



THE CUYAHOGA PARTNERING FOR FAMILY SUCCESS PROGRAM Fact Sheet

Program: In 2015, Cuyahoga County launched the nation's first county-level Pay for Success project (later named Partnering for Family Success) in the combined areas of homelessness and child welfare. In Pay for Success structures, governments have greater resources to tackle social problems by tapping into private investments for the upfront costs of the programs.

Cost: Program cost was \$4 million.

Purpose: To reduce the length of stay in out-of-home foster care placement for children whose families are homeless and housing insecure.

Partners:

- **Child Welfare Provider:** Cuyahoga County Division of Children and Family Services
- **Service Provider:** FrontLine Service
- **Housing Providers:** The Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (primary housing provider) and Emerald Development and Economic Network, Inc.
- **Project Manager & Fiscal Agent:** Enterprise Community Partners, Inc.
- **Government Payer:** County of Cuyahoga, Ohio
- **Government Advisor & Transaction Coordinator:** Third Sector Capital Partners, Inc.
- **Funders:** Reinvestment Fund, The George Gund Foundation, The Cleveland Foundation, The Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland and Nonprofit Finance Fund
- **Independent Evaluator:** The Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development at Case Western Reserve University

Service Delivery: 135 families received a seamless network of support that addressed parenting skills, childhood trauma, housing instability, domestic violence, mental health services and mental disabilities

Results

- 118 of families have been stably housed; not all families needed housing
- 46 caregivers participated in substance use treatment
- 69 caregivers took advantage of mental health treatment
- No reduction in length of stay in out-of-home placement
- 69% of African-American children who were part of the treatment group and who exited care reunified with their families, versus 55% of African-American children who received conventional County Division of Children and Family Services care and who exited care to reunify with family
- County is proposing to fund the program for another year, with an additional option year possible, to determine if this approach continues to work better for African-American families