

# Licking County CSEA 2002 ~ 2003 Annual Report



## Commissioners

Albert Ashbrook  
Marcia Phelps  
Jay Baird

Director  
Craig Baldwin

## *From The Director*

As the Director of the Licking County Child Support Enforcement Agency, I proudly present our 2002-2003 Annual Report. Our commitment to the children and families of our community continues as we strive to meet the many challenges within the child support arena.

We are proud of our ability to overcome these challenges and of our Agency performance overall. We view this past year as a success. This success is due to our dedicated staff. It is indeed an honor to work with them on a daily basis.

As I reflect over the last year, I realize that we could not accomplish our goals and meet the needs of the Licking County community without our child support partners. Critical to our success is first and foremost the Licking County Commissioners. We appreciate their continued support and direction. Their dedication to the community serves as a model for the CSEA.

Additional thanks are extended to our state and local partners. Without their help and cooperation, we could not provide our services in an efficient effective manner. Our thanks to the Licking County Common Pleas Court, Domestic Relations Division, the Licking County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division; the Licking County Common Pleas Clerk of Courts and Juvenile Clerk of Courts office, 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.

The Licking County Child Support Enforcement Agency operates in an uncertain and changing environment. Fiscal challenges, changes in state and federal regulations, and ever-increasing workloads challenge our ability to accomplish our mission. We face these challenges and strive to provide quality child support services to our community. Our goal remains to provide child support services with knowledge, dedication and professionalism.

Sincerely,

Craig Baldwin  
Director



## ***Sheriff Deputies***

The Licking County CSEA operates with the assistance of three full time deputies. In 2002 a total of 258 warrants were served. In addition CSEA paperwork was also served upon 975 individuals.

Our contract with the Sheriff's Department allows us to have three highly dedicated officers working full time in the child support area. This allows for improved communication between the CSEA staff and the deputies with the result of improved efficiency and more responsive warrant service. We appreciate their dedication and hard work.

## ***Probation Officer***

In conjunction with the Adult Court Services, we have had another successful year with our in-house probation officer. His case load includes 111 cases, 62 of which are felonies, and 49 misdemeanor cases.

Our probation officer assists with monitoring our felony non-support cases that have been granted probation. Regular follow up and contact with these individuals have increased our success rate in the felony area.

## ***Seek Work Orientation 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 on a monthly basis at the CSEA. Both Case Managers and the Court can recommend participants to attend. Once the orientation process has been completed, participants are then scheduled for six workshops to be held at the Licking County DJFS.

In addition to this service, our office provides "Hot Jobs" sheets available at the CSEA office for additional job referral sources.

During the reporting period, thirteen Seek Work programs have been held. Ninety-seven participants were scheduled, with seventy attending, and a seventy-two percent attendance record.

## ***Legal Division Statistics***

During the reporting period, our Legal Division continues to average approximately 1950 active cases per month. These cases are handled by four full time attorneys and two Legal Coordinators/Attorneys. Administrative services are provided for establishment of paternity, support, review of support orders and Mistake of Fact hearings.

## ***General Statistics***

### **How Ohio Compares with Other States:**

- Ohio currently ranks second nationally in total IV-D collections distributed.
- Ohio currently ranks first nationally in non-Ohio Works First (OWF) collections.
- Ohio currently ranks fifth nationally in total paternities established.

### **Licking County vs. 87 Other Ohio Counties:**

- Licking County ranks 15<sup>th</sup> in caseload count of the 88 counties in Ohio.
- Licking County is 16<sup>th</sup> out of the 88 counties in collections.
- Licking County collected an average of 2.1 million dollars each month.
- Over the last twelve months, Licking County collected over 27 million dollars in support.

## ***Collections***

Over the twelve month reporting period, a total of \$27,010,329.86 has been collected. Of this total, \$1,604,122.06 was received from the Internal Revenue and Ohio Department of Taxation offset.

## ***Caseload Count***

Licking County has approximately 12,644 open active cases. Enforcement for this caseload is provided by fifteen Case Management Program Specialists with approximately 843 cases each.

## Community Outreach

In an effort to provide outreach and educational services to the citizens of Licking County, the CSEA provides the following:

- Divorce Seminars - information regarding our services presented to those ordered to attend a mandatory divorce seminar.
- School & Civic Presentations - We continue to present informational classes to the local school systems in Licking County. Information is provided regarding paternity establishment, support orders and enforcement, as well as a general question and answer sessions.
- Correctional Facility - Presentations and informational sessions are held at the Licking County Jail and the Licking/Muskingum Correctional Facility. Our goal is to assist inmates with any questions or concerns and provide education regarding our services.
- Local Bar Association - The CSEA Legal Links are provided to the local bar association in an effort to provide updated information regarding policies and procedures.

## Commitment to Licking County

The CSEA staff continues to participate in a wide range of committees and community service organizations. We are proud of their dedication to the community both in-house and in their various volunteer works. These organizations include:

- Operation Feed: The staff once again were the winners of the Licking County Government award for an Agency of our size. The Agency prides itself in collecting food and providing monetary donations to assist residents of Licking County in need.
- United Way Campaign: Agency staff members continue to donate on a yearly basis, by single donation or payroll deduction.
- Interfaith Legal Clinic: Agency attorneys, as well as staff members attend the monthly clinics and assist Licking County citizens with child support concerns. The legal clinic provides an excellent source for the citizens of Licking County to meet with members of the local bar and discuss a variety of legal concerns. The legal clinic is held monthly at various churches throughout Licking County.

The staff also continues to participate and support the following organizations:

LEADS/Headstart, American Red Cross, Lions Club, Literacy Council, Hospice, American Cancer Society, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Licking Park District Volunteers.

In addition, our staff also continues to be active in our local schools, churches and area sports organizations.

## Agency Website

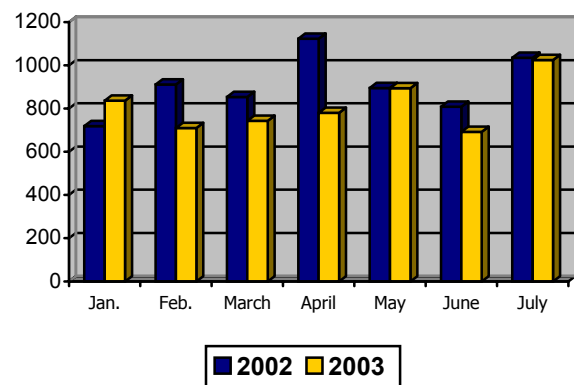
In 2002, the Agency website averaged 872 hits per month. So far this year the site is averaging 811 hits per month.

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 forms and information.

We welcome your comments and appreciate your input. This website was created for the community and with your input we can improve the site to best meet your needs.

Please take a moment to visit our site at [www.ohio.gov/odjfs/county/licking/](http://www.ohio.gov/odjfs/county/licking/) or e-mail us at [LCCSEA@odjfs.state.oh.us](mailto:LCCSEA@odjfs.state.oh.us)

Website Hits



Licking County CSEA  
P.O. Box 338  
Newark, OH 43058-0338

To:

***Total Collections and Disbursements  
July 2002 through June 2003***

Federal Tax Refund Collections	\$ 1,436,236.31
Ohio Tax Refund Collections	\$ 167,885.75
Unemployment Compensation Collections	\$ 605,956.88
Wage Withholding Collections	\$ 19,138,379.59
Collections Made Through Other Sources	\$ 5,095,691.64
Collections from Other States	\$ 566,179.69
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$ 27,010,329.86</u></b>