

Good afternoon, I am Kathleen Johnson Associate Director for Family and Children First Council representing Robin Martin. Family and Children First Council is the policy and planning entity for children and families in Cuyahoga County. We are responsible for Service Coordination and Child-Well Being for children kindergarten to graduation. For 2022, our budget is flat.

The FCFC contract budget is divided into two areas. Service Coordination and Child-Well Being/Youth Development. The State funds cover 52% of our Service Coordination component. The remaining 48% is covered by local funds. Local funds cover administration, the data system and a safety net for families that do not meet the criteria for the State funds. The Child-well Being/Youth Development services are 100% levy funded. The funds support: Out-of-School Time and Transitions, Youth Leadership/ Engagement, Parent/Family Engagement, and Closing the Achievement Gap.

FCFC did not experience any significant budget reductions or eliminations and we have not added any new local initiatives or increased expenditures to our upcoming budget. FCFC does not have any issues or concerns with our 2022-2023 recommended budget.

Our major initiative for 2022 and 2023 will be to work with the State of Ohio to modernize Service Coordination, launch OhioRise, and working with local child-serving public systems to prevent custody relinquishment for families where there is no abuse or neglect. We hope to see additional increases to our state revenue.