



The Cuyahoga County Defending Childhood Initiative

The Cuyahoga County Defending Childhood Initiative was created to improve the County's response to childhood exposure to violence and trauma. The initiative focuses on increasing screening, assessment, and referrals into trauma-informed treatment for children in Cuyahoga County.

Between July 2012 and November 2015:

23,471

Children Screened for Violence Exposure and Trauma

2,245

Children Referred for Full Diagnostic Assessments

870

Children Referred for Trauma-Informed Treatment

Diagnostic Assessment Data Revealed that in the Past Year:

94%

Reported exposure to violence

34%

Witnessed domestic violence

22%

Were assaulted with a weapon

16%

Knew someone close to them who was murdered



Trauma-Informed Treatment Works!



Children Receiving Treatment Reported:

Significant improvements in trauma symptomatology



Significant decreases in problem behavior



Significant reductions in violence exposure



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