

Outcome Team Roster

Christy Norvell

Montgomery County Department
of Job & Family Services
Co-Champion

Claire Renzetti, Ph.D.

University of Dayton,
Began March
Co-Champion

Fred Baxter

Ohio Department of
Youth Services,
through September

Ken Betz

Coroner's Office/Regional Crime
Laboratory

Elaine Jelly

Catholic Social Services of
the Miami Valley, Through June

Paul Jones

Battelle & Battelle, LLP,
Began August

Jan Lepore-Jentleson

East End Community Services,
through January

Connie Lucas-Melson

Community Volunteer

Jim McCarthy

Miami Valley Fair Housing Center

Patricia Meadows

The National Conference for
Community and Justice of
Greater Dayton, Through May

Bonnie Parish

Family Service Association

Rev. Dr. William Brodis Schooler

Dayton Baptist Pastors and
Ministers Union of Greater Dayton

Joe Spittler

Montgomery County
Criminal Justice Council

Dr. Robert C. Walker

Wesley Community Center

STAFF:

Catherine A. Rauch

OFCF

Sandra Barnum

OFCF

Natasha Glenn

OFCF



STABLE FAMILIES

Vision

The community respects and supports families, recognizing that family composition in a diverse society is varied. Family members have healthy relationships with each other. Families nurture their members and provide a sense of well-being and safety. Family members work together and feel that they also belong to something larger than themselves.

Stable Families Outcome Team Report

The Stable Families Outcome Team has continued to focus attention on various forms of family violence as well as indicators of family well-being. During 2009, significant energy went into the issue of elder abuse, neglect and exploitation in Montgomery County.

Elder Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation

Adult Protective Services (APS) in each county is mandated by Ohio law to act in a short-term capacity to stabilize situations deemed harmful or threatening to adults 60 years of age or older. Cases fall within the following categories:

- Abuse – sexual, physical and mental maltreatment by another person
- Neglect – other person not providing appropriate care
- Self-Neglect – most cases are medical and caused by diminished capacity to care for oneself
- Exploitation – unlawful use of financial resources by another

In Montgomery County during 2009, APS investigated a total of 1,404 referrals which were categorized as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------|-----|
| • Abuse | 11% |
| • Neglect by another | 17% |
| • Self-Neglect | 61% |
| • Exploitation | 11% |

STABLE FAMILIES

It is estimated that only ten percent (10%) of elder abuse, neglect and exploitation situations are reported for investigation. Even when it is available to them, not all people want help or involvement from APS. Adults have the right to refuse services and that can result in little or no action being taken, for example if the elderly person fears retaliation.

As the number of older adults increases, so will the number of elderly experiencing abuse or neglect. Greater community awareness is needed about the signs of elder abuse and neglect, especially self-neglect, in order for early detection and intervention to occur in Montgomery County.

In 2009, the Family and Community Violence Committee of the Stable Families Outcome Team was renamed the Committee on Elder Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation (the Committee). It also became an ad hoc committee of the Montgomery County Frail Elderly Services Advisory Council, which is responsible for ensuring appropriate services and support are made available to frail elderly citizens through the Human Services Levy.

The Committee was comprised of representatives from the following organizations:

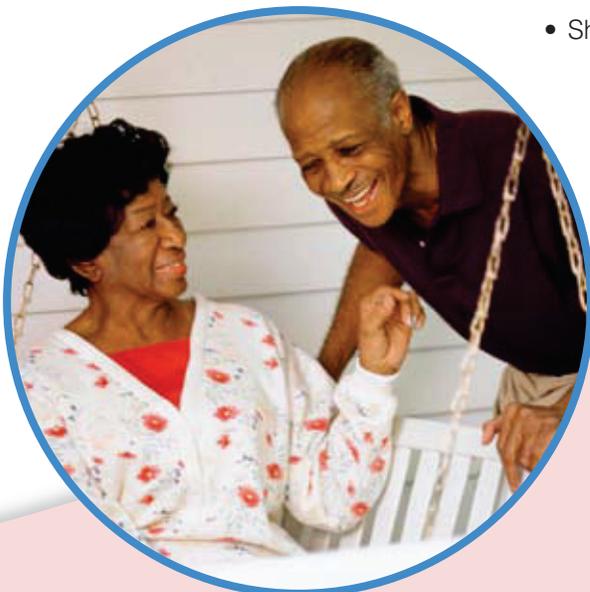
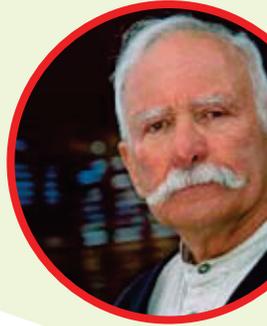
- Area Agency on Aging, PSA 2
- Artemis Center for Alternatives to Domestic Violence
- Association of Police Chiefs
- Family Service Association
- Long-Term Care Ombudsman
- National Conference for Community and Justice
- Senior Resource Connection
- Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine
- Wright State University School of Professional Psychology

And the following Montgomery County agencies and departments:

- Board of Developmental Disabilities Services
- Criminal Justice Council
- Coroner's Office / Regional Crime Laboratory
- Department of Job & Family Services, Adult Protective Services
- Office of Family and Children First
- Probate Court
- Prosecutor's Office
- Sheriff's Office

Members worked diligently during the year and in December completed the task of developing the Elder Abuse Interagency Investigative Guidelines. This document describes the role each professional discipline plays in the investigation and, when appropriate, prosecution of elder maltreatment. The guidelines will be used primarily by organizations that investigate referrals for intervention (law enforcement, Adult Protective Services, the Long-Term Care Ombudsman, and Prosecutor's Office).

Other work to address elder abuse, neglect and exploitation in Montgomery County is being planned by the Senior Services Division (part of the Montgomery County Department of Job and Family Services), which works closely with the Montgomery County Frail Elderly Services Advisory Council. For instance, with a grant from the National Center on Elder Abuse a multi-disciplinary team is being created to focus efforts on elder abuse detection, intervention, and prevention strategies through collaboration and partnerships. In addition, an Elder Abuse Symposium will take place on January 28, 2010, to educate community organizations about this growing concern and explain how to report suspected elder abuse.



STABLE FAMILIES

Fatherhood

The Stable Families Outcome Team has been concerned about the insufficient supports for fathers, most notably those financially disenfranchised and/or those without visitation or custody. These concerns are based on extensive information about the consequences of absent fathers and the impact of fathers' involvement on the well-being of children. The evidence clearly indicates that fathers factor significantly in the development and future success of their children.

During 2009, the Team reviewed research about various fatherhood support programs and reviewed current resources in the community. A major focus of the Team's 2010 agenda is identifying whether and in what form a pilot program or expansion of current services would benefit fathers in Montgomery County. The Team has begun discussions with planners of the Comprehensive Neighborhood Initiative to determine if involved residents would utilize such services.

Collaboration on Issues Affecting Multiple Outcome Areas

Comprehensive Neighborhood Initiative. This initiative is a pilot project to work in an integrated manner on all of the FCFC desired community outcomes in two or three specific distressed neighborhoods. Two members of the Stable Families Team have been part of the initial planning process. For more on the Comprehensive Neighborhood Initiative, see the Supportive and Engaged Neighborhoods section on page 49.

Alcohol and Drug Abuse Task Force. For more than a year, the Stable Families Team has had a representative participating on the Task Force along with representatives from other Outcome Teams and community partners. Task Force members have been engaged in integrating information from varied sources, identifying shared concerns and establishing overall priorities. See page 37 for more on the Task Force.

