

2023

A YEAR IN REVIEW



EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW



In Medina County, you can feel the difference. There is a sense of pride in living here, a feeling that we are working together for the betterment of all. Medina County is a place where good things are happening and a place where we can all accomplish our dreams, together.

Yet, even in Medina County, there are families who need assistance when falling on hard times. Senior citizens who need support. Children who need a difference maker.

A healthy and prosperous Medina County needs everyone. Together we are never alone.

At Medina County Job and Family Services, our mission is to provide access to government financial and wellness programs, protective and supportive services that add safety and confidence to every individual, and family services that foster independence and improve the quality of life in the community.

TOGETHER WE ARE... difference-makers.

Together we are...

CHILDRENS SERVICES

When you look around Medina County, you'll likely see success.

A closer look shows children in need. That's why we are here.

Keeping families together is always our hope, but our mission will always be the safest and healthiest solution for a child in need.

In 2023, Medina County Job and Family Services saw over 207 youths enter our foster and support system. Those children remained in our care an average of 13 months; some as long as 3 years.

Taking care of kids is a responsibility, not a choice. Thanks to your compassion and support, we are working to ensure a safe, healthy, and confident lifestyle for kids.

TOGETHER WE ARE... helping kids feel safer in Medina County.



SENIOR CITIZENS

Did you know there are more than 34,000 people in Medina County at or over the age of 65? That number is growing every year. Many of our seniors have a loving family support system. Some have grown up or moved here to live the good life, with good neighbors, and a good standard of living.

Some are alone and don't have anyone to lean on for help.

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FAMILIES

Medina County boasts a higher-than-average family income. But when you look deeper, you'll find families who have fallen on harder times. Fifteen percent of our families earn less than the highest poverty line and more are falling behind.

In 2023, Medina County Job and Family Services helped over 9,500 people per month to receive assistance to feed their families through the SNAP program. We also helped over 237 young people gain their high school diplomas, workforce development, financial literacy, leadership skills, and more.

These programs and services are meant to break the cycle of poverty for those in need in Medina County.

TOGETHER WE ARE... helping families grow healthier and wealthier in Medina County.

(Senior Citizens continued)

Through your support, Medina County Job and Family Services has helped many of our seniors gain access to healthcare through Medicaid and as-needed food assistance through Ohio's SNAP program. We are always looking out for seniors who need help with basic daily living, putting them in place for services that can help to ensure their golden years live up to their name.

TOGETHER WE ARE... helping seniors live and love every day in Medina County.



WORKING FOR FAIRNESS AGAINST FRAUD

As you may imagine, services delivered in 2023 were both impactful and expensive. Though you can't put a price tag on health and safety, our services are limited by available budgets and constraints. That is why we have placed tremendous importance on the impact of fraud in Medina County, and what can be done to stop it.

In 2023, our Fraud division fielded over 330 reports of potential fraud. This effort is meant to ensure that your hard-earned tax dollars are being used fairly and that there are plenty of services and benefits available to those who truly need them.

TOGETHER WE ARE... helping families grow together in Medina County.

WWW.MCJFS.US



Together we are...



CHILD SUPPORT

Child support isn't about who is right and who is wrong. And it's not just about money. We emphasize the role both parents play in their child's life. Our Child Support division worked on over 6,000 cases encompassing over \$19 million in payments for those children.

TOGETHER WE ARE...
helping families overcome adversity in Medina County.



FOSTER AND ADOPTION SERVICES

In 2023 alone, there were on average 127 children in our foster program. This shows that kids in need of families is a reality in Medina County.

At Medina County Job and Family Services, our Foster and Adopt Division has ramped up efforts to raise awareness of the need for foster care providers and adoptive families, working hard to ensure that all kids who need a family, have one.

Thanks to you, we were able to help 10 additional families gain foster care credentials in 2023. That's a lot of sacrifice, hard work, and commitment from those who can make a difference for kids in Medina County.

TOGETHER WE ARE... bringing families together in Medina County.

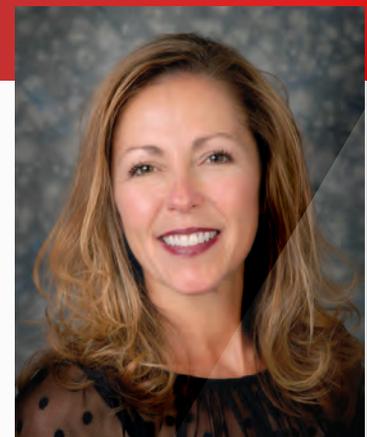
LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

In 2023, our team showed up on the front lines for families every day, ensuring our programs and services were accessible, efficient, and responsive to the evolving needs of our residents. It's difficult work, but we are committed to making a difference. To our entire MCJFS staff, I appreciate you.

I also thank the Board of Commissioners, partners, and stakeholders for their unwavering dedication and support.

In 2024, we renew our commitment to making a difference, to address emerging challenges, and to continue as a beacon for those who rely on our services.

IN 2024, TOGETHER WE ARE... TOGETHER.



Debbie Kiley, Director

Medina County Job & Family Services