

Gallia County Family and Children First Council

The Gallia County FCFC includes families and people from local agencies and community organizations in Gallia County. This group works together as partners to improve the well-being of children and families. There is an FCFC in every county in Ohio.

Simply, the FCFC is a way for families and their children to get services with service coordination.

What is Service Coordination?

Service Coordination helps bring services to children and families in a way that is simple and organized.

What is a service?

A service is an activity or support that helps children and their families. Families can get services from agencies, organizations, and informal supports, like neighbors or friends.

Is there a document that serves as a guide to Service Coordination?

Yes, The County Service Coordination Mechanism is a document that guides Service Coordination throughout the county.

Gallia County Family and Children First Council

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Service Coordination

➤➤➤ Gallia County Family and Children First Council



Helping children succeed...
One family at a time.

Tel: 740-446-3022

Service Coordination

How does Service Coordination work?

You and your family meet with a family team to share information and ideas, and decide what services your child should receive. In cooperation with the family team, you and your child will construct a plan for how your child will receive services. The family team must write the plan following the guidelines of the Service Coordination Mechanism. Your family is a very important part of making the decisions.

Your family is an important part of the Family Service Coordination process and an asset to every decision made regarding your child.

Guidelines for the Service Coordination Mechanism:

- Welcomes families to meetings
- Allows families to ask for meetings
- Allows families to bring people to meetings
- Assures meetings with families before some placements
- Keeps family information private
- Requires the FCFC to recognize family strengths and needs
- Includes guidelines for Family Service Coordination Plans

The FCFC must follow the County Service Coordination Mechanism

The FCFC must follow the plan to:

- Discover a child and family's strengths and need
- Outline the services your child and family need
- Designate agencies who are responsible for services
- Complete services within the agreed upon timeline
- Follow the Dispute Resolution Process when there is a disagreement regarding services

When families don't agree with services:

The FCFC dispute resolution process is your county's step-by-step way to work things out when families or agencies who are members of the FCFC do not agree with the individual service plan for your family. This is a way to bring attention to your concerns and complaints.

All families with an individual family plan can use the dispute resolution process. Agencies who are members of FCFC can also use the dispute resolution process.

Your county FCFC **must** tell you about the dispute resolution process and that you have a right to use it. You can also ask the person who coordinates services about the FCFC dispute resolution process. To learn about the process call:

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Values outlined by the Ohio Family and Children First Council continue to positively influence Ohio's public policy regarding families and their children. These same values, outlined below, also guide the Gallia County Family and Children First Council in our commitment to providing Gallia County families better access to services and effective service coordination:

- * *Children have the right to live with their own family.*
- * *Children have the right to be nurtured and protected in a stable family environment.*
- * *When children are at risk of harm, the community has the responsibility to intervene.*
- * *Families are our community's most important resource and must be respected, valued, and encouraged to build upon their strengths.*
- * *The racial, cultural and ethnic heritage of children and the neighborhoods where they live are respected and supported as strengths. Ethnic and racial child-rearing practices are valued.*
- * *Families have the right and responsibility to participate in identifying their concerns, priorities, and needed resources.*
- * *Families have a right to individualized service provision that addresses the multiple needs of their children.*