

Hamilton County, Ohio

2010 Executive Dashboard



1. Investing in Economic Development
2. Protecting At Risk Populations
3. Strong Financial Management
4. Enhancing Criminal Justice / Public Safety

1.	<p><i>“Long-term, the only way we’re going to solve our budget problem is through strategic economic and job growth, which will also lead to an increase in County revenues.”</i></p>
	<p><u>GOAL:</u> Facilitate business investment in excess of \$50 million.</p> <p><u>RESULTS:</u> Through tools such as Enterprise Zones, CRAs, Landing Programs, TIFs, Job Creation Tax Credits, and individual contacts, Hamilton County has seen new business investment of over \$874 million since January 2010. The Hamilton County Development Company, implementing development programming on behalf of the Board, has generated approximately \$87 million of the total investment.</p>
	<p><u>GOAL:</u> Create 1,000 new jobs through demonstrable County activity.</p> <p><u>RESULTS:</u> In 2010, the County has tracked the creation of 3,080 jobs and the retention of over 6,500 jobs in Hamilton County. Of these, 2,221 were created through HCDC’s various job creation/retention/expansion programs such as Enterprise Zones, CRAs, etc.</p>
2.	<p><i>“Unprecedented funding challenges have forced the Department of Job and Family Services to create new ways of meeting mandates in all programs, including child welfare, where it is experiencing some of the more complex and severe abuse cases in its history. Complex cases result in long and costly foster care stays, leaving children in limbo, without a permanent resolution. The challenge for both the fiscal health of the agency and the safety and permanency of the children is to reduce the county’s abuse rate and the number of children in foster care.”</i></p>
	<p><u>GOAL:</u> Reduce the number of youth (ages 15 to 18) in JFS custody by 12% through positive, permanent outcomes, such as adoption or reunification with safe, stable families. Currently, 77 children in custody fall in this age range. Last year, the number of older children in custody was reduced by 6.6%.</p> <p><u>RESULTS:</u> The agency has reduced the number of youth aged 15-18 in permanent custody by 5.2%, to 73, through November 2010. Efforts such as an advertising campaign begun this year targeted at the adoption of older youth are expected to take root in 2011.</p>
	<p><u>GOAL:</u> Reduce by 10% the percentage of children who die from substantiated abuse by the mother’s partner, a non-biological parent of the child. The rate of such abuse currently stands at 35% – 6 of 17 abuse deaths in the past five years – which is 20% above the national average and 7% above the state average.</p> <p><u>RESULTS:</u> Three Hamilton County children have died from physical abuse in 2010. Two of those children were believed to have died at the hands of the mother’s partner, the non-biological caretaker of the child. The rate of such abuse deaths stands at 66% for the year. The agency’s Choose Your Partner Carefully Campaign was well received, winning a Blacksmith Award from the Cincinnati Public Relations Society of America.</p>
3.	<p><i>“The County has managed through several difficult budget processes during this prolonged recession. To ensure the County emerges in a strong financial position, significant capital projects must remain on schedule and within budget and regular budget monitoring should continue.”</i></p>
	<p><u>GOAL:</u> Complete Phase I public improvements for the Banks Riverfront Redevelopment project under budget and on schedule.</p> <p><u>RESULTS:</u> The Phase IA intermodal transit facility was completed in June 2010 on-time and under budget. Phase IIA work continues on the Mehring Way re-alignment and the street grid and intermodal transit facility west of the Freedom Center.</p>

GOAL: Maintain schedule compliance and budget for the Wet Weather Program within the Metropolitan Sewer District.

RESULTS: In 2010, the County hired a team of monitors from Plante Moran and Hatch Mott McDonald to oversee the activities of the Metropolitan Sewer District on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners. Initial evaluation by the monitoring team indicates that all projects listed in the wet weather projects have either met, or are on schedule to meet, milestone dates established in the final WWIP. Additional policy work with MSD has occurred (e.g. Revising MSD's 514 Policy to provide incentive for private parties to perform needed work to eliminate stormwater from the sewer system, etc.) to ensure that the County is adequately balancing consent decree goals with the ability to maintain a vibrant economy.

GOAL: Maintain 2010 general fund expenditures within 0.5% of originally appropriated funding level.

RESULTS: Based on financial activity through November 30, 2010, projected net general fund expenditures will remain within the 2010 approved budget. Please see the County website for the monthly budget projection reports.

GOAL: Resolve Special Audit within the Job and Family Services Department.

RESULTS: Negotiations between the Hamilton County Prosecutor's office and the State continue. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is studying possible resolutions.

4. *"The efforts of the Criminal Justice Commission have resulted in a number of program initiatives to manage a limited amount of jail space. After three years of innovations and reform, the criminal justice system would benefit from a comprehensive listing of options and an updated projection on detention facility needs."*

GOAL: Catalogue and develop schematic diagram of current jail division and jail space management programs.

RESULTS: The update of the process map prepared by the Vera Institute in 2007 is being updated by the Ohio Justice and Policy Center.

GOAL: Develop updated detention facility needs projection.

RESULTS: Reporting mechanisms have been developed concerning early releases, deferred sentences and process only arrests. Early results indicate a dramatic increase in these jail population mitigation efforts that are largely due to the closure of the Queensgate Correctional Facility in December 2008. The County was awarded a substantial Second Chance Act grant to develop an intensive re-entry case management program that integrates services across several disciplines including substance abuse, job training and life skills. Until these diversion and re-entry programs are fully developed, implemented and evaluated, detention facility needs can not be determined.