

Licking County CSEA

2001 ~ 2002 Annual Report



Commissioners

Albert Ashbrook
Marcia Phelps
Jay Baird

Director

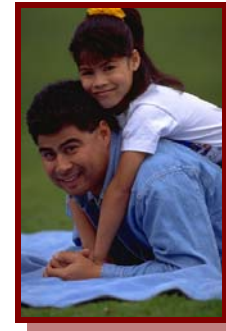
Craig Baldwin

From The Director

I am pleased to present the 2001-2002 Annual Report for the Licking County Child Support Enforcement Agency. Here at the agency we believe that the work we do directly benefits the quality of life for the children and families of Licking County. We see our work as an opportunity to make a positive difference in our community. Child support is a complex area that presents many challenges. In Licking County we see those challenges as opportunities to better serve our community.



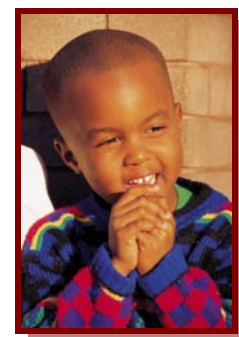
I have been the director for almost eighteen months. In that time period I have been most impressed with the commitment and drive of the Licking County CSEA staff. The people here at the agency care about the work we do and the community they serve. It is a pleasure to work with them. Indeed their commitment to our community extends outside the agency in the form of volunteer work and service in various community organizations.



I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Licking County Board of Commissioners, without whose support would make our job much more difficult. Their support of our customer service efforts and overall agency goals makes the difference in our service to the community.



Our state and local partners are to be commended as well. Our thanks to the Licking County Common Pleas Court, Domestic Relations Division, the Licking County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division; the Domestic Relations and Juvenile Clerk of Courts, the Licking County Sheriff's Department, the Licking County Adult Probation Department, the Licking County Prosecutors Office, the Licking County Department of Job and Family Services, and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.



As we face the many challenges ahead, our focus remains on our citizens of Licking County and the families we serve.

Sincerely,

Craig R. Baldwin

Sheriff's Deputies

Over the past year the CSEA has added an additional Sheriff's Deputy to bring our total number to three. This additional assistance allows us to provide a wider range of service and to assist us in serving warrants in our county and adjoining counties as well. In 2001, our Deputies served a total of 280 warrants.

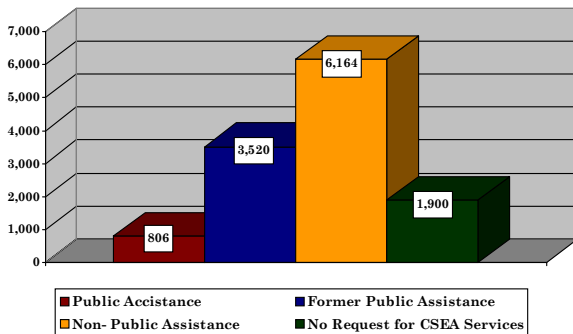
The addition of a third Deputy, as well as the ability to have them devoted full time to the service of our paperwork and non-support warrants, allows for increased service and full time dedication to the child support.

Probation Officer

We continue to work with an in-house Probation Officer working in conjunction with the Adult Court Services.

New and improved additions include an increase in the number of electronic monitors for a total of ten. These monitors allow us to ensure compliance with reports received via signals sent through the telephone line. The Probation Officer can then track and review to assure those under monitoring attended all training, therapy or work schedules as required by the Court.

Case Type Summary



Our Legal Division

During the reporting period, our Legal Division provided Administrative Services for 1300 cases. This includes Administrative paternity, support, reviews and Mistake of Fact hearings. Of this total, 147 cases had paternity completed administratively. In addition to our in-house Administrative services, our Legal Division processed the following entries:

Total Hearings	1,818
Contempts Filed	627
Capias Issued	368
Imposition of Sentence	274

Short Leash	136
Criminal Non-Support	34
Felony Referral	19

These figures are a small portion of the work done by the Legal Division. An average of 2000 cases are active in Legal during a monthly reporting period. With ever growing enforcement actions, we were fortunate to add an additional full time attorney, bringing our count to six.

We continue to hold our First Contempt Hearings once a month in conjunction with the Domestic Relations Court. These en masse hearings help alleviate the huge backlog on the Courts' docket and allow us to process first contempt cases in a timely fashion.

Community Outreach

We continue to provide outreach and educational services to the citizens of Licking County:

Divorce Seminars - information regarding our services presented to those ordered to attend a mandatory divorce seminar.

School & Civic Group Presentations - We continue to present to the local school systems in Licking County. Information is provided regarding paternity establishment, support orders, and enforcement, as well as a question and answer session.

Correctional Facility - Presentations and informational sessions are held at the Licking/Muskingum Correctional Facility and the Licking County Jail. Our goal is to assist inmates with any questions or concerns and provide information regarding our services.

Local Bar - a quarterly newsletter is generated to the local bar association providing updates and information. In addition to a quarterly update, we generate updates as needed to the bar.

Enhanced Seek Work Program - In conjunction with the Licking County Department of Job & Family Services, our office collaborates in providing a source for non-custodial parents to receive assistance in obtaining training and employment opportunities. Orientation is provided bi-monthly at the Domestic Relations Court (2nd floor). Both Case Managers and the Court recommend participants to attend. During the reporting year, fourteen Seek and Obtain Work orientations have been completed. Of those ordered to attend, fifty-eight percent attended.

Web Site Enhancements

Our website provides a multitude of information along with our Most Wanted page. Please log on to: www.ohio.gov/odjfs/county/licking/ You can also e-mail or request information at LCCSEA@odjfs.state.oh.us

Along with information regarding our services, we provide updates of any new information published and provide access to many forms in the Adobe Acrobat format which facilitates simplified viewing and printing.

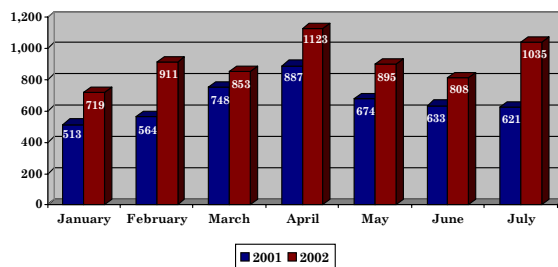
In an effort to improve our site, we have added a section for Success Stories, an Attorney Resource section which includes detailed information about Interstate Cases, employer updates, and enhanced links to local agencies.

Our website has an average of 770 hits per month, with an increase of 175 more hits in June 2002 than June 2001, and 300 more than in 2000.

For those who cannot contact the office during our normal hours of operation, this website provides an additional way to e-mail questions regarding their case, or obtain updated forms and information.

We welcome your comments and appreciate your input. This website was created for the community. Your input provides us with the opportunity to improve our website.

Web Site Hits



Commitment to Licking County

The CSEA staff participates in a wide range of committees within the community. Some of those include:

Operation Feed: Our office has participated in Operation Feed since its onset. We are proud to be recognized as the winners of the Licking County Government award for an Agency of our size. We

strive on a yearly basis to provide assistance with food and monetary contributions.

United Way: Agency staff members support the United Way campaign. Single donations as well as payroll contributions help to support the citizens of Licking County.

Interfaith Legal Clinic: The legal clinic provides citizens of Licking County an opportunity to meet with members of the local bar. The clinics are held monthly at various meeting locations throughout Licking County. Our attorneys assist in providing free legal assistance. Our goal for the upcoming year is to assist the clinic by providing a CSEA volunteer to answer child support concerns.

Our staff members participate and support the following organizations:

American Red Cross ~ Mike Radabaugh Challenge
Muscular Dystrophy Jail-n-Bail ~ Literacy Council
Multiple Sclerosis Society ~ 4-H Clubs ~ Lions Club
Licking County Hospice ~ American Cancer Society
Christmas donations to needy families
Trick or Treat Around the Square

The above are a portion of our commitment to the community. In addition our staff is active in local schools, area sports and church organizations.

Statistics

Licking County vs. 87 Other Ohio Counties:

- Licking County has the 15th largest caseload out of the 88 counties in Ohio
- Licking County is 16th out of the 88 counties in Ohio in collections with an average of \$2.3 million collected each month.
- Over the last 12 months, Licking County has collected over \$27 million dollars in support.

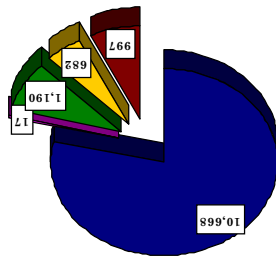
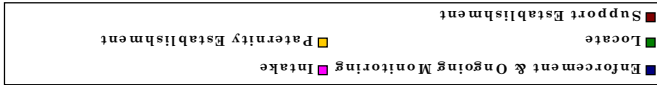
Collections

Over the twelve month reporting period, a total of \$27,693,243.94 has been collected. Of this total, \$1,531,487.04 was received from Internal Revenue or Ohio Department of Taxation Offset.

Caseload Count

Licking County has approximately 13,554 cases. Enforcement for this caseload is provided by fifteen Case Management Program Specialists with approximately 820 cases each.

To:



Case Action Summary

Licking County CSEA
 PO Box 338
 Newark, OH 43058-0338

***Total Collections and Disbursements
 July 2001 through June 2002***

Federal Tax Refund Collections	\$1,336,039.45
Ohio Tax Refund Collections	195,447.59
Unemployment Compensation Collections	471,257.37
Wage Withholding Collections	19,978,286.88
Collections Made Through Other Means	5,194,871.55
Collections from Other States	<u>517,341.10</u>
Total	<u>\$27,693,243.94</u>