

***PORTAGE COUNTY FAMILY AND
CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL***

PORTAGE COUNTY

Regular Audit

For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021





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Executive Council
Portage County Family and Children First Council
449 S. Meridian St., 2nd Floor
Ravenna, OH 44266

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Portage County Family and Children First Council, Portage County, prepared by Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022. 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 Portage County Family and Children First Council is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

July 26, 2023

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Portage County Family and Children First Council
Portage County
For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

Table of Contents

Title	Page
Independent Auditors’ Report.....	1
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) - Governmental Fund Type – For the Year Ended December 31, 2022.....	4
Notes to the Financial Statements – For the Year Ended December 31, 2022.....	5
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) - Governmental Fund Type – For the Year Ended December 31, 2021.....	11
Notes to the Financial Statements – For the Year Ended December 31, 2021.....	12
Independent Auditor’s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	18
Schedule of Findings.....	20
Schedule of Prior Audit Findings (Prepared by Management)	22
Corrective Action Plan (Prepared by Management)	23

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Portage County Family and Children First Council
Portage County
449 S Meridian St, 2nd Floor
Ravenna, OH 44266-1217

To the Executive Council:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Unmodified and Adverse Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the Portage County Family and Children First Council, Portage County, Ohio (the Council), which comprise the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for the governmental fund type as of and for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for the governmental fund type as of and for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, in accordance with the financial reporting provisions which Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) permit, described in Note 2.

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* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements 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, 2022 and 2021, or the changes in financial position thereof for the years then ended.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Council, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

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

As described in Note 2 of the financial statements, the financial statements are prepared by the Council on the basis of the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), to satisfy these requirements. The effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 2 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material and pervasive.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) permit. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Council's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.

- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Council's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 1, 2023, on our consideration of the Council's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely 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 the effectiveness of the Council's 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 1, 2023

Portage County Family and Children First Council
Portage County
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes
in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis)
Governmental Fund Type
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

	General
Cash Receipts	
Intergovernmental	\$ 116,543
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	116,543
Cash Disbursements	
Current:	
Contractual Services	60,702
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	60,702
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	55,841
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	73,023
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	\$ 128,864

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Portage County Family and Children First Council

Portage County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

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;
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;
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.

Portage County Family and Children First Council

Portage County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 1 – Reporting Entity (continued)

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 balance (regulatory cash basis).

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.

Portage County Family and Children First Council

Portage County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

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 selected the Portage County Auditor. The Council authorizes the Portage 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. The Portage County Auditor 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 (C). 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 disbursements 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(C) 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 Portage County Auditor as required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2022 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Deposits and Investments

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

Capital Assets

The Council records cash disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant and equipment when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

Portage County Family and Children First Council

Portage County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

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 nonspendable fund balance category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or legally required to be maintained intact. The “not in spendable form” criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

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 or enabling legislation.

Committed The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by a formal action (resolution) of the Council. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Council removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those 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 all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications.

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 7.

Portage County Family and Children First Council

Portage County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2022 follows:

2022 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 128,600	\$ 116,543	\$(12,057)

2022 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Disbursements			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Disbursements	Variance
General	\$ 143,342	\$ 82,211	\$ 61,131

Note 4 – Deposits and Investments

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

Demand Deposits	2022 \$128,864
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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

The Council is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft, damage or destruction of assets, errors and omissions, employee injuries and natural disasters. To mitigate these risks, the Council is a covered member under Portage County’s insurance coverage policy.

The County is a member of County Risk Sharing Authority, Inc. (CORSA) which is a shared risk pool of sixty-one counties in Ohio. CORSA was formed as an Ohio nonprofit corporation for the purpose of establishing the CORSA Insurance/Self-Insurance Program, a group primary and excess insurance/self-insurance and risk management program. Member counties agree to jointly participate in coverage of losses and pay all contributions necessary for the specified insurance coverages provided by CORSA. These coverages include comprehensive general liability, automobile liability, certain property insurance and public officials’ errors and omission liability insurance.

Each member county has one vote on all matters requiring a vote, to be cast by a designated representative. The affairs of CORSA are managed by an elected Board of not more than nine trustees. Only County Commissioners of member counties are eligible to serve on the Board. No county may have more than one representative on the Board at any one time. Each member county’s control over the budgeting and financing of CORSA is limited to its voting authority and any representation it may have on the Board of Trustees.

Portage County Family and Children First Council

Portage County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 5 – Risk Management (continued)

The County pays the State Workers' Compensation System a premium based on a rate per \$100 of employee compensation. The rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs.

There were no significant reductions in insurance coverage from the prior year in any category of risk. Settled claims have not exceeded this insurance coverage in any of the past three years.

Note 6 – Contingent Liabilities

The Council may be a defendant in lawsuits. Although management cannot presently determine the outcome of any suit, management believes that the resolution of any matter 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 7 – Fund Balances

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 this amount was as follows:

<u>Fund Balances</u>	<u>General</u>
Outstanding Encumbrances	\$21,509

In the general fund, outstanding encumbrances are considered assigned.

Portage County Family and Children First Council
Portage County
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes
in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis)
Governmental Fund Type
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

	General
Cash Receipts	
Intergovernmental	\$ 125,883
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	125,883
Cash Disbursements	
Current:	
Contractual Services	247,627
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	247,627
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	(121,744)
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	194,767
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	\$ 73,023

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Portage County Family and Children First Council

Portage County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

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;
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;
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.

Portage County Family and Children First Council

Portage County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Note 1 – Reporting Entity (continued)

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 balance (regulatory cash basis).

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.

Portage County Family and Children First Council

Portage County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

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 selected the Portage County Auditor. The Council authorizes the Portage 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. The Portage County Auditor 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 (C). 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 disbursements 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(C) 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 Portage County Auditor as required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2021 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Deposits and Investments

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

Capital Assets

The Council records cash disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant and equipment when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

Portage County Family and Children First Council

Portage County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

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 nonspendable fund balance category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or legally required to be maintained intact. The “not in spendable form” criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

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 or enabling legislation.

Committed The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by a formal action (resolution) of the Council. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Council removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those 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 all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications.

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 7.

Portage County Family and Children First Council

Portage County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2021 follows:

2021 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 125,157	\$ 125,883	\$ 726

2021 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Disbursements			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Disbursements	Variance
General	\$ 319,923	\$ 254,998	\$64,925

Note 4 – Deposits and Investments

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

	2021
Demand Deposits	\$ 73,023

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

The Council is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft, damage or destruction of assets, errors and omissions, employee injuries and natural disasters. To mitigate these risks, the Council is a covered member under Portage County’s insurance coverage policy.

The County is a member of County Risk Sharing Authority, Inc. (CORSA) which is a shared risk pool of sixty-one counties in Ohio. CORSA was formed as an Ohio nonprofit corporation for the purpose of establishing the CORSA Insurance/Self-Insurance Program, a group primary and excess insurance/self-insurance and risk management program. Member counties agree to jointly participate in coverage of losses and pay all contributions necessary for the specified insurance coverages provided by CORSA. These coverages include comprehensive general liability, automobile liability, certain property insurance and public officials’ errors and omission liability insurance.

Each member county has one vote on all matters requiring a vote, to be cast by a designated representative. The affairs of CORSA are managed by an elected Board of not more than nine trustees. Only County Commissioners of member counties are eligible to serve on the Board. No county may have more than one representative on the Board at any one time. Each member county’s control over the budgeting and financing of CORSA is limited to its voting authority and any representation it may have on the Board of Trustees.

Portage County Family and Children First Council

Portage County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Note 5 – Risk Management (continued)

The County pays the State Workers' Compensation System a premium based on a rate per \$100 of employee compensation. The rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs.

There were no significant reductions in insurance coverage from the prior year in any category of risk. Settled claims have not exceeded this insurance coverage in any of the past three years.

Note 6 – Contingent Liabilities

The Council may be a defendant in lawsuits. Although management cannot presently determine the outcome of any suit, management believes that the resolution of any matter 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 7 – Fund Balances

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 this amount was as follows:

<u>Fund Balances</u>	<u>General</u>
Outstanding Encumbrances	\$ 7,371

In the general fund, outstanding encumbrances are considered assigned.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER
FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS
REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

Portage County Family and Children First Council
Portage County
449 S Meridian St, 2nd Floor
Ravenna, OH 44266-1217

To the Executive Council:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued 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, 2022 and 2021 and the related notes to the financial statements of the Portage County Family and Children First Council, Portage County, (the Council) and have issued our report thereon dated June 1, 2023, wherein we noted the Council followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code 117-2-03(C) permit.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Council's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purposes of expressing our opinions the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control.

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 deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Council's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matter that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*, which is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as item 2022-001.

We also noted certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Council's management in a separate letter dated June 1, 2023.

Council's Response to Finding

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Council's response to the finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying corrective action plan. The Council's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

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 1, 2023

Portage County Family and Children First Council
Portage County
Schedule of Findings
December 31, 2022 and 2021

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS
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Finding Number: 2022-001 – Non-Compliance

Restrictions on Appropriating and Expending Money

Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(D) states that no subdivision shall make any contract or order any expenditure of money unless the certificate of the fiscal officer is attached. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet such a commitment has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance.

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a fiscal officer’s certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The main exceptions are: “then and now” certificates, blanket certificates, and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in sections 5705.41 (D) (1) and 5705.41 (D) (3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code.

1. Then and Now Certificate: If the fiscal officer can certify both at the time that the contract or order was made “then” at the time that the fiscal officer is completing the certification “now”, sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrances, the taxing authority can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The taxing authority has 30 days from the receipt of such certificate to approve payment by resolution.

Amounts of less than \$3,000 may be paid by the fiscal officer without a resolution upon completion of the “then and now” certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of expenditures by the Council.

2. Blanket Certificate: Fiscal officers may prepare “blanket” certificates for a certain sum of money not in excess of an amount established by resolution adopted by a majority of the members of the legislative authority against any specific line-item account over a period not running beyond the end of the current fiscal year. The blanket certificates may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. Only one blanket certificate may be outstanding at one particular time for any one particular line-item appropriation.
3. Super Blanket Certificate: The Council may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount from a specific line-item appropriation account in a specified fund upon certification of the fiscal office for most professional services, fuel, oil, food items, and any other specific recurring and reasonably predictable operating expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line-item appropriation.

In 2021 and 2022, 26% and 38%, respectively, of expenditures tested had an invoice date that was prior to the issuance of a purchase order and a “then and now” was not issued. Incurring obligations prior to the fiscal officer’s certification could result in the Council spending more than appropriated.

Portage County Family and Children First Council

Portage County

Schedule of Findings (continued)

December 31, 2022 and 2021

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (continued)
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Finding Number: 2022-001 – Non-Compliance (continued)

Unless the exception noted above is used, prior certification is not only required by statute but is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments receive prior approval. To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the Council’s funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, the fiscal officer should certify funds are or will be available prior to obligation by the Council. When prior certification is not possible, “then and now” certification should be used.

Managements’ Response:

See Corrective Action Plan.

Portage County Family and Children First Council
Portage County
Schedule of Prior Audit Findings
For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021
Prepared by Management

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2020-001	Restrictions on Appropriating and Expending Money	Not Corrected	

Portage County Family and Children First Council
Portage County
Corrective Action Plan
For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021
Prepared by Management

Finding Number	Planned Corrective Action	Anticipated Completion Date	Responsible Contact Person
2022-001	The Council will continue to make this a focus in the future.	Immediately	KelliJo Jeffries, Fiscal Officer

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



PORTAGE COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL

PORTAGE 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 8/8/2023

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