

2012 ANNUAL REPORT



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CLERMONT COUNTY, OHIO**



Dear Fellow Clermont County Citizens

As your County Commissioners, we are diligently working to boost economic development throughout our region, committed to retaining a balanced budget and striving to ensure that our communities remain a vibrant place to live and work! This annual report highlights many Clermont County accomplishments throughout 2012.

Maintaining a transparent operation is always important to the Commissioners' and Clermont County staff. We encourage and welcome you to attend Commissioner's meetings. However due to our fast paced lifestyles, we recognize that is not always possible. In an effort to be more accessible, we are utilizing social media to post Commissioners' meetings on the Clermont County YouTube channel,

sending updates via Twitter and interacting with citizens about local news and events on the Clermont County Facebook page! Immediately after each Board of Clermont County Commissioners' meeting, a video of the session is available on our website and a series of monthly meetings and county announcements can be seen on our Clermont County public access television. For more information regarding Clermont County Commissioners' meetings, visit www.bcc.ClermontCountyOhio.gov or call (513) 732-7300.

Sincerely,

The Board of Clermont County Commissioners
Edwin H. Humphrey, David H. Uible and
Robert L. Proud

Clermont County Community and Economic Development

Clermont County's economy continued to rebound from the recession in 2012, with economic development, planning, and community development projects being managed by the Department of Community and Economic Development. The year started off strong with Governor Kasich participating in two ribbon cuttings for Clermont County companies. Global Scrap Management officially opened for business in 100,000 square feet of space at the former Ford Plant. Governor Kasich attended this event and signed an executive order creating the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation. One week later, the Governor was in Miami Township announcing the relocation of Bioformix, a state-of-the-art manufacturer in the adhesives, coatings, and sealants industry. Bioformix expects to create 120 jobs in the next three to five years. Jungle Jim's International Market officially opened its doors in September 2012. The 215,000 square foot store in the former Biggs Place mall was a project two years in the making. Additional new tenants include Hwy 55, Jimmy Johns', Massage Envy, and Sweet Frog Yogurt, among others. This area of Clermont County has seen an extensive amount of new retail activity in the past year. Children's Hospital announced the purchase of approximately 25 acres in the Ivy Pointe Commerce Park for the future development of one of their facilities. With great visibility from I-275 and access via State Route

32, this location will be extremely accessible in serving residents of the east side of Cincinnati.

As the economy continues to recover, planning activity is steadily increasing. Twelve zone changes and three zoning resolution text amendments were reviewed by the Clermont County Planning Commission. Additionally, two revised subdivisions and four subdivision approval extensions were approved by the Planning Commission members in 2012. These planning activities demonstrate that developers and business owners are beginning to invest in facilities and infrastructure again. That investment will ultimately lead to new job creation. Under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Community Housing and Improvement Program (CHIP), and Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP), approximately \$900,000 in federal grant monies were invested in local communities, resulting in improvements to storm water drainage, home septic repair, home rehabilitation, home ownership, street improvements, emergency alert equipment, bridge repair, demolitions, and fair housing outreach. Additional funds for residential demolition projects were made available through the Moving Ohio Forward Demolition Grant and will be expended through 2013. To learn more about CED, visit its website at www.clermontcountyohio.biz.



Clermont County Common Pleas Court, General Division

The Clermont County Common Pleas Court had three of the four judges run for re-election in November 2012, with Judge Victor Haddad, Judge Jerry McBride and Judge Richard Ferenc all being re-elected. Judge Jerry McBride served as the Administrative Judge for the General Division and Judge Thomas Herman served as Presiding Judge for all Common Pleas Court Divisions. Common Pleas Court Judge Victor Haddad was selected as the "2012 Trial Judge of the Year" by the Southwest Ohio Trial Lawyers Association (SWOTLA). SWOTLA is an organization of trial attorneys from Southwest Ohio, who desire to increase the level of representation for individuals and families with civil cases, uphold the integrity of the judicial system and enhance the jury system by offering the most equitable day in court possible. In 2012, courthouses throughout Clermont County once

again hosted the district and regional Ohio State High School Mock Trial competitions under the direction of the Clermont County District and Regional Coordinator, Judge Jerry McBride. The program engages students from area high schools in developing critical thinking skills by analyzing a hypothetical legal action and developing and presenting arguments for each side of the case. In February, Gary Scalf was hired as the Clermont County Common Pleas Court Administrator. Gary worked for 30 years with AT&T as a Data Base Engineer/Manager and served the past 7 years working with Clermont County in both Municipal and Common Pleas Courts. The following judges served the Common Pleas Court in 2012: Judge Jerry McBride, Judge Victor Haddad, Judge Thomas Herman and Judge Richard Ferenc. The Court also has a full staff of five attorneys/magistrates.

Clermont County Common Pleas Court, Adult Probation Department

The Common Pleas Court Adult Probation Department strives to uphold its mission to serve the Common Pleas Court Judges and the citizens of Clermont County by maintaining community safety through appropriate and meaningful supervision of felony level offenders and by facilitating victim reparation through the collection of restitution from offenders for their victims. In 2012, the Common Pleas Adult Probation Department supervised an average of 1,330 offenders each month. These offenders were assigned to various units for the most appropriate levels of supervision, depending on the offenders' needs and level of risk. The Department implemented programming under the new Probation Improvement Grant awarded in December 2011. The programming included Thinking for a Change curriculum that has been proven to be effective in helping offender's change their criminal thinking and behavior, thereby reducing recidivism.

Clermont County Municipal Court

Combating the heroin problem in Clermont County became a major focus for the Clermont County Municipal Court in 2012. The Municipal Court targets individuals, many who are returning to the community after serving jail time, by requiring them to complete the Clermont County Recovery to Work/Horizons Program. The program is a "virtual residential" service operating with the local Clermont County Mental Health and Recovery Board [CCMHRB], the Clermont Recovery Center [CRC] and Life Point Solutions. The key element of the program is intensive treatment with medication assistance. The Recovery to Work/Horizons Program focuses on helping individuals overcome barriers by receiving the training and support necessary to transition back into society and find employment. By effectively treating heroin addicts and helping them to be productive members of the community, the costs of the criminal justice system are lowered and the number of taxpaying citizens increased. In 2012, Clermont County Municipal Court received 32,025 new cases (19,494 were traffic; 6,853 were criminal and 5,678 were civil). The Court also reactivated 6,433 cases where the defendant failed to appear previously. The Court collected \$151,400.00 in restitution for crime victims. The cumulative receipts for traffic, criminal, and civil cases in 2012 totaled \$7,081,552.00. Judge Anthony W. Brock served as Administrative and Presiding Judge for 2012 and Judge James A. Shriver will serve in 2013. The following judges served Clermont Municipal Court in 2012: Judge Anthony W. Brock, Judge George E. Pattison, and Judge James A. Shriver. Municipal Court is located at 4430 SR 222 in Batavia. For more information about the Court, call (513) 732-7911.



Clermont County Municipal Court Adult Probation Department

The Clermont County Municipal Court Adult Probation Department supervised approximately 1,263 misdemeanor offenders during 2012. Approximately 674 of the 1,263 offenders supervised were new referrals. Misdemeanor offenders are placed on reporting probation/community control to monitor court-ordered conditions of probation and to assist in rehabilitating the offenders. The Adult Probation Department also received 112 cases referred for pre-sentence investigations and 74 offenders who were released onto reporting bond from the Clermont County Jail. During 2012, the Clermont County OVI Court received 39 referrals to the program; 20 were participants accepted into the program and 10 of those participants successfully completed the program. The Clermont County OVI Court is presided over by Judge Shriver. This specialized docket was created as a combined effort between Municipal Court, Probation Department, Prosecutor's Office, Public Defender's Office, Treatment Specialists and the Sheriff's Department as an innovative approach to addressing

impaired driving on Clermont County roadways. The Clermont County Municipal Court Adult Probation Department is currently operating a cognitive behavioral group at the Clermont County Jail for inmates who are in need of cognitive restructuring. The group is operated in cooperation with the Clermont County Sheriff's Department, Clermont County Jail and the Clermont County Common Pleas Adult Probation Department to assist inmates in the court system and correctional institutions. Community service work crews continued to operate seven days per week, performing multiple projects throughout the county. A total of 2,684 offenders completed 79,214 hours of community service during 2012. The work crews provided considerable assistance with the cleanup efforts following the March 2012 tornado in the Village of Moscow. Additionally, the community service work crews continued their year-round roadside litter pickup efforts; removing 9,316 bags of litter and over 601 tires from 1,900 miles of state, county, and township roadways.

Domestic Relations Court with Judge Kathleen M. Rodenberg

This year saw realigning of staff and procedures to reflect the current needs of the Court while reducing overall costs. After a year of observing procedures and processes, Judge Rodenberg began making changes to bring the Court more in line with her vision. Judge Rodenberg has worked on streamlining cumbersome processes, while moving towards efficiency with a focus on technology. As a part of that process, the Court began faxing protection orders to the Clerk of Courts and the Sheriff's Office. In the past, these orders were hand delivered to the Sheriff's office for processing. Faxing has reduced staff time and increased the efficiency in updating records and serving protection orders.

Through reorganization of the magistrates' dockets, the Court was able to eliminate the part-time magistrate position and allow more flexibility in scheduling. One clerical position was also eliminated by reassigning duties. Even with the creation of the Chief Bailiff and Assignment Commissioner positions, the Court was able to reduce its budget and return money to the County General Fund. Through the use of email and fax machines to serve hearing notices, orders, and decisions, the Court has also reduced postage costs. The accomplishments of 2012 were a true team effort. Judge Rodenberg and her staff continually look for innovative ways to save money and create time effective solutions.

CASA for Clermont Kids

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) for Clermont Kids is a private, nonprofit agency funded primarily by the generous donations of individuals and corporations in the community and two state grants. The mission of CASA is to advocate for the best interests of abused, neglected and dependent children who have been introduced into Clermont County Juvenile Court. A non-profit agency based on the belief that children are entitled to a safe, loving and permanent home, CASA recruits and trains community involved citizens to volunteer as Guardians Ad Litem who independently work in the court system and in collaboration with involved agencies and community resources to serve as children's advocates and court representatives. In 2012, 20 community involved citizens completed 40 hours of

training and were sworn in as officers of the court by the Honorable Judge Stephanie Wyler. The CASA volunteers represent the best interest of the children in Juvenile Court. Of the 222 children served in 2012, 68 achieved permanency in a safe and stable home.

The program has only two full-time positions, three part-time positions and utilizes social work graduate student interns to function at full capacity. The program's lean budget and ability to give quality advocacy to such a large number of children is based on the amazing talents of the 60 volunteers. To learn more about this program, make a donation or volunteer for the program visit www.casaforclermontkids.org.



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Clermont County Engineer

Clermont County Engineer, Pat Manger, has highlighted six upcoming projects for the region. These projects are projected to ease congestion, expand access to business and shopping and improve safety for all who travel through the area:

1. EASTGATE NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD

Some improvements have already taken place; construction will continue into spring 2013 and be completed in late summer. New lane alignments and adjustments to traffic signals will improve access to and from SR 32 and Eastgate Blvd., particularly for traffic moving through the Eastgate area retail hub.

2. EASTGATE BOULEVARD OVER SR 32

The Eastgate Blvd. structure over SR 32 will be reconstructed and widened, and ramp traffic from Eastgate Blvd. will be relocated to Eastgate North Drive to improve traffic flow along Eastgate Blvd. Construction will start in the summer of 2013 and will be completed the following year.

3. I-275/SR 32 INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS

These improvements represent the most significant change to traffic patterns in the area. Planned improvements include:

- ▶ Widening portions of SR 32 from Old SR 74 to Eastgate Square Drive.
- ▶ Constructing new ramps to provide new access to SR 32 from I-275, as well as new ramps and structures under I-275 that will allow for the Aicholtz Road Connector.
- ▶ Improving safety by increasing the spacing distance between on and off ramps to eliminate weaving traffic.

The I-275/SR 32 Interchange Improvements are a well-coordinated series of projects that have been designed to serve current as well as projected travel demand, which simply means that project managers have anticipated planned growth in the area and these improvements will support those potential changes. Importantly, improvements will also reduce congestion and delay and improve roadway safety. Construction will begin this summer and is scheduled to be completed in 2015.



4. IVY POINTE EXTENSION

This project will extend the existing roadway about a quarter of a mile beyond the intersection of Ferguson Drive and Ivy Pointe Boulevard to a new connection with Aicholtz Road. Construction is scheduled to begin in July and should be completed later this fall.

5. CLOUGH PIKE WIDENING

This project will add a third travel lane along a 1.3 mile section of Clough Pike, between Mount Carmel Tobasco Road and Glen Este-Withamsville Road. A center run lane will be added, as well as, a sidewalk along the north side of the road. Upgrades will be made to nearby traffic signals and drainage improvements will also be completed along the project corridor. Some utility work has begun in the area. Construction will kick-off in the spring of 2013, with completion expected by the end of 2014.

6. EASTGATE SOUTH DRIVE ROUNDABOUT

The final project slated for construction in 2013 is in Union Township, located at the intersection of Eastgate South Drive and Clepper Lane. This project will remove the existing signalized intersection and replace traffic signals with a roundabout. New landscaping will also punctuate the new traffic improvements. Work will begin and end this year.

It may look like there is a lot going on – and there is – however it's all happening in a planned, coordinated sequence where the work being done on one project lays the foundation for the next. More detailed and regularly updated project information can be found at GoClermont.org.

Clermont County Board of Elections

The election cycle for the 2012 Presidential Year began on November 15, 2011 (one week after the November 8th Election) with the recruitment of 800 poll workers for the 2012 March Primary. It was finally determined in late December 2011 that Ohio would continue to have a March Presidential Primary, which was held on March 6th. Clermont County had a voter turnout of 25.69%. At the General Election, held on November 6th, there was a 73.11% turnout. Clermont County has a total population of about 200,000 citizens and approximately 132,000 registered voters. According to the latest census statistics, 27.9% of our population is under the age of 18 (about 55,800 people) and 12,200 are eligible to vote but not registered. Of the 97,012 voters who voted in November, approximately 70% voted at the polls on Election Day, 20% Voted Early/Absentee by mail and

10% Voted Early/Absentee at the Board of Elections' Office starting 35 days prior to election day. The Board of Elections was given an Appropriation of \$1,224,421 for the 2012 election year and spent \$1,051,693, completing the year under budget by \$172,728 (in part due to the fact that there were no Special Elections). The four Board Members of the Clermont County Board of Elections employ a Director, Deputy Director and eight staff members to administer the elections. There were 23 part-time persons hired for various periods of time to assist with conducting the Presidential Primary and General Elections in 2012. The Board of Elections is proud to report that they had a very productive and successful year. The Board of Elections is located at 76 S. Riverside Drive, Batavia, Ohio. For questions, please call (513) 732-7275.

Clermont County Recorder's Office

The Clermont County Recorder's Office processed 35,388 documents in 2012, collecting a total of \$1,942,285.05. The funds collected were distributed, according to the laws of the State of Ohio. A total of \$965,663.00 was deposited into the Ohio Housing Trust Fund and the remaining \$976,622.05 was deposited into the County General Fund. In June 2010, electronic document filing was implemented in the Clermont County Recorder's Office and has been both a successful and cost effective method for many companies to record documents. Twenty

percent of the filings are now accomplished electronically. Records can be accessed online through the Recorder's records management systems (Landaccess and Archive Viewer). The Clermont County Recorder is Deborah Clepper. The Recorder's Office is located in the Clermont County Administration Building, 101 E. Main Street in Batavia. For more information about the Recorder's Office, call (513) 732-7236, or visit the website at www.recorder.clermontcountyohio.gov.

Clermont County Treasurer's Office

In 2012, the Clermont County Treasurer's Office continued aggressive efforts pertaining to the collection of taxes. The office collected \$237,481,000.00 in real estate taxes, \$803,000.00 in manufactured home taxes and \$44,000.00 in personal property taxes. As of December 30, 2012, a total of 129 real estate tax foreclosures were filed and Clermont County's real estate delinquency rate was 3.33%. The Clermont County Treasurer is J. Robert True. The Treasurer's Office is located in the County Administration Building, second floor, 101 E. Main Street, Batavia. For more information about the Treasurer's Office, call (513) 732-7254 or visit www.ClermontTreasurer.org.

The Clermont County General Health District

The Clermont County General Health District conducted 2,685 food operation inspections and 8,164 operational assessments of onsite septic systems in 2012. Have you ever wondered how your favorite restaurant fares? Are you curious about the septic system for a house you are considering purchasing? In 2012, the Health District successfully made highly requested information available to the public. All of the data that is generated from the large number of inspections performed in the food and septic programs are now easily accessible on the Health District website. The Clermont County General Health District is located at 2275 Bauer Road in Batavia and the Nursing Division is located at 2400 Clermont Center Drive in Batavia. To learn more about General Health District services and programs, call (513) 732-7499 or visit www.ClermontHealthDistrict.org.

Clermont County Sheriff's Office

Crimes Solved: The investigations component solved several interesting cases in 2012. An investigation of an aggravated robbery at Dave's Grocery Store in Jackson Township resulted in the indictment of two males. Investigators arrested a male for a home invasion in Monroe Township, which resulted in aggravated burglary and kidnapping charges. A local business owner was arrested for conspiracy to commit arson at a Kentucky hotel. Investigators arrested a male and female after a string of burglaries beginning in Stonelick Township, spanned other Clermont County areas and eventually moved into Kentucky and Tennessee.

Drug Seizures: Methamphetamine labs and methamphetamine seizures for 2012 have remained consistent with the totals from 2011. On the rise, however, is the amount of heroin seized by the Narcotics Unit in 2012, which experienced a 55% increase in the amount of heroin recovered over the total for 2011. Drug abuse has been proven to be directly linked to an increase in thefts and property crimes. The Sheriff encourages citizens to report suspected illegal drug activity to the Narcotics Unit hotline at (513) 625-2806.

Corrections: The Clermont County Jail currently operates 278 beds, operating with about 25 more inmates over capacity for most of the year. We have contracted with Butler County to house ten of our female inmates and are of contracting with Ross County to house an additional five female inmates. Inmate programs at the jail continue to be well attended including GED, drug education, AA and chapel services. In 2012, Municipal and Common Pleas Probation began "Thinking for a Change" classes for selected incarcerated males. Once completed, the judge may allow for reduced sentences.

New Rescue Boat:

In July 2012, Sheriff Rodenberg announced the launch of the Clermont County's new 24 foot rescue boat. The all-aluminum boat was manufactured by Metal Shark Aluminum Boat Company, the federal government's boat contractor for the United States Military. The \$123,071 boat is manufactured to military specifications and will be used on the Ohio River and East Fork Lake. The boat was received through a federal grant at no cost to Clermont County government.

2012 Employee Recognition: Merit Award: Investigator Farmer investigated an aggravated robbery of a business in Jackson Township involving a handgun. Using DNA evidence obtained at the scene, an arrest was made after a 17 month investigation involving multiple interviews and DNA sampling and testing.

Sheriff's Commendation: Deputy Ryan Patton, for creating a positive and safe learning environment for the students of Amelia Middle School and High School. Deputy Patton has been instrumental in deterring student violence, bullying, and has become a mentor to many of the students he serves. His diligent policing skills have led to a reduction in school property crimes and other offenses.

Sheriff's Commendation: Investigator Boerger closed 29 burglary and over 50 breaking and entering investigations with criminal charges. Throughout 2012, Investigator Boerger assisted numerous police agencies within Clermont, Brown, Hamilton and Warren Counties with burglary investigations.

Sheriff's Commendation: Corrections Academy Commander Sergeant Bill Hogue assisted the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office in developing an in-service training program, began gathering and maintaining information on gang members that are in our facility, and created a database that is shared with Hamilton County and surrounding areas, including Northern Kentucky.

EMA Year End Report

The role of the Emergency Management Agency (EMA) is to coordinate activities with local first response agencies to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural, accidental and human caused disasters that may impact Clermont County. 2012 was a year of severe weather, prompting the EMA into action. The March 2nd tornado damaged more than 225 structures in Franklin Township, Tate Township, Washington Township and the Village of Moscow. The EMA activated the Emergency Operation Center (EOC) for ten days to support first responders, public works crews, and the local communities with immediate response needs, debris removal, volunteer coordination, and donations management. As the EOC scaled back, the Ohio Valley Long Term Recovery Committee (LTRC), a network of non-profit, faith-based, private sector, and governmental organizations, ramped up to support the long term recovery efforts. On June 29th, Clermont County

was impacted by a severe windstorm and heat event which knocked out power to many residences and businesses. EMA worked with the local first responders, the Clermont County Engineer's Office, and Duke Energy to prioritize power restoration needs. Clermont County was hit again with a second tornado on September 8th. This EF0 tornado and straight line wind event impacted more than 10 structures in Stonelick and Wayne Townships. The disaster recovery process will take time for the survivors of these three events. The LTRC continues to support the survivors with navigating the local, state and federal assistance programs and addressing the unmet needs of the community. The Clermont County EMA Director is Pam Broughton. The EMA Office is located at 2279 Clermont Center Drive, Batavia, Ohio. For more information about the EMA Office, call (513) 732-7661 or visit <http://ema.clermontcountyohio.gov/>.

Clermont County Auditor's Office

In 2012, Linda L. Fraley, Clermont County Auditor, received the Auditor of State Award with Distinction from Auditor of State Dave Yost for the fiscal year 2011 county audit. This award is given to fewer than five percent of governmental agencies throughout Ohio. The GIS Department, of the Auditor's Office, increased its presence in order to provide higher quality map products for the Auditor's website, as well as, acting as an additional GIS resource for the citizens of Clermont County. This department will also provide much needed support for the property assessment process, in which

we began the procedures for the Sexennial Revaluation which will be completed in 2014. The Auditor's real estate website is a comprehensive source of property data, tax and land information for both the public and private sectors in Clermont County. This information can be accessed at www.clermontauditorrealestate.org or from selecting the Real Estate Search Icon at www.clermontauditor.org. The Auditor's Office is located in the Clermont County Administration Building at 101 E. Main Street in Batavia. For more information, visit the website at www.ClermontAuditor.org or call (513) 732-7150.

Clermont County Coroner's Office

In 2012, the Clermont County Coroner's Office assisted/investigated 573 cases. There was a rise in accidental death cases due to drug use. The total drug related number was 50 cases, with 3 being undetermined drug related cases. There was also an increase in suicide cases in 2012, as the total numbered 30. In addition, there were 451 natural death cases, 1 homicide case, 24 motor vehicle accidents, 11 accidental cases, and 3 deaths were ruled as undetermined cases. The Clermont

County Coroner is Dr. Brian Treon and the mission of the Coroner's Office is to promptly serve the citizens and visitors of Clermont County, Ohio in a dignified and professional manner at a time of great emotional distress. The Coroner's Office is located at 333 East Main Street, Batavia, Ohio. For questions, call (513) 732-8117 or staff can be reached 24 hours a day at the office mobile number which is (513) 543-0129. For more information, visit www.clermontcoroner.org.





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Permit Central/Building Inspection Department

The Permit Central/Building Inspection Department performs inspections and issues building permits for commercial and residential sites in Clermont County and commercial sites in Brown County. In 2012, the Building Inspection Department issued 4,474 permits with a declared value of \$126.2 million. On March 2, 2012, a tornado touched down in the Village of Moscow, Ohio. The Building Inspection Department assisted residents with permitting repairs to homes and ensured that homes were secured and safe. Permit Central is located at 2275 Bauer Road in Batavia and can be reached by calling (513) 732-7213 or by visiting www.permit.ClermontCountyOhio.gov.

Clermont Veterans' Service Commission

Your Clermont County Veterans' Service Office filed 1,095 federal and state benefit applications during 2012, bringing in a total amount of \$4,198,054 in reported compensation/non-compensation veteran benefits. The office provided Emergency Financial Assistance to approximately 831 Clermont County families for a total amount of \$665,643, and assisted 1,079 veterans by providing them with transportation. Clermont County Veterans' Service Office is located at 76 S. Riverside Drive in Batavia. For more information, call 732-7363, or visit www.ClermontCountyVeterans.com.

Clermont Transportation Connection

Clermont Transportation Connection (CTC) transported 105,446 passengers in 2012 (an 8.3% decrease from 2011). 2012 was the third year in CTC's 33 year history that it transported more than 100,000 people annually. CTC transports people to jobs, medical appointments, schools, shopping and entertainment destinations all over Clermont County and downtown Cincinnati. The Route 2X New Richmond Express and Route 4X Amelia Express provide non-stop service into downtown Cincinnati. Dial-A-Ride is a door to door public transit service which operates very similar to a taxi cab. Passengers must call the dispatching office and schedule a ride. The service is open to any person in Clermont County. All vehicles are wheel chair accessible. CTC is open to the public and operates from 6:00am to 6:00pm Monday through Saturday. For ride information, please call (513) 732-7433 or visit <http://ctc.clermontcountyohio.gov>.



Clermont County Department of Job and Family Services (CDJFS)

In 2012, Ohio was still experiencing high unemployment rates, which has continued to have a major impact on public assistance programs for vulnerable citizens in Ohio. There has been a very high demand for assistance and Ohio has received budget cuts to provide the assistance programs. The Clermont County Department of Job and Family Services (CDJFS) has fewer staff but has streamlined methods to serve the citizens of the county.

The Public Assistance Division of CDJFS

The Division of Public Assistance administers Food Assistance, Medicaid, Non-Emergent Medicaid Transportation, Ohio Works First, Disability Financial Assistance and Child Care Programs. The Division is additionally responsible for Fraud Investigations and Benefit Recovery (the collection of overpayments).

Over the past year, the Public Assistance (PA) Division has faced many challenges. Budget cuts have caused decreased staff and the bad economy has caused an increased workload. This Division has applied innovative techniques to caseload management and business operations with automated and efficient procedures. Caseload volume in Public Assistance, Food Assistance and Medicaid continues to increase. In 2012, these programs served the following number of consumers in Clermont County: Food Assistance - 32,448, Medicaid – approximately 30,000 and Cash Assistance – 2,376. The Child Care Program provides payment assistance to support eligible working and college attending parents. The Child Care Program currently provides supplemental payments for 1,093 children.

Non-Emergent Medicaid Transportation Program: In the Non-Emergent Medicaid Transportation Program (NET), Clermont Transportation Connection (CTC) provides direct transport services to Medicaid recipients. In 2012, CTC provided 12,453 trips to 1653 Medicaid riders. In addition, the Division provides gas cards to Medicaid consumers who have their own source of transportation to medical appointments.

Public Assistance Benefit Recovery Unit: 2012 was another exceptional year for collections in the Investigations and Benefit Recovery Unit. This unit collected \$464,101 in program dollars, an 11.5% increase in collections from 2011. The Division of Public Assistance is awarded incentive dollars from the state based on the amount of overpayment dollars collected. Clermont County earned \$76,490.63 in incentives for 2012 collections. For more information, visit the website at www.ACFS.ClermontCountyOhio.gov or call (513) 732-7111.





Child Support Enforcement (CSE) of CDJFS

As of 2012 year end, Child Support Enforcement was administering 14,592 open cases serving 43,459 individuals (29,184 adults and 14,275 children). During 2012, Child Support Enforcement (CSE) collected \$36,332,837.13 in support payments. Of that amount, the tax offset program garnered \$2,055,137.83, collections on criminal nonsupport cases totaled \$1,115,018.32, financial institution freeze-and-seize collections amounted to \$138,474.98, collections on driver's license suspensions totaled \$260,618.31 and lump sum orders resulted in \$149,710.04 intercepted for past due child support. The Child Support Enforcement Division is located at 2400 Clermont Center Drive in Batavia. For more information,

Children's Protective Services (CPS) of CDJFS

Children's Protective Services (CPS) ended 2012 with 324 children in their custody. Less than 1/3 of the children that were discharged from our custody, returned to their parents. This has increased our need for local foster/adoptive parents. CPS is proud to have found adoptive homes for 36 children. This means for these 36 children they are no longer "foster kids" but rather a son, daughter, sister, or brother to a loving family forever. Children's Protective Services is located at 2400 Clermont Center Drive in Batavia. For more information, call (513) 732-7173 or visit the website at www.clermontforkids.org.

Clermont Workforce One (WFO) of CDJFS

Workforce One is comprised of numerous county partnerships with on-site agencies that provide services through Workforce One. These agencies include the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Clermont County Probation, Veterans' Services, Mature Services, LifePoint Solutions, Easter Seals Tri-State Youth Services, Legal Aid, Adult Basic Literacy and Education, and Clermont County Department of Job and Family Services.

Workforce One of Clermont remains active in helping Clermont citizens secure employment or receive additional training that will enable them to obtain a new or better job. In 2012, Workforce One served over 3,000 individuals who made over 19,000 visits to the facility. Throughout the year, Workforce One arranged for and financed career training for 99 citizens and provided \$251,504 in tuition and related supplies. In order to serve the growing industries in Clermont County, training was provided for careers in health services, transportation, advanced manufacturing, and information technology, as well as other fields that

show potential for growth. In addition, Workforce One assisted 1,162 local businesses in 2012. 4,564 jobs were posted at Workforce One and 34 companies were represented at different hiring events with 362 citizens seeking employment at these events. In 2012, five seminars were conducted by the Department of Labor to assist local businesses with 126 professionals in attendance. The 9th Annual Clermont Youth Career Expo was held at U.C. Clermont. Over 200 high school juniors and seniors from Clermont County Schools were trained in formal job-readiness classes, participated in a tour of the U.C. Clermont College campus, and visited the thirty local businesses to learn about careers available in their industry and the training necessary to work in those professions. The TANF Work Activity unit has dramatically increased the county's participation rate in programming. Clermont County ended 2012 with an average work participation rate of 65% for the All Family (AF) rate which exceeded the target of 50%. Workforce One is located at 756 Old SR 74. For more information, call (513) 943-3000, or visit www.WorkforceOneClermont.com.

Clermont County Water Resources Department

In 2012, the Clermont County Water Resources Department (CCWRD) completed the installation of the Shayler Run Segment C Sewer Replacement Project. This project involved the installation of over two miles of 42" sanitary sewer to replace an existing sewer located within the Shayler Run stream that had become severely exposed due to erosion. The new sewer was installed by using trenchless technology that resulted in reduced stream crossings and no open excavation within the stream. The new sewer is now protected from the environment and will provide reliable sanitary sewer conveyance decades into the future. Also completed, was the installation of nearly five miles of 24" water main along Stonelick-Williams Corner Road from US Route 50 to SR 132. The new transmission main will improve the ability to convey water from our treatment sources in the southern portion of Clermont County to areas in Stonelick, Goshen, and Miami Townships. Throughout the county, the CCWRD also replaced over 10,000 feet of 1950's cast iron water main. The new water lines will improve reliability and customer service. The Water Resources Department is located at 4400 Haskell Lane. For more information, call (513) 732-7970 or visit the website at www.wrd.clermontcountyohio.gov.

The Storm Water Management Division of CCWRD continued its effort to develop a comprehensive map of all storm sewers in Clermont County, completing an inventory and condition assessment of the storm sewer systems in the Ohio River tributaries and lower O'Bannon Creek watersheds. The Division also responded to numerous drainage concerns and 15 reports of illegal discharges,

helped install a demonstration rain garden in the 2012 Homearama Subdivision of Willows Bend, and completed a stream restoration project on Hall Run to protect a nearby sanitary sewer main. In early 2013, the Storm Water Management Division merged with the Clermont Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD). For information on storm water related issues, contact Clermont SWCD at (513) 732-7075 or visit www.clermontswcd.org.

The Clermont County Office of Environmental Quality (OEQ) of CCWRD implemented an educational program for county schools, a Household Hazardous Waste Voucher Program, and diverted 4,026 tons of recyclables from the landfill via the Drop-Off Recycling Program. The county teamed with various agencies and organizations to host a Great Outdoor Weekend Canoe Event and several neighborhood cleanups, including the East Fork River Sweep and the Ohio River Sweep, which drew 2,275 volunteers who removed 1,635 bags of trash. 85 tons of litter was removed from over 1,919 miles of roads utilizing the Municipal Court Alternative Sentencing Program. The Tire Amnesty Event enabled collection of 10,293 tires from Clermont County. The Office of Environmental Quality monitored water quality at 18 sites in the East Fork watershed of the Little Miami River. Clermont County and CECOS reached a cooperative agreement on the Post Closure Monitoring Plan which includes additional sampling beyond the OEPA approved plan. The Office of Environmental Quality is located at 4400 Haskell Lane. For more information, call (513) 732-7894 or visit the website at www.oeq.net.





BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CLERMONT COUNTY, OHIO

The Clermont County Board of Developmental Disabilities (Clermont DD)

Clermont DD provided many services to individuals and families in 2012 including early intervention, respite, adult services, school services in coordination with Clermont County local school districts, residential support, transportation, and much more. The "Clermont DD Empowers Me" non-profit Board was established in January to help raise funds for various programs and services. When the EF-3 tornado hit southern Clermont County on March 2nd, Clermont DD opened the county's Volunteer Reception Center (VRC). From March 2 through March 10th, Clermont DD staff answered phones at the

Emergency Operations Center, answered a cell phone to accept volunteer calls around the clock, and placed volunteers in various areas including donations centers and debris removal sites within Moscow, Tate, Monroe, and Franklin Townships. Clermont DD registered over 1,100 caring volunteers throughout the week, and continued to offer assistance where needed on the Ohio Valley Long Term Recovery Committee throughout 2012. For more information, visit <http://www.clermontdd.org>.

Clermont County Mental Health and Recovery Board

In 2012, the significant problem of opiate addiction (prescription drugs and heroin) was the continuing focus of the Board. The Board received a grant to start an Opiate Task Force. Planning began in 2012 for an Opiate Summit in April 2013, a one day event to bring community members together to gain knowledge and build inter-disciplinary partnerships to address the many challenges resulting from opiate abuse. The Board also provided an additional match to draw down federal funds through the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission's Recovery to Work Program, which began in October 2011 and provides resources for treatment and supported employment services for persons with opiate addictions involved with the criminal justice system. Outcomes achieved are better than national averages. In 2012, over 100 police officers participated in Crisis Intervention Training (CIT). EMS personnel also received this training.

Mobile Crisis was added to support police officers dealing with persons experiencing a mental health crisis, funded by a Department of Justice Grant. The Board is seeking additional grant funding to further expand the scope of Mobile Crisis. A Teen Summit on Suicide Prevention was held in November 2012 to gain input directly from youth to help structure prevention that will have a positive impact. Over 160 youth participated and provided a wealth of information that will guide future prevention efforts. Year four of the Federal System of Care Grant, FASTTRAC, began in October. The new and expanded services being provided to children and families are being evaluated and the outcomes show marked improvement in the youth's functioning and reduced risk behaviors. For further information, contact the Clermont County Mental Health and Recovery Board at (513) 732-5400, or visit the website at www.ccmhrb.org.

Clermont County Soil and Water Conservation District (CCSWCD)

CCSWCD conducted over 370 school presentations in 2012, reaching approximately 10,000 students with conservation education programs designed to raise awareness about soil and water conservation and litter prevention. Through Farm Bill programs, approximately \$480,000 in cost share funds and technical assistance were provided to landowners for installing conservation practices throughout our region. CCSWCD also helped implement a Conservation Innovation Grant to demonstrate the use of winter cover crops in improving soil quality and reducing stormwater runoff pollution.

Additionally, the Balanced Growth Land Use Plan for the Middle East Fork watershed drafted by the District and private/public watershed partners received endorsement from the Ohio Water Resources Council, thus making both conservation and development projects in the watershed eligible for state incentives. The Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District is located at 1000 Locust Street in the Clermont County Fairgrounds in Owensville. For more information about the District, call (513) 732-7075 or visit the website at www.clermontswcd.org.

Clermont County Parks

The Clermont County Park District had another successful and busy year in 2012. The Park District's lodge, log cabin, picnic shelters, and yurts were rented over 430 times and brought 35,000 people to county parks to celebrate birthday parties, family reunions, family picnics, weddings, and other special occasions. The Pattison Lodge hosted a record 141 events during the year, with over 100 of those events being weddings. February and March found Pattison Park busy with the Maple Syrup Program for schools and the popular Pancakes in the Park event to welcome in spring. Park District naturalists conducted programs for over 4300 people during the year, with over 1800 students attending programs that support their schools' curriculums. Meanwhile, visitors continue to enjoy the Chilo Lock #34 Visitor Center and Museum. Over 8,000 people visited the museum in 2012. The Park District is continuing to work with the Williamsburg to Batavia Hike Bike Trail Committee. Phase II of the trail will be completed in 2013 and will connect Williamsburg to the campground at East Fork State Park. For more information about the Clermont County Park District, call (513) 732-2977 or visit www.ClermontParks.org.

Clermont County Law Library

The Clermont County Law Library continues to provide a thorough collection, service-oriented staff and sufficient space to its varied clientele. With the motto "Just Ask", the legal research performed is a human act, based on judgment, using sources that may or may not be available in other places, at low or no cost. Being open to developing relationships and working side-by-side with people who use the Law Library's services is an exciting advantage in the new information environment. Not everything is free on the Internet! Books do not crash, they do not need screen savers, and they do not get viruses. The Clermont County Law Library continues to be open to the public and strives to serve all who may come through its doors; beyond the county employees and court personnel, this includes many students from UC Clermont College and others referred from the various branches of the Clermont County Public Library. The BCC supplies heat, space, and light to help fulfill the physical need, while contacts and resources such as interlibrary loan are pursued for the Law Library's patrons. The CCLL is funded almost entirely by traffic fines, with revenues seeing a slight increase in 2012. To extend the impact of resources and learn new cost saving techniques, the CCLL receives good service from publishers and other vendors and fully participates in the Statewide Consortium of Ohio County Law Library Resource Boards.

Clermont Senior Services

Clermont Senior Services is a private, nonprofit agency funded primarily by the Clermont County Senior Services Levy. The mission of Clermont Senior Services is to provide services that enable older adults to remain as active and independent as possible while living in their own homes. Clermont Senior Services provided services to more than 5,000 Clermont County seniors. In 2012, services included Case Management, Transportation, Home Care, Home-delivered Meals, Home Repair and Modification, Lifelong Learning Centers, a traditional Senior Center, a Caregiver Support Group, and Community Outreach. Cindy Gramke is the Executive Director/CEO of the agency. For further information, call (513) 724-1255, or visit the website at www.ClermontSeniors.com.

The Ohio State University Extension Clermont

To strengthen families and communities, The Ohio State University Extension Clermont (OSU Extension) offers interactive classes on diet quality, physical activity, food safety, and food resource management through the Family Nutrition Program (FNP). This program helped 1,118 "Families Eat Better for Less" through the presentation of 148 classes. After taking the program, 84% of participants reported learning new information that would help them meet the goal of eating better for less money, and 74% reported plans to make changes. The dollar value of the FNP grant funded by USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program was \$64,848.

In preparing youth for success, the Clermont County 4-H Youth Development Program enrolled 910 youth in 41 community clubs. These youth displayed 2,435 projects at the county fair. This year, 30 new volunteers joined our program and attended New Advisor Training giving us a total of 273 adult volunteers working with our 4-H clubs. Partnering with the Clermont County Juvenile Traffic Court, 534 youth participated in the CARTEENS program. We had another successful year at camp, sending 93 youth and 28 counselors. The Clermont County 4-H Committee provided 14 scholarships to youth to attend various county and state 4-H camps.

OSU Extension partnered with the National Wildlife Turkey Federation Longbeards and the YWCA to bring a traditional Thanksgiving meal to 300 families. Twenty 4-H clubs collected and donated canned goods, the turkey federation donated turkeys and the YWCA provided the clientele in need of assistance.

OSU Extension Clermont is located at 1000 Locust Street in Owensville and offers a wide variety of additional resources. For more information about OSU Extension, call 732-7070, or visit the website at <http://clermont.osu.edu>.



2012 Revenues - Board of County Commissioners Budgeted Funds

Intergovernmental	38,987,560	21.7%
Water & Sewer Charges	30,298,079	16.9%
Property Taxes	29,554,058	16.5%
Permissive Sales Tax	24,144,465	13.4%
Charges for Services	23,671,859	13.2%
Vehicle License & Fuel Tax	6,799,348	3.8%
Debt Issues	6,001,964	3.3%
Property Taxes - State	4,849,471	2.7%
Other Revenues	3,943,262	2.2%
Economic Development	2,279,660	1.3%
Fines & Forfeitures	1,723,146	1.0%
Assessments	1,555,249	0.9%
Local Government Funds	1,510,363	0.8%
Licenses & Permits	1,493,649	0.8%
Investment Earnings	915,322	0.5%
Non-Operating	856,114	0.5%
Other Taxes	524,105	0.3%
Casino Revenue	520,780	0.3%
Grand Total	179,628,454	100.0%

2012 Expenses - Board of County Commissioners Budgeted Funds

Health & Human Services	61,561,237	35.9%
Environmental & Water Resources	33,129,006	19.3%
Criminal Justice	22,666,985	13.2%
General Government	15,161,780	8.8%
Transportation	15,062,197	8.8%
Judicial Services	12,234,499	7.1%
Public Safety	4,513,773	2.6%
Facilities & Insurance	2,912,676	1.7%
Improvement Districts	1,937,418	1.1%
Economic & Community Development	1,409,805	0.8%
Parks	551,075	0.3%
Non-Operating	266,162	0.2%
Grand Total	171,406,614	100.0%

2012 Revenues - General Fund

Permissive Sales Tax	21,767,404	42.7%
Charges for Services	10,055,814	19.7%
Property Taxes	7,682,022	15.1%
Economic Development	2,279,660	4.5%
Non-Operating	1,599,305	3.1%
Local Government Funds	1,510,363	3.0%
Fines & Forfeitures	1,013,146	2.0%
Licenses & Permits	1,001,672	2.0%
Property Taxes - State	988,311	1.9%
Other Revenues	953,735	1.9%
Investment Earnings	880,997	1.7%
Intergovernmental	759,776	1.5%
Casino Revenue	520,780	1.0%
Grand Total	51,012,985	100.0%

2012 Expenses - General Fund

Criminal Justice	19,073,008	38.4%
Judicial Services	11,343,768	22.8%
General Government	8,050,131	16.2%
Public Safety	3,626,131	7.3%
Facilities & Insurance	2,912,676	5.9%
Health & Human Services	2,617,683	5.3%
Non-Operating	1,598,289	3.2%
Economic & Community Development	491,111	1.0%
Grand Total	49,712,798	100.0%

Note: Charts exclude Internal Service Funds, Special Assessments and Interfund Transfers.

The numbers presented in this report represent Commissioners' budgeted funds and include allocation of certain costs to the major service groups and departments. As they are unaudited at the time of this report, there may be adjustments upon audit. Due to all of these factors, the numbers will differ from those presented in the Clermont County Auditor's Financial Statements which may be viewed at www.ClermontAuditor.org

Intergovernmental revenues are monies received from Federal, State or Local Government entities. Local Government Funds are received from the State as a sharing of tax revenues based on population and municipal tax values.



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