filed an estimate of financial resources and an appropriation measure with the Ashland County Auditor as required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2020 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Deposits and Investments

The Council designated the Ashland County Auditor as the fiscal agent for all funds received in the name of the Council. Deposits of monies are made with the Ashland County Treasurer and fund expenditures and balances are reported through the Ashland County Auditor. Deposits and investments are made in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code and are valued at the fiscal agent's carrying amount.

Ashland County Family and Children First Council

Ashland County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Council must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

Nonspendable The Council classifies assets as nonspendable when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact. For regulatory purposes, nonspendable fund balance includes unclaimed monies that are required to be held for five years before they may be utilized by the Council.

Restricted Fund balance is restricted when constraints placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions.

Committed The Council can commit amounts via formal action (resolution). The Council must adhere to these commitments unless the Council amends the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.

Assigned Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. For regulatory purposes, assigned fund balance in the general fund is limited to encumbrances outstanding at year end.

Unassigned – Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not included in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is only used to report a deficit fund balance.

The Council applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 9.

Ashland County Family and Children First Council

Ashland County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2020, follows:

2020 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 207,423	\$ 212,469	\$ 5,046

2020 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Disbursements			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Disbursements	Variance
General	\$ 175,819	\$ 169,491	\$ 6,328

Note 4 – Deposits and Investments

The Ashland County Auditor, as fiscal agent for the Council, maintains a cash and investments pool used by all of the Ashland County Auditor's funds, including those of the Council. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments and the Ashland County Auditor is responsible for compliance. The carrying amount of deposits and investments at December 31 was as \$81,278.

This fiscal agent is responsible for maintaining adequate depository collateral for all funds in the fiscal agent's pooled and deposit accounts. All risks associated with the above deposits are the responsibility of the fiscal agent.

Note 5 – Risk Management

Commercial Insurance

Through its administrative agents, the Ashland County Auditor, the Council has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability;
- Errors and omissions.

Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the last three years. There has not been a significant reduction in this coverage from the prior year.

Ashland County Family and Children First Council

Ashland County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

Note 6 – Defined Benefit Pension Plan

The Council’s employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plan’s benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2020, OPERS members contributed 10 percent of their gross salaries and the Council contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants’ gross salaries. The Council has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2020.

Note 7 – Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, and deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement, to qualifying benefit recipients. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the traditional pension plan and combined plan was 0 percent during calendar year 2020. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2020.

Note 8 – Contingent Liabilities

The Council may be a defendant in lawsuits. Although management cannot presently determine the outcome of these suits, management believes that the resolution of these matters will not materially adversely affect the Council’s financial condition.

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the Council are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. The grantor may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

Note 9 – Fund Balances

Included in fund balance are amounts the Council cannot spend, including the balance of unclaimed monies, which cannot be spent for five years. Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilities effective cash planning and control. At year end, the balance of these amounts was as follows:

<u>Fund Balances</u>	<u>General</u>
Outstanding Encumbrances	<u>\$ 6,904</u>

In the general fund, outstanding encumbrances are considered assigned.

Ashland County Family and Children First Council

Ashland County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

Note 10 – COVID-19

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Council. In addition, the impact on the Council's future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

ASHLAND COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN
FUND CASH BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS) - GENERAL FUND
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	General
Cash Receipts:	
Intergovernmental - State	\$ 43,923
Local Contributions	7,897
Miscellaneous	10,187
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	62,007
Cash Disbursements:	
Personal Services	27,553
Advertising and Printing	25
Travel Reimbursements	318
Supplies and Materials	93
Treatment Services	18,178
Other	19,971
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	66,138
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	(4,131)
<i>Fund Balance, January 1, 2019</i>	35,527
Fund Cash Balance December 31, 2019	
Assigned	31,396
<i>Fund Balance, December 31, 2019</i>	\$ 31,396

See accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements.

Ashland County Family and Children First Council

Ashland County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

Ohio Revised Code Section 121.37 created the Ohio Family and Children First Cabinet Council and required each Board of County Commissioners to establish a County Family and Children First Council. Statutory membership of County Council consists of the following individuals:

1. At least three individuals representing the interest of families in the County. Where possible, the number of members representing families shall be equal to twenty percent of the Council's remaining membership;
2. The Director of the Board of Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services that serves the County, or, in the case of a County that has a Board of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services and a Community Mental Health Board, the Directors of both Boards. If a Board of Alcohol, Drug Addition, and Mental Health Services covers more than one County, the Director may designate a person to participate on the County's Council;
3. The Health Commissioner, or the Commissioner's designee, of the Board of Health of each City or General Health District in the County. If the County has two or more health districts, the Health Commissioner membership may be limited to the Commissioners of the two districts with the largest populations;
4. The Director of the County Department of Job and Family Services;
5. The Executive Director of the public children services agency or the County agency responsible for the administration of children services pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 5153.15;
6. The Superintendent of the County Board of Developmental Disabilities or if the Superintendent serves as Superintendent as more than one County Board of Developmental Disabilities, the Superintendent's designee;
7. The Superintendent of the city, exempted village, or local school district with the largest number of pupils residing in the County, as determined by the Ohio Department of Education, which shall notify each County of its determination at least biennially;
8. A School Superintendent representing all other school districts with territory in the County, as designated at a biennial meeting of the superintendents of those districts;
9. A representative of the municipal corporation with the largest population in the County;
10. The President of the Board of County Commissioners or an individual designated by the Board;
11. A representative of the regional office of the Ohio Department of Youth Services;
12. A representative of the County's Head Start agencies, as defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 3301.32;

Ashland County Family and Children First Council

Ashland County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Note 1 – Reporting Entity (continued)

13. A representative of the County’s Early Intervention collaborative established pursuant to the federal early intervention program operated under the “Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004”; and
14. A representative of a local nonprofit entity that funds, advocates, or provides services to children and families.

A County Family and Children First Council may invite any other local public or private agency or group that funds, advocates, or provides services to children to have a representative become a permanent or temporary member of the Council.

The purpose of the County Council is to streamline and coordinate existing government services for families seeking services for their children. In seeking to fulfill its purpose, a County Council shall provide for the following:

1. Referrals to the Cabinet Council of those children for whom the County Council cannot provide adequate services;
2. Development and implementation of a process that annually evaluates and prioritizes services, fills service gaps where possible, and invents new approaches to achieve better results for families and children;
3. Participation in the development of a countywide, comprehensive, coordinated, multi-disciplinary interagency system for infants and toddlers with developmental disabilities or delays and their families, as established pursuant to federal grants received and administered by the Department of Health for early intervention services under the “Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004”;
4. Maintenance of an accountability system to monitor the County Council’s progress in achieving results for families and children; and
5. Establishment of a mechanism to ensure ongoing input from a broad representation of families who are receiving services within the County system.

The Council’s management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Council is financially accountable.

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The Council’s financial statements consist of a statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis).

Ashland County Family and Children First Council

Ashland County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Fund Accounting

The Council uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the Council are presented below:

General Fund The general fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the Council for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Administrative/Fiscal Agent

Ohio Revised Code Section 121.37(B)(5)(a) requires the Council to select an administrative agent to provide fiscal and administrative services to the Council. The Council has selected the Ashland County Auditor. The Council authorizes the Ashland County Auditor, as fiscal agent and administrative agent, to subcontract with, designate, and/or seek assistance from any agencies and/or organizations that it deems necessary in order to complete the obligations set forth in the agreement. Ashland County agrees to be ultimately responsible for fulfilling the fiscal and administrative obligations of the agreement.

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (D). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Council recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit.

Budgetary Process

A Family and Children First Council established under Ohio Revised Code Section 121.37 is not a taxing authority and is not subject to Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705. As of October 1, 1997, all Family and Children First Councils are required to file an annual budget with its administrative agent. The Council filed an estimate of financial resources and an appropriation measure with the Ashland County Auditor as required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2019 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Deposits and Investments

The Council designated the Ashland County Auditor as the fiscal agent for all funds received in the name of the Council. Deposits of monies are made with the Ashland County Treasurer and fund expenditures and balances are reported through the Ashland County Auditor. Deposits and investments are made in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code and are valued at the fiscal agent's carrying amount.

Ashland County Family and Children First Council

Ashland County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Council must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

Nonspendable The Council classifies assets as nonspendable when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact.

Restricted Fund balance is restricted when constraints placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions.

Committed The Council can commit amounts via formal action (resolution). The Council must adhere to these commitments unless the Council amends the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.

Assigned Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. Governmental funds other than the general fund report all fund balances as assigned unless they are restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the Council, which includes giving the administrative/fiscal agent the authority to constrain monies for intended purposes. The Council may also assign fund balances as it does when appropriating fund balance to cover a gap between estimated revenue and appropriations in the subsequent year's appropriated budget in the General Fund.

Unassigned Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not included in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is only used to report a deficit fund balance.

The Council applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

Ashland County Family and Children First Council

Ashland County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2019, follows:

2019 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 61,997	\$ 62,007	\$ 10

2019 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Disbursements			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Disbursements	Variance
General	\$ 71,036	\$ 66,138	\$ 4,898

Note 4 – Deposits and Investments

The Ashland County Auditor, as fiscal agent for the Council, maintains a cash and investments pool used by all of the Ashland County Auditor's funds, including those of the Council. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments and the Ashland County Auditor is responsible for compliance. The carrying amount of deposits and investments at December 31 was as \$31,396.

This fiscal agent is responsible for maintaining adequate depository collateral for all funds in the fiscal agent's pooled and deposit accounts. All risks associated with the above deposits are the responsibility of the fiscal agent.

Note 5 – Risk Management

Commercial Insurance

Through its administrative agents, the Ashland County Auditor, the Council has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability;
- Errors and omissions.

Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the last three years. There has not been a significant reduction in this coverage from the prior year.

Ashland County Family and Children First Council

Ashland County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Note 6 – Defined Benefit Pension Plan

The Council's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plan's benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2019, OPERS members contributed 10 percent of their gross salaries and the Council contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Council has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2019.

Note 7 – Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, and deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement, to qualifying benefit recipients. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the traditional pension plan and combined plan was 0 percent during calendar year 2019. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2019.

Note 8 – Contingent Liabilities

The Council may be a defendant in lawsuits. Although management cannot presently determine the outcome of these suits, management believes that the resolution of these matters will not materially adversely affect the Council's financial condition.

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the Council are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. The grantor may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

Note 9 – Construction and Contractual Commitments

Per the contract between Council and Ashland Parenting Plus, there remains an outstanding contractual commitment of up to \$20,000 for SFY2020, which ends on June 30, 2020.

Note 10 – Subsequent Events

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Council. The impact on the Council's future operating costs, revenues, and any recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER
FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS
BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN
ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Ashland County Family and Children First Council
Ashland County
110 Cottage Street, Suite 205
Ashland, Ohio 44805

To the Members of Council:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for the governmental fund type as of and for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 of Ashland County Family and Children First Council, Ashland County (the Council), and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 4, 2021, wherein we noted the Council followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit. We also noted the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Council and several changes to its reporting model.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the Council's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances to the extent necessary to support our opinions on the financial statements, but not to the extent necessary to opine on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control. Accordingly, we have not opined on it.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. *A material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Council's financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all internal control deficiencies that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Therefore, unidentified material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings that we consider a material weakness. We consider finding 2020-001 to be a material weakness.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Council's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the financial statements. However, opining on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We noted certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Council's management in a separate letter dated June 4, 2021.

Entity's Response to Finding

The Council's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying Corrective Action Plan. We did not subject the Council's response to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Council's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.
June 4, 2021

ASHLAND COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL
ASHLAND COUNTY

Schedule of Findings
December 31, 2020 and 2019

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS
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Finding Number 2020-001 – Material Weakness

Fund balance Adjustment and recording of transactions:

The Council erroneously recorded several transactions during 2020 and 2019. The more significant adjustments are as follows:

- In 2020, the Council recorded multiple transactions totaling \$63,525 as Other Expenses when they should have been recorded as Treatment Services.
- In 2020 and 2019, the Hinkle filing did not report a beginning or ending cash balance.

Management agrees with these adjustments and they were adjusted in the Council's records and the accompanying financial statements. We recommend the Council create and implement controls to ensure that the financial statements prepared are in accordance with the form prescribed by Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code 117-2-03(B).

Management Response:

See Corrective Action Plan

ASHLAND COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL
 ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO
 SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS – Prepared by Management
 December 31, 2020 and 2019

FINDING NUMBER	FUNDING SUMMARY	STATUS?	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
2018-001	Noncompliance and Material Weakness – Annual Financial Reporting: Various errors were noted in financial statements that required audit adjustments and reclassifications.	Not Corrected	N/A

ASHLAND COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL
ASHLAND COUNTY

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN
December 31, 2020 and 2019

Finding Number	Planned Corrective Action	Anticipated Completion Date	Responsible Contact Person
2020-001	I will make sure I look over the financial report more thoroughly before it is submitted to the Hinkle system.	Immediately	Amy Frese-Banaga, FCFC Coordinator

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



ASHLAND COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL

ASHLAND COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report, which is required to be filed pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in the Office of the Ohio Auditor of State in Columbus, Ohio.



Certified for Release 8/19/2021

88 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215
Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at
www.ohioauditor.gov