

Board Spotlight: Sarah Fortner, Chair of the Central Ohio Regional Prevention Council (CORPC)

As Chair of the Central Ohio Regional Prevention Council (CORPC), Sarah Fortner brings a strong voice for local communities and a deep commitment to prevention. In her role as Deputy Director of Protective Services at Fairfield County Job & Family Services, she combines frontline experience with strategic leadership to help shape efforts that protect children and strengthen families across a 13-county region.

Funded by the Ohio Children's Trust Fund (OCTF), CORPC works collaboratively to prevent child abuse and neglect by identifying gaps in family services, conducting needs assessments, and implementing targeted prevention plans. The council is coordinated by the Center for Family Safety and Healing at Nationwide Children's Hospital and is composed of professionals from child welfare, health care, education, and other key sectors, all appointed by county commissioners or the OCTF Board.

Sarah began her service with CORPC in 2022 after being appointed by county commissioners. She was drawn to the opportunity to ensure Fairfield County had a meaningful voice in regional conversations about prevention. With years of experience serving her community, she recognized the importance of bringing local insight to discussions that influence funding and services. Her ability to advocate for community needs and identify service gaps made her a natural leader, and in November 2024, she was appointed Chair by the OCTF Board.

In her role as Chair, Sarah provides oversight and leadership to fellow council members, helping guide the direction of prevention efforts across the region. She finds the work especially rewarding because it allows her to contribute to funding and policy decisions at a larger level while still seeing direct impact in her own community. For Sarah, prevention work is essential and an opportunity to create meaningful, lasting change for children and families.

She also emphasizes the importance of community voice in shaping effective solutions. OCTF's mission is to invest in strong communities, healthy families, and safe children and is strengthened through regional councils like CORPC, where professionals, parents, and individuals with lived experience all have a seat at the table. Sarah values the fact that



OCTF listens to these perspectives and uses them to make intentional investments in prevention.

Through her leadership, Sarah Fortner continues to champion efforts that not only address immediate needs but also build a stronger, safer future for families throughout central Ohio.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the Central Ohio Regional Prevention Council (CORPC).