



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



**SUMMIT COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL
SUMMIT COUNTY
DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Summit County Family and Children First Council
Summit County
2355 2nd Street
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221

To the Executive Council:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Summit County Family and Children First Council, Summit County, Ohio (the Council), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Council's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash-basis financial position of the governmental activities each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Council, as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position for the years then ended in accordance with the cash-basis of accounting described in Note 2.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Council, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter - Accounting Basis

We draw attention to Note 2 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the cash-basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash-basis of accounting described in Note 2, and for determining that the cash-basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Council's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Council's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 13, 2026, on our consideration of the Council's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Council's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM
Chief Deputy Auditor

January 13, 2026

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SUMMIT COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL

Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis

December 31, 2024

	Governmental Activities
<u>Assets</u>	
Equity in Pooled Cash, Cash Equivalents	<u>\$ 1,474,997</u>
<u>Net Position</u>	
Restricted for:	
Other Purposes	1,416,558
Unassigned	<u>58,439</u>
Total Net Position	<u><u>\$ 1,474,997</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

SUMMIT COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL

*Statement of Activities - Cash Basis
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024*

		Program Cash Receipts	Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position
	Cash Disbursements	Operating Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
<u>Governmental Activities:</u>			
General Government:			
Public Health Services	\$ 1,583,277	\$ 1,444,713	\$ (138,564)
	Change in Net Position		(138,564)
	Net Position Beginning of Year		1,613,561
	Net Position End of Year		\$ 1,474,997

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

SUMMIT COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL

Statement of Assets and Fund Balances- Cash Basis

Governmental Funds

December 31, 2024

	General	Shared Pool	MSY Grant	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<u>Assets</u>					
Equity in Pooled Cash, Cash Equivalents	\$ 58,439	\$ 1,190,392	\$ 168,165	\$ 58,001	\$ 1,474,997
<u>Fund Balances</u>					
Restricted	-	1,190,392	168,165	58,001	1,416,558
Unassigned	58,439	-	-	-	58,439
<i>Total Fund Balances</i>	58,439	1,190,392	168,165	58,001	1,474,997
<i>Total Liabilities and Fund Balances</i>	\$ 58,439	\$ 1,190,392	\$ 168,165	\$ 58,001	\$ 1,474,997

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

SUMMIT COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances - Cash Basis
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

	General Fund	Shared Pool	MSY Grant	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<u>Receipts</u>					
Intergovernmental	\$ 46,907	\$ 1,166,894	\$ 110,434	\$ 120,478	\$ 1,444,713
Other	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Total Receipts</i>	<u>46,907</u>	<u>1,166,894</u>	<u>110,434</u>	<u>120,478</u>	<u>1,444,713</u>
<u>Disbursements</u>					
Public Health Services	<u>40,121</u>	<u>1,327,191</u>	<u>94,857</u>	<u>121,108</u>	<u>1,583,277</u>
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	<u>40,121</u>	<u>1,327,191</u>	<u>94,857</u>	<u>121,108</u>	<u>1,583,277</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	6,786	(160,297)	15,577	(630)	(138,564)
Fund Balance Beginning of Year	<u>51,653</u>	<u>1,350,689</u>	<u>152,588</u>	<u>58,631</u>	<u>1,613,561</u>
Fund Balance End of Year	<u>\$ 58,439</u>	<u>\$ 1,190,392</u>	<u>\$ 168,165</u>	<u>\$ 58,001</u>	<u>\$ 1,474,997</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The Ohio Revised Code Section 121.37, created the Ohio Family and Children First Cabinet Council and required each Board of County Commissioners to establish a County Family and Children First Council. Statutory membership of a county Family and Children Executive Council consists of the following individuals:

1. At least three individuals representing the interest of families in the County. Where possible, the number of members representing families shall be equal to twenty percent of the Council's remaining membership;
2. The Director of the Board of Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services that serves the County, or, in the case of a County that has a Board of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services and a Community Mental Health Board, the Directors of both Boards. If a Board of Alcohol, Drug Addition, and Mental Health Services covers more than one County, the Director may designate a person to participate on the County's Council;
3. The Health Commissioner, or the Commissioner's designee, of the Board of Health of each City or General Health District in the County. If the County has two or more health districts, the Health Commissioner membership may be limited to the Commissioners of the two districts with the largest populations;
4. The Director of the County Department of Job and Family Services;
5. The Executive Director of the public children services agency or the County agency responsible for the administration of children services pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 5153.15;
6. The Superintendent of the County Board of Developmental Disabilities or if the Superintendent serves as Superintendent as more than one County Board of Developmental Disabilities, the Superintendent's designee;
7. The Superintendent of the city, exempted village, or local school district with the largest number of pupils residing in the County, as determined by the Ohio Department of Education, which shall notify each County of its determination at least biennially;
8. A School Superintendent representing all other school districts with territory in the County, as designated at a biennial meeting of the superintendents of those districts;
9. A representative of the municipal corporation with the largest population in the County;
10. The President of the Board of County Commissioners or an individual designated by the Board;
11. A representative of the regional office of the Ohio Department of Youth Services;
12. A representative of the County's Head Start agencies, as defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 3301.32;

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 1 – Reporting Entity *(continued)*

13. A representative of the County’s Early Intervention collaborative established pursuant to the federal early intervention program operated under the “Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004”; and
14. A representative of a local nonprofit entity that funds, advocates, or provides services to children and families.

A County Family and Children First Council may invite any other local public or private agency or group that funds, advocates, or provides services to children to have a representative become a permanent or temporary member of the Council.

The purpose of the County Council is to streamline and coordinate existing government services for families seeking services for their children. In seeking to fulfill its purpose, a County Council shall provide for the following:

1. Referrals to the Cabinet Council of those children for whom the County Council cannot provide adequate services;
2. Development and implementation of a process that annually evaluates and prioritizes services, fills service gaps where possible, and invents new approaches to achieve better results for families and children;
3. Participation in the development of a countywide, comprehensive, coordinated, multi-disciplinary interagency system for infants and toddlers with developmental disabilities or delays and their families, as established pursuant to federal grants received and administered by the Department of Health for early intervention services under the “Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004”;
4. Maintenance of an accountability system to monitor the County Council’s progress in achieving results for families and children; and
5. Establishment of a mechanism to ensure ongoing input from a broad representation of families who are receiving services within the County system.

The Summit County Family and Children First Council (Council) also participates with a standing committee referred to as the Service Mechanism Oversight Committee (SMOC). The Council cooperates with other state and local agencies for the common purpose to provide youth serving agencies in Summit County with the capacity to jointly resolve problems associated with the delivery of services to youth who exhibit more than one emotional, physical, or developmental difficulty and thus require the services of more than one system.

The SMOC executive committee consists of the Chief Executive Officers of the funding agencies, which are Summit County Children Services Board, Summit County Juvenile Court, County of Summit Board of Developmental Disabilities, and County of Summit Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 1 – Reporting Entity *(continued)*

Each member has one vote and a consensus is to be sought on all issues. The funding agencies retain responsibility of the cluster fund with oversight by the Family and Children First Executive Council.

On an annual basis, each of the four funding agencies signs an agreement with the Council to pay an amount to fund the Special Revenue Shared Pool Fund. In addition, each funding agency agrees to pay other costs as approved by the SMOC Executive Council on a child-by-child basis. The child cost agreements are signed by the head of the respective agency and the Director of the Council.

A reporting entity is comprised of a primary government, component unit and other organizations that are included to ensure the financial statements are not misleading. The primary government of the Council consists of funds that are not legally separate from the Council. For the Summit County Family and Children First Council, this includes the General Fund, Shared Pool Fund, FCSS Fund, SCCS MSY Fund and other non-major funds that are directly operated by the Council.

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the Council is financially accountable. The Council is financially accountable for an organization if the Council appoints a voting majority of the component unit's board and 1) the Council is able to significantly influence programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or 2) the Council is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organizations resources; the Council is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or the Council is obligated for the debt of the organization. The Council has no component units.

The Council's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Council is financially accountable.

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

These financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. Following are the more significant of the Council's accounting policies.

Basis of Presentation

The Council's basic financial statements consist of government-wide financial statements, including a statement of net position and a statement of activities, and fund financial statements which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies *(continued)*

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the Council as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government. These statements usually distinguish between those activities of the Council that are governmental in nature and those that are considered business-type activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts or other nonexchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services. The Council has no business-type activities.

The statement of net position presents the cash balance of the governmental activities of the Council at year end. The statement of activities compares disbursements and program receipts for each program or function of the Council's governmental activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the Council is responsible.

Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational requirements of a particular program.

Receipts which are not classified as program receipts are presented as general receipts of the Council, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing on a cash basis or draws from the general receipts of the Council.

Fund Financial Statements

During the year, the Council segregates transactions related to certain Council functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. Fund financial statements are designed to present financial information of the Council at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column.

Fund Accounting

The Council uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. All of the Council's funds are considered governmental.

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds are those through which all of the governmental functions of the Council are financed. The following are the Council's major governmental fund types:

General Fund The General Fund accounts for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The General Fund balance is available to the Council for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies *(continued)*

Special Revenue Funds These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Council has the following major Special Revenue Funds:

Shared Pool Fund This fund receives local monies from members of the Cluster for the purpose of providing coordinated services and financial support in addressing the clinical needs of troubled youth.

Multi-System Youth Fund This fund is used to prevent custody relinquishment for youth with multi-system needs with the goal of preventing transfer of custody to the child protection system solely for the purpose of obtaining funding to access treatment.

Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Council is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the governmental funds. The classifications are as follows:

Nonspendable: The nonspendable fund balance category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The “not in spendable form” criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

Restricted: Fund balance is reported as restricted when constraints placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions. Enabling legislation authorizes the Council to assess, levy, charge, or otherwise mandate payment of resources (from external resource providers) and includes a legally enforceable requirement that those resources be used only for the specific purposes stipulated in the legislation. Legal enforceability means that the Council can be compelled by an external party – such as citizens, public interest groups, or the judiciary to use resources created by enabling legislation only for the purposes specified by the legislation.

Committed: The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by formal action (resolution) of the Council. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Board removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts. In contrast to fund balance that is restricted by enabling legislation, the committed fund balance classification may be redeployed for other purposes with appropriate due process. Constraints imposed on the use of committed amounts are imposed by the Board, separate from the authorization to raise the underlying revenue; therefore, compliance with these constraints is not considered to be legally enforceable. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies *(continued)*

Assigned: Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the Council for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the Council or a Council official delegated that authority by Charter or by State Statute.

Unassigned: Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

The Council applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

Basis of Accounting

The Council's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Except for modifications having substantial support, receipts are recorded in the Council's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are recorded when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Any such modifications made by the Council are described in the appropriate section in this note.

As a result of the use of this cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed or provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued expenses and liabilities) are not recorded in these financial statements.

Budgetary Process

A Family and Children First Council established under Ohio Revised Code Section 121.37 is not a taxing authority and is not subject to Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705. The Council is required by the Ohio Revised Code to file an annual budget with its administrative agent, the Summit County Fiscal Officer, and the County of Summit Council. The Council estimates receipts and disbursements for the year and submits these estimates to each of the required parties as well as any changes made to these estimates during the year. The Ohio Revised Code does not require the Council to adopt itemized budgets for governmental activities thus no budgetary statements are presented as part of the basic financial statements.

All monies (grants, contracts, fees and other receipts) paid to the Council are deposited by the County Fiscal Officer to the Agency Funds of the Summit County Treasury which have been created for the purpose of accounting for Council receipts and disbursements.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies *(continued)*

Cash and Investments

The Summit County Fiscal Officer is the custodian for the Council's cash and investments. The County's cash and investment pool holds the Council's cash and investments, which are reported at the County Fiscal Officer's carrying amount. Deposits and investments disclosures for the County as a whole may be obtained from the County by contacting Christina Balliet, Finance Division Director, County of Summit, 175 South Main Street, 44308-1306, (330) 643-2674.

Restricted Assets

Assets are reported as restricted when limitations imposed on their use change the nature or normal understanding of their use. Such constraints are either externally imposed by creditors, contributors, grantors or laws of other governments, or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Inventory and Prepaid Items

The Council reports disbursements for inventory and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

Capital Assets

Capital and infrastructure assets utilized by the Council are considered property of the Summit County Health District, Ohio Department of Health or other grantors and are therefore not reported as capital assets of the Council.

Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment or retirement, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the Council's cash basis of accounting.

Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension Plans

The Council recognizes the disbursement for employer contributions to cost-sharing pension plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 5 and 6, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for postretirement health care benefits.

Long-Term Obligations

The Council's cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for long-term obligations.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies *(continued)*

Net Position

Net Position represents the difference between assets and liabilities. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments. Net position restricted for other purposes include resources restricted for federal, state and local grants.

The Council applies restricted resources first when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

Interfund Transactions

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as receipts in the seller funds and as disbursements in the purchaser funds. Subsidies from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular cash disbursements to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented in the financial statements.

Fiscal and Administrative Agent

Ohio Revised Code Section 121.37(B)(5)(a) requires the Council to select an administrative agent to provide fiscal and administrative services to the Council. The Council selected the Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board. The Council authorizes the Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board, as fiscal agent and administrative agent, to subcontract with, designate, and/or seek assistance from any agencies and/or organizations that it deems necessary in order to complete the obligations set forth in the agreement. The Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board agrees to be ultimately responsible for fulfilling the fiscal and administrative obligations of the agreement.

Fiscal Year

The Council's financial statements are prepared based on a fiscal year that commences January 1 and terminates December 31 to conform to the fiscal year of its administrative agent.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 3 - Risk Management

The Council is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees.

The Council insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation.

The Council is a member of the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (The Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Council's policy. The Pool covers the following risks:

- General liability and casualty
- Public official's liability
- Cyber
- Law enforcement liability
- Automobile liability
- Vehicles
- Property
- Equipment breakdown

The Pool reported the following summary of assets and actuarially-measured liabilities available to pay those liabilities as of December 31 (latest information available):

	<u>2024</u>
Cash and investments	\$ 48,150,572
Actuarial liabilities	\$ 22,652,556

Note 4 - Defined Benefit Pension Plan

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Council employees participate in the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS administers three separate pension plans. The traditional pension plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. The member-directed plan is a defined contribution plan, and the combined plan is a combination cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit/defined contribution pension plan. Participating employers are divided into state, local, law enforcement and public safety divisions. While members in the state and local divisions may participate in all three plans, law enforcement and public safety divisions exist only within the traditional plan.

OPERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits, and annual cost-of-living adjustments to members of the traditional and combined plans. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about OPERS' fiduciary net position that may be obtained by visiting <https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml>, by writing to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling 800-222-7377.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 4 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans *(continued)*

Senate Bill (SB) 343 was enacted into law with an effective date of January 7, 2013. In the legislation, members in the traditional and combined plans were categorized into three groups with varying provisions of the law applicable to each group. The following table provides age and service requirements for retirement and the retirement formula applied to final average salary (FAS) for the three member groups under the traditional and combined plans as per the reduced benefits adopted by SB 343 (see OPERS CAFR referenced above for additional information, including requirements for reduced and unreduced benefits):

Group A Eligible to retire prior to January 7, 2013, or five years after January 7, 2013	Group B 20 years of service credit prior to January 7, 2013, or eligible to retire ten years after January 7, 2013	Group C Members not in other Groups and members hired on or after January 7, 2013
State and Local	State and Local	State and Local
Age and Service Requirements: Age 60 with 60 months of service credit or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age and Service Requirements: Age 60 with 60 months of service credit or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age and Service Requirements: Age 57 with 25 years of service credit or Age 62 with 5 years of service credit
Traditional Plan Formula: 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 30	Traditional Plan Formula: 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 30	Traditional Plan Formula: 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 35 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 35
Combined Plan Formula: 1% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 1.25% for service years in excess of 30	Combined Plan Formula: 1% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 1.25% for service years in excess of 30	Combined Plan Formula: 1% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 35 years and 1.25% for service years in excess of 35

Final average Salary (FAS) represents the average of the three highest years of earnings over a member's career for Groups A and B. Group C is based on the average of the five highest years of earnings over a member's career.

Members who retire before meeting the age and years of service credit requirement for unreduced benefits receive a percentage reduction in the benefit amount. The amount of a member's pension benefit vests upon receipt of the initial benefit payment. The options for Public Safety and Law Enforcement permit early retirement under qualifying circumstances as early as age 48 with a reduced benefit.

When a traditional plan benefit recipient has received benefits for 12 months, the member is eligible for an annual cost of living adjustment (COLA). This COLA is calculated on the base retirement benefit at the date of retirement and is not compounded. Members retiring under the combined plan receive a cost-of-living adjustment on the defined benefit portion of their pension benefit. For those who retired prior to January 7, 2013, the cost-of-living adjustment is 3 percent. For those retiring on or after January 7, 2013, beginning in calendar year 2019, the adjustment is based on the average percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index, capped at 3 percent.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 4 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans *(continued)*

	<u>State and Local</u>
2024 Statutory Maximum Contribution Rates	
Employer	14.0 %
Employee ***	10.0 %
2024 Actual Contribution Rates	
Employer:	
Pension	14.0 %
Post-employment Health Care Benefits ****	<u>0.0</u>
Total Employer	<u>14.0 %</u>
Employee	<u>10.0 %</u>
* This rate is determined by OPERS' Board and has no maximum rate established by ORC.	
** This rate is also determined by OPERS' Board, but is limited by ORC to not more than 2 percent greater than the Public Safety rate.	
*** Member contributions within the combined plan are not used to fund the defined benefit retirement allowance.	
**** This employer health care rate is for the traditional and combined plans. The employer contribution for the member-directed plan is 4 percent.	

Defined contribution plan benefits are established in the plan documents, which may be amended by the Board. Member-directed plan and combined plan members who have met the retirement eligibility requirements may apply for retirement benefits. The amount available for defined contribution benefits in the combined plan consists of the member's contributions plus or minus the investment gains or losses resulting from the member's investment selections. Combined plan members wishing to receive benefits must meet the requirements for both the defined benefit and defined contribution plans. Member-directed participants must have attained the age of 55, have money on deposit in the defined contribution plan and have terminated public service to apply for retirement benefits. The amount available for defined contribution benefits in the member-directed plan consists of the members' contributions, vested employer contributions and investment gains or losses resulting from the members' investment selections. Employer contributions and associated investment earnings vest over a five-year period, at a rate of 20 percent each year. At retirement, members may select one of several distribution options for payment of the vested balance in their individual OPERS accounts. Options include the annuitization of the benefit (which includes joint and survivor options and will continue to be administered by OPERS), partial lump-sum payments (subject to limitations), a rollover of the vested account balance to another financial institution, receipt of entire account balance, net of taxes withheld, or a combination of these options. When members choose to annuitize their defined contribution benefit, the annuitized portion of the benefit is reclassified to a defined benefit.

Funding Policy – The Ohio Revised Code (ORC) provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions as follows:

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined and are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll. The Council's contractually required contribution was \$42,962 for the year 2024.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 5 – Postemployment Benefits

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Plan Description – The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) administers three separate pension plans: the traditional pension plan, a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan; the member-directed plan, a defined contribution plan; and the combined plan, a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that has elements of both a defined benefit and defined contribution plan.

OPERS maintains a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment health care trust, which funds multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage and deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement to qualifying benefit recipients of both the traditional pension and the combined plans. This trust is also used to fund health care for member-directed plan participants, in the form of a Retiree Medical Account (RMA). At retirement or refund, member directed plan participants may be eligible for reimbursement of qualified medical expenses from their vested RMA balance.

In order to qualify for postemployment health care coverage, age and service retirees under the traditional pension and combined plans must have twenty or more years of qualifying Ohio service credit with a minimum age of 60, or generally 30 years of qualifying service at any age. Health care coverage for disability benefit recipients and qualified survivor benefit recipients is available. The health care coverage provided by OPERS meets the definition of an Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) as described in GASB Statement 75. See OPERS CAFR referenced below for additional information.

The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require OPERS to provide health care to its eligible benefit recipients. Authority to establish and amend health care coverage is provided to the Board in Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Disclosures for the health care plan are presented separately in the OPERS financial report. Interested parties may obtain a copy by visiting <https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml>, by writing to OPERS, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling (614) 222-5601 or 800-222-7377.

Funding Policy – The Ohio Revised Code provides the statutory authority requiring public employers to fund postemployment health care through their contributions to OPERS. When funding is approved by the OPERS Board of Trustees, a portion of each employer's contribution to OPERS is set aside to fund OPERS health care plans.

Employer contribution rates are expressed as a percentage of the earnable salary of active members. In 2021, state and local employers contributed at a rate of 14.0 percent of earnable salary. These are the maximum employer contribution rates permitted by the Ohio Revised Code. Active member contributions do not fund health care.

Each year, the OPERS Board determines the portion of the employer contribution rate that will be set aside to fund health care plans. For 2021 OPERS did not allocate any employer contribution to health care for members in the Traditional Pension Plan and Combined Plan. The OPERS Board is also authorized to establish rules for the retiree or their surviving beneficiaries to pay a portion of the health care provided. Payment amounts vary depending on the number of covered dependents and the coverage selected. The employer contribution as a percentage of covered payroll deposited into the RMA for participants in the Member-Directed Plan for 2022 was 4.0 percent.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 5 – Postemployment Benefits *(continued)*

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined and are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll. The Council’s contractually required contribution was \$0 for the year 2024.

Note 6 – Contingent Liabilities

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the Council are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor, principally the federal government. Grantors may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

Note 7 – Fund Balances

Fund balance is classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and/or unassigned based primarily on the extent to which the Council is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the government funds. The constraints placed on fund balance for the major governmental funds and all other governmental funds are as disclosed on the face of the financial statements.

Note 8 – Restatement of Fund Balances

For 2024, the Multi-System Youth (MSY) fund became a major fund. In 2023, the MSY fund was included in the aggregate amounts for non-major funds. The table below is to show the restatement of fund balances resulting from this change.

Restatement of Fund Balances			
Governmental Funds	12/31/2023 as Previously Reported	Changes within Financial Reporting Entity	12/31/2023 as Restated
General	\$ 51,653	\$ -	\$ 51,653
Shared Pool	1,350,689	-	1,350,689
Multi-System Youth	-	152,588	152,588
Non-Major	211,219	(152,588)	58,631
Total Governmental Funds	<u>\$ 1,613,561</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,613,561</u>

SUMMIT COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL

**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION-CASH BASIS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

	Governmental Activities
<u>Assets</u>	
Equity in Pooled Cash, Cash Equivalents	<u>\$ 1,613,561</u>
<u>Net Position</u>	
Restricted for:	
Other Purposes	1,561,908
Unassigned	<u>51,653</u>
Total Net Position	<u><u>\$ 1,613,561</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

SUMMIT COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES-CASH BASIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	Cash	Program Receipts	Net (Disbursements)
	Disbursements	Operating Grants and Contributions	Receipts and Changes in Net Position
<u>Governmental Activities:</u>			<u>Governmental</u>
General Government:			<u>Activities</u>
Public Health Services	\$ 2,609,316	\$ 2,477,685	\$ (131,631)
Change in Net Position			(131,631)
Net Position Beginning of Year			1,745,192
Net Position End of Year			\$ 1,613,561

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

SUMMIT COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET-CASH BASIS
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
DECEMBER 31, 2023

	General Fund	Shared Pool	HMG Early Intervention	ARPA	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<u>Assets</u>						
Equity in Pooled Cash, Cash Equivalents	\$51,653	\$ 1,350,689	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 211,219	\$ 1,613,561
<u>Fund Balances</u>						
Restricted	-	1,350,689	-	-	211,219	1,561,908
Unassigned	51,653	-	-	-	-	51,653
<i>Total Fund Balances</i>	<u>51,653</u>	<u>1,350,689</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>211,219</u>	<u>1,613,561</u>
<i>Total Liabilities and Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$51,653</u>	<u>\$ 1,350,689</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 211,219</u>	<u>\$ 1,613,561</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

SUMMIT COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES-CASH BASIS
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Shared Pool</u>	<u>HMG Early Intervention</u>	<u>ARPA</u>	<u>Other Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
<u>Receipts</u>						
Intergovernmental	\$ 34,742	\$ 1,081,299	\$ 868,346	\$ 275,698	\$ 217,600	\$ 2,477,685
Other	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Total Receipts</i>	<u>34,742</u>	<u>1,081,299</u>	<u>868,346</u>	<u>275,698</u>	<u>217,600</u>	<u>2,477,685</u>
<u>Disbursements</u>						
Public Health Services	<u>23,181</u>	<u>1,309,011</u>	<u>868,346</u>	<u>275,698</u>	<u>133,080</u>	<u>2,609,316</u>
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	<u>23,181</u>	<u>1,309,011</u>	<u>868,346</u>	<u>275,698</u>	<u>133,080</u>	<u>2,609,316</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	11,561	(227,712)	-	-	84,520	(131,631)
Fund Balance Beginning of Year	<u>40,092</u>	<u>1,578,401</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>126,699</u>	<u>1,745,192</u>
Fund Balance End of Year	<u>\$ 51,653</u>	<u>\$ 1,350,689</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 211,219</u>	<u>\$ 1,613,561</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The Ohio Revised Code Section 121.37, created the Ohio Family and Children First Cabinet Council and required each Board of County Commissioners to establish a County Family and Children First Council. Statutory membership of a county Family and Children Executive Council consists of the following individuals:

1. At least three individuals representing the interest of families in the County. Where possible, the number of members representing families shall be equal to twenty percent of the Council's remaining membership;
2. The Director of the Board of Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services that serves the County, or, in the case of a County that has a Board of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services and a Community Mental Health Board, the Directors of both Boards. If a Board of Alcohol, Drug Addition, and Mental Health Services covers more than one County, the Director may designate a person to participate on the County's Council;
3. The Health Commissioner, or the Commissioner's designee, of the Board of Health of each City or General Health District in the County. If the County has two or more health districts, the Health Commissioner membership may be limited to the Commissioners of the two districts with the largest populations;
4. The Director of the County Department of Job and Family Services;
5. The Executive Director of the public children services agency or the County agency responsible for the administration of children services pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 5153.15;
6. The Superintendent of the County Board of Developmental Disabilities or if the Superintendent serves as Superintendent as more than one County Board of Developmental Disabilities, the Superintendent's designee;
7. The Superintendent of the city, exempted village, or local school district with the largest number of pupils residing in the County, as determined by the Ohio Department of Education, which shall notify each County of its determination at least biennially;
8. A School Superintendent representing all other school districts with territory in the County, as designated at a biennial meeting of the superintendents of those districts;
9. A representative of the municipal corporation with the largest population in the County;
10. The President of the Board of County Commissioners or an individual designated by the Board;
11. A representative of the regional office of the Ohio Department of Youth Services;
12. A representative of the County's Head Start agencies, as defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 3301.32;

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 1 – Reporting Entity *(continued)*

13. A representative of the County’s Early Intervention collaborative established pursuant to the federal early intervention program operated under the “Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004”; and
14. A representative of a local nonprofit entity that funds, advocates, or provides services to children and families.

A County Family and Children First Council may invite any other local public or private agency or group that funds, advocates, or provides services to children to have a representative become a permanent or temporary member of the Council.

The purpose of the County Council is to streamline and coordinate existing government services for families seeking services for their children. In seeking to fulfill its purpose, a County Council shall provide for the following:

1. Referrals to the Cabinet Council of those children for whom the County Council cannot provide adequate services;
2. Development and implementation of a process that annually evaluates and prioritizes services, fills service gaps where possible, and invents new approaches to achieve better results for families and children;
3. Participation in the development of a countywide, comprehensive, coordinated, multi-disciplinary interagency system for infants and toddlers with developmental disabilities or delays and their families, as established pursuant to federal grants received and administered by the Department of Health for early intervention services under the “Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004”;
4. Maintenance of an accountability system to monitor the County Council’s progress in achieving results for families and children; and
5. Establishment of a mechanism to ensure ongoing input from a broad representation of families who are receiving services within the County system.

The Summit County Family and Children First Council (Council) also participates with a standing committee referred to as the Service Mechanism Oversight Committee (SMOC). The Council cooperates with other state and local agencies for the common purpose to provide youth serving agencies in Summit County with the capacity to jointly resolve problems associated with the delivery of services to youth who exhibit more than one emotional, physical, or developmental difficulty and thus require the services of more than one system.

The SMOC executive committee consists of the Chief Executive Officers of the funding agencies, which are Summit County Children Services Board, Summit County Juvenile Court, County of Summit Board of Developmental Disabilities, and County of Summit Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 1 – Reporting Entity *(continued)*

Each member has one vote and a consensus is to be sought on all issues. The funding agencies retain responsibility of the cluster fund with oversight by the Family and Children First Executive Council.

On an annual basis, each of the four funding agencies signs an agreement with the Council to pay an amount to fund the Special Revenue Shared Pool Fund. In addition, each funding agency agrees to pay other costs as approved by the SMOC Executive Council on a child-by-child basis. The child cost agreements are signed by the head of the respective agency and the Director of the Council.

A reporting entity is comprised of a primary government, component unit and other organizations that are included to ensure the financial statements are not misleading. The primary government of the Council consists of funds that are not legally separate from the Council. For the Summit County Family and Children First Council, this includes the General Fund, Shared Pool Fund, FCSS Fund, SCCS MSY Fund and other non-major funds that are directly operated by the Council.

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the Council is financially accountable. The Council is financially accountable for an organization if the Council appoints a voting majority of the component unit's board and 1) the Council is able to significantly influence programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or 2) the Council is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organizations resources; the Council is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or the Council is obligated for the debt of the organization. The Council has no component units.

The Council's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Council is financially accountable.

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

These financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. Following are the more significant of the Council's accounting policies.

Basis of Presentation

The Council's basic financial statements consist of government-wide financial statements, including a statement of net position and a statement of activities, and fund financial statements which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies *(continued)*

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the Council as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government. These statements usually distinguish between those activities of the Council that are governmental in nature and those that are considered business-type activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts or other nonexchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services. The Council has no business-type activities.

The statement of net position presents the cash balance of the governmental activities of the Council at year end. The statement of activities compares disbursements and program receipts for each program or function of the Council's governmental activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the Council is responsible.

Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational requirements of a particular program.

Receipts which are not classified as program receipts are presented as general receipts of the Council, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing on a cash basis or draws from the general receipts of the Council.

Fund Financial Statements

During the year, the Council segregates transactions related to certain Council functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. Fund financial statements are designed to present financial information of the Council at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column.

Fund Accounting

The Council uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. All of the Council's funds are considered governmental.

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds are those through which all of the governmental functions of the Council are financed. The following are the Council's major governmental fund types:

General Fund The General Fund accounts for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The General Fund balance is available to the Council for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (*continued*)

Special Revenue Funds These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Council has the following major Special Revenue Funds:

Shared Pool Fund This fund receives local monies from members of the Cluster for the purpose of providing coordinated services and financial support in addressing the clinical needs of troubled youth.

Help Me Grow Fund This fund receives grant monies to assist in early intervention child outreach activities.

ARPA Fund This fund receives one-time grant monies to support early invention programs to improve outcomes for children.

Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Council is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the governmental funds. The classifications are as follows:

Nonspendable: The nonspendable fund balance category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The “not in spendable form” criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

Restricted: Fund balance is reported as restricted when constraints placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions. Enabling legislation authorizes the Council to assess, levy, charge, or otherwise mandate payment of resources (from external resource providers) and includes a legally enforceable requirement that those resources be used only for the specific purposes stipulated in the legislation. Legal enforceability means that the Council can be compelled by an external party – such as citizens, public interest groups, or the judiciary to use resources created by enabling legislation only for the purposes specified by the legislation.

Committed: The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by formal action (resolution) of the Council. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Board removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts. In contrast to fund balance that is restricted by enabling legislation, the committed fund balance classification may be redeployed for other purposes with appropriate due process. Constraints imposed on the use of committed amounts are imposed by the Board, separate from the authorization to raise the underlying revenue; therefore, compliance with these constraints is not considered to be legally enforceable. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies *(continued)*

Assigned: Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the Council for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the Council or a Council official delegated that authority by Charter or by State Statute.

Unassigned: Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

The Council applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

Basis of Accounting

The Council's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Except for modifications having substantial support, receipts are recorded in the Council's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are recorded when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Any such modifications made by the Council are described in the appropriate section in this note.

As a result of the use of this cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed or provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued expenses and liabilities) are not recorded in these financial statements.

Budgetary Process

A Family and Children First Council established under Ohio Revised Code Section 121.37 is not a taxing authority and is not subject to Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705. The Council is required by the Ohio Revised Code to file an annual budget with its administrative agent, the Summit County Fiscal Officer, and the County of Summit Council. The Council estimates receipts and disbursements for the year and submits these estimates to each of the required parties as well as any changes made to these estimates during the year. The Ohio Revised Code does not require the Council to adopt itemized budgets for governmental activities thus no budgetary statements are presented as part of the basic financial statements.

All monies (grants, contracts, fees and other receipts) paid to the Council are deposited by the County Fiscal Officer to the Agency Funds of the Summit County Treasury which have been created for the purpose of accounting for Council receipts and disbursements.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies *(continued)*

Cash and Investments

The Summit County Fiscal Officer is the custodian for the Council's cash and investments. The County's cash and investment pool holds the Council's cash and investments, which are reported at the County Fiscal Officer's carrying amount. Deposits and investments disclosures for the County as a whole may be obtained from the County by contacting Christina Balliet, Deputy Fiscal Officer of Finance, County of Summit, 175 South Main Street, 44308-1306, (330) 643-2674.

Restricted Assets

Assets are reported as restricted when limitations imposed on their use change the nature or normal understanding of their use. Such constraints are either externally imposed by creditors, contributors, grantors or laws of other governments, or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Inventory and Prepaid Items

The Council reports disbursements for inventory and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

Capital Assets

Capital and infrastructure assets utilized by the Council are considered property of the Summit County Health District, Ohio Department of Health or other grantors and are therefore not reported as capital assets of the Council.

Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment or retirement, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the Council's cash basis of accounting.

Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension Plans

The Council recognizes the disbursement for employer contributions to cost-sharing pension plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 5 and 6, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for postretirement health care benefits.

Long-Term Obligations

The Council's cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for long-term obligations.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies *(continued)*

Net Position

Net Position represents the difference between assets and liabilities. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments. Net position restricted for other purposes include resources restricted for federal, state and local grants.

The Council applies restricted resources first when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

Interfund Transactions

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as receipts in the seller funds and as disbursements in the purchaser funds. Subsidies from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular cash disbursements to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented in the financial statements.

Fiscal and Administrative Agent

Ohio Revised Code Section 121.37(B)(5)(a) requires the Council to select an administrative agent to provide fiscal and administrative services to the Council. The Council selected the Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board. The Council authorizes the Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board, as fiscal agent and administrative agent, to subcontract with, designate, and/or seek assistance from any agencies and/or organizations that it deems necessary in order to complete the obligations set forth in the agreement. The Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board agrees to be ultimately responsible for fulfilling the fiscal and administrative obligations of the agreement.

Fiscal Year

The Council's financial statements are prepared based on a fiscal year that commences January 1 and terminates December 31 to conform to the fiscal year of its administrative agent.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 3 - Risk Management

The Council is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees.

The Council insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation.

The Council is a member of the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (The Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Council's policy. The Pool covers the following risks:

- General liability and casualty
- Public official's liability
- Cyber
- Law enforcement liability
- Automobile liability
- Vehicles
- Property
- Equipment breakdown

The Pool reported the following summary of assets and actuarially-measured liabilities available to pay those liabilities as of December 31 (latest information available):

	<u>2023</u>
Cash and investments	\$ 43,996,442
Actuarial liabilities	\$ 19,743,401

Note 4 - Defined Benefit Pension Plan

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Council employees participate in the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS administers three separate pension plans. The traditional pension plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. The member-directed plan is a defined contribution plan, and the combined plan is a combination cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit/defined contribution pension plan. Participating employers are divided into state, local, law enforcement and public safety divisions. While members in the state and local divisions may participate in all three plans, law enforcement and public safety divisions exist only within the traditional plan.

OPERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits, and annual cost-of-living adjustments to members of the traditional and combined plans. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about OPERS' fiduciary net position that may be obtained by visiting <https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml>, by writing to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling 800-222-7377.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 4 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans *(continued)*

Senate Bill (SB) 343 was enacted into law with an effective date of January 7, 2013. In the legislation, members in the traditional and combined plans were categorized into three groups with varying provisions of the law applicable to each group. The following table provides age and service requirements for retirement and the retirement formula applied to final average salary (FAS) for the three member groups under the traditional and combined plans as per the reduced benefits adopted by SB 343 (see OPERS CAFR referenced above for additional information, including requirements for reduced and unreduced benefits):

Group A Eligible to retire prior to January 7, 2013, or five years after January 7, 2013	Group B 20 years of service credit prior to January 7, 2013, or eligible to retire ten years after January 7, 2013	Group C Members not in other Groups and members hired on or after January 7, 2013
State and Local	State and Local	State and Local
Age and Service Requirements: Age 60 with 60 months of service credit or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age and Service Requirements: Age 60 with 60 months of service credit or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age and Service Requirements: Age 57 with 25 years of service credit or Age 62 with 5 years of service credit
Traditional Plan Formula: 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 30	Traditional Plan Formula: 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 30	Traditional Plan Formula: 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 35 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 35
Combined Plan Formula: 1% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 1.25% for service years in excess of 30	Combined Plan Formula: 1% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 1.25% for service years in excess of 30	Combined Plan Formula: 1% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 35 years and 1.25% for service years in excess of 35

Final average Salary (FAS) represents the average of the three highest years of earnings over a member's career for Groups A and B. Group C is based on the average of the five highest years of earnings over a member's career.

Members who retire before meeting the age and years of service credit requirement for unreduced benefits receive a percentage reduction in the benefit amount. The initial amount of a member's pension benefit is vested upon receipt of the initial benefit payment for calculation of an annual cost-of-living adjustment.

When a traditional plan benefit recipient has received benefits for 12 months, current law provides for an annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) is provided. This COLA is calculated on the base retirement benefit at the date of retirement and is not compounded. Members retiring under the combined plan receive a cost-of-living adjustment of the defined benefit portion of their pension benefit. For those retiring prior to January 7, 2013, current law provides for a 3 percent COLA. For those retiring subsequent to January 7, 2013, beginning in calendar year 2019, current law provides that the COLA will be based on the average percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index, capped at 3 percent.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 4 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans *(continued)*

	<u>State and Local</u>
2023 Statutory Maximum Contribution Rates	
Employer	14.0 %
Employee ***	10.0 %
2023 Actual Contribution Rates	
Employer:	
Pension	14.0 %
Post-employment Health Care Benefits ****	<u>0.0</u>
Total Employer	<u>14.0 %</u>
Employee	<u>10.0 %</u>
* This rate is determined by OPERS' Board and has no maximum rate established by ORC.	
** This rate is also determined by OPERS' Board, but is limited by ORC to not more than 2 percent greater than the Public Safety rate.	
*** Member contributions within the combined plan are not used to fund the defined benefit retirement allowance.	
**** This employer health care rate is for the traditional and combined plans. The employer contribution for the member-directed plan is 4 percent.	

Defined contribution plan benefits are established in the plan documents, which may be amended by the Board. Member-directed plan and combined plan members who have met the retirement eligibility requirements may apply for retirement benefits. The amount available for defined contribution benefits in the combined plan consists of the member's contributions plus or minus the investment gains or losses resulting from the member's investment selections. Combined plan members wishing to receive benefits must meet the requirements for both the defined benefit and defined contribution plans. Member-directed participants must have attained the age of 55, have money on deposit in the defined contribution plan and have terminated public service to apply for retirement benefits. The amount available for defined contribution benefits in the member-directed plan consists of the members' contributions, vested employer contributions and investment gains or losses resulting from the members' investment selections. Employer contributions and associated investment earnings vest over a five-year period, at a rate of 20 percent each year. At retirement, members may select one of several distribution options for payment of the vested balance in their individual OPERS accounts. Options include the annuitization of their benefit (which includes joint and survivor options), partial lump-sum payments (subject to limitations), a rollover of the vested account balance to another financial institution, receipt of entire account balance, net of taxes withheld, or a combination of these options.

Beginning in 2022, the Combined Plan will be consolidated under the Traditional Pension Plan (defined benefit plan) and the Combined Plan option will no longer be available for new hires beginning in 2022.

Funding Policy – The Ohio Revised Code (ORC) provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions as follows:

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined and are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll. The Council's contractually required contribution was \$41,990 for the year 2023.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 5 – Postemployment Benefits

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Plan Description – The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) administers three separate pension plans: the traditional pension plan, a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan; the member-directed plan, a defined contribution plan; and the combined plan, a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that has elements of both a defined benefit and defined contribution plan.

OPERS maintains a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment health care trust, which funds multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage and deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement to qualifying benefit recipients of both the traditional pension and the combined plans. This trust is also used to fund health care for member-directed plan participants, in the form of a Retiree Medical Account (RMA). At retirement or refund, member directed plan participants may be eligible for reimbursement of qualified medical expenses from their vested RMA balance.

In order to qualify for postemployment health care coverage, age and service retirees under the traditional pension and combined plans must have twenty or more years of qualifying Ohio service credit with a minimum age of 60, or generally 30 years of qualifying service at any age. Health care coverage for disability benefit recipients and qualified survivor benefit recipients is available. The health care coverage provided by OPERS meets the definition of an Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) as described in GASB Statement 75. See OPERS CAFR referenced below for additional information.

The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require OPERS to provide health care to its eligible benefit recipients. Authority to establish and amend health care coverage is provided to the Board in Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Disclosures for the health care plan are presented separately in the OPERS financial report. Interested parties may obtain a copy by visiting <https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml>, by writing to OPERS, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling (614) 222-5601 or 800-222-7377.

Funding Policy – The Ohio Revised Code provides the statutory authority requiring public employers to fund postemployment health care through their contributions to OPERS. When funding is approved by the OPERS Board of Trustees, a portion of each employer's contribution to OPERS is set aside to fund OPERS health care plans.

Employer contribution rates are expressed as a percentage of the earnable salary of active members. In 2021, state and local employers contributed at a rate of 14.0 percent of earnable salary. These are the maximum employer contribution rates permitted by the Ohio Revised Code. Active member contributions do not fund health care.

Each year, the OPERS Board determines the portion of the employer contribution rate that will be set aside to fund health care plans. For 2021 OPERS did not allocate any employer contribution to health care for members in the Traditional Pension Plan and Combined Plan. The OPERS Board is also authorized to establish rules for the retiree or their surviving beneficiaries to pay a portion of the health care provided. Payment amounts vary depending on the number of covered dependents and the coverage selected. The employer contribution as a percentage of covered payroll deposited into the RMA for participants in the Member-Directed Plan for 2022 was 4.0 percent.

Summit County Family and Children First Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 5 – Postemployment Benefits *(continued)*

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined and are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll. The Council's contractually required contribution was \$0 for the year 2023.

Note 6 – Contingent Liabilities

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the Council are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor, principally the federal government. Grantors may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

Note 7 – Fund Balances

Fund balance is classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and/or unassigned based primarily on the extent to which the Council is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the government funds. The constraints placed on fund balance for the major governmental funds and all other governmental funds are as disclosed on the face of the financial statements.

Note 8 – COVID-19

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Council. The impact on the Council's future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER

65 East State Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
ContactUs@ohioauditor.gov
800-282-0370

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Summit County Family and Children First Council
Summit County
2355 2nd Street
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221

To the Executive Council:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Summit County Family and Children First Council, Summit County, Ohio (the Council) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Council's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated January 13, 2026, wherein we noted the Council uses a special purpose framework other than generally accepted accounting principles.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Council's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Council's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2024-001 that we consider to be a material weakness.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Council's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.


Council's Response to Finding

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Council's response to the finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings. The Council's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Council's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM
Chief Deputy Auditor

January 13, 2026

**SUMMIT COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL
SUMMIT COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS
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Financial Reporting

FINDING NUMBER – 2024-001

Material Weakness

In our audit engagement letter, as required by AU-C Section 210, Terms of Engagement, paragraph .06, management acknowledged its responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of their financial statements; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error as discussed in AU-C Section 210 paragraphs .A14 & .A16.

Sound financial reporting is the responsibility of the Director of Fiscal and Board of Directors and is essential to ensure the information provided to the readers of the financial statements is complete and accurate. The Council did not have policies and procedures in place for certain financial statement accounts, which led to the following proposed audit adjustments and reclassifications to the financial statements:

GASB Cod. 2200 paragraph 160 provides the reporting government's main operating fund (the general fund or its equivalent) should always be reported as a major fund. Other individual governmental and enterprise funds should be reported in separate columns as major funds based on these criteria: a. The total of assets and deferred outflows of resources, the total of liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of that individual governmental or enterprise fund are at least ten percent of the corresponding element(s) total (total assets and deferred outflows of resources, total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, and so forth) for all funds of that category or type (that is, total governmental or total enterprise funds), and b. The same element(s) that met the ten percent criterion in (a) is at least five percent of the corresponding element total for all governmental and enterprise funds combined.

- In fiscal year 2023, the financial statements reported the ARPA Grant Fund as a nonmajor fund. The fund had total assets, total liabilities, total receipts, and total disbursements of \$0, \$0, \$275,698 and \$275,698 respectively, and did not qualify to be reported as a nonmajor fund. The fund should have been reported as a major governmental fund.
- In fiscal year 2024, the financial statements reported the SCCS-MSY Grant Fund as a nonmajor fund. The fund had total assets, total liabilities, total receipts, and total disbursements of \$168,165, \$168,165, \$110,434 and \$94,857 respectively, and did not qualify to be reported as a nonmajor fund. The fund should have been reported as a major governmental fund.

The financial statements were updated to reflect the above adjustments.

To help ensure the Council's financial statements are complete and accurate, the Council should adopt policies and procedures to identify and correct errors and omissions. In addition, the Council should review the financial statements and notes prior to submission for audit.

Official's Response: The financial reports audited were complete and accurate and did not contain any errors or omissions, simply a misclassification of major funds. This finding is not a representation of misuse of funds. Controls have been put into place to help to ensure the proper classification of major funds in financial statement reporting going forward.

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



SUMMIT COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL

SUMMIT COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report, which is required to be filed pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in the Office of the Ohio Auditor of State in Columbus, Ohio.



Certified for Release 2/5/2026

65 East State Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215
Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at
www.ohioauditor.gov