



PARTNERS
FOR OHIO'S FAMILIES

OCF seeks and supports strategies to strengthen the voices of youth and families for its work.

OFFICE OF FAMILIES & CHILDREN

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From OFC Deputy Director Jennifer Justice – 10/2/15

Thank you to everyone who played a role in last week's Fostering Pathways to Success Conference (see page 2)! We had a great turnout: more than 600 people, including foster youth, former foster youth, caregivers and professionals. This was the best attendance we've had in four years of hosting this event. We've found that the recipe for success includes many ingredients: a tremendous amount of hard work and focus, plus loads of detailed planning, plus tons of coordination and teamwork, plus heaps of dedication, plus many terrific presenters, plus one great audience that cares about the topic. Congratulations to everyone who contributed!

Let's also not forget to acknowledge the foster care youth and alumni who first came up with the idea for the conference – including the popular Suits for Success room – and helped make it a reality. I hope that this year's conference reminded them of the power in their shared voice, and that they are as proud as I am to watch the evolution of their efforts.

I am confident that the Overcoming Hurdles in Ohio Youth Advisory Board (OHIO YAB) and Ohio's new alumni organization, Alumni of Care Together Improving Outcomes Now Ohio (ACTION Ohio, see page 3), will continue to use this power to improve long-term outcomes for their foster

care brothers and sisters. This First Friday highlights one member of both organizations, Violet Ramunni, who will be advocating nationally as a recently appointed member of the National Foster Care Youth & Alumni Policy Council.

While we're on the subject of youth in care, I'd like to remind everyone about new regulations for children who are absent without leave (AWOL). Starting yesterday, all children who are AWOL from substitute care must be reported within 24 hours to both local law enforcement and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, with follow-up documentation when the child returns.

Other new policies regarding older youth in care are or will be in effect soon as a result of Ohio House Bill 213 and Public Law 113-183 (see page 8). Please make sure you have planned for and shared information about these requirements with your county partners.

In other news, I just returned from a great learning opportunity: a meeting with the eight other states that operate state-supervised, county-administered child welfare systems. As usual, I arrived with a long list of questions and left with a notebook full of ideas. I also was reminded, yet again, that Ohio is

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(continued from previous page) quite a leader in many areas of practice. As with our families, we must remember to applaud all that is right about ourselves, rather than just criticize what needs improvement. Many thanks to Casey Family Programs for making this meeting possible.

Also in September, I had the

opportunity to visit Portraits of Love, an anti-human-trafficking youth art exhibit at Peggy R. McConnell Arts Center in Worthington (see page 6). I was so impressed by this project, which involved outreach to youth, including homeless youth, by artists, educators and human trafficking survivors. Check out some photos on the Ohio Children's Trust Fund's [Facebook page](#). You can learn more about this traveling exhibit

by emailing [OHIO CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:OHIO_CHILDREN'S_TRUST_FUND@jfs.ohio.gov).

I'm looking forward to the Public Children Services Association of Ohio's annual conference this month. I really enjoy the opportunity to hear new perspectives from supervisors and caseworkers from across Ohio. I hope you take the time to introduce yourself if the opportunity arises. I would love to say thank you.

Fostering Pathways to Success Conference Draws Record Crowd

More than 600 foster youth, former foster youth, adult caregivers and professionals came together on Sept. 24 to attend the Fostering Pathways to Success conference at Xenos Christian Fellowship in Columbus. This was the fourth annual conference ODJFS has hosted for youth ages 14 to 24 who have experienced foster care, and it drew the largest crowd yet.

"Success is your birthright," ODJFS Director Cynthia C. Dungey said in her welcoming remarks. "We are here to help you claim your birthright. We believe in you, we care about you, and we want you to succeed."

The event had two keynote speakers: Tei Street, a Columbus-based motivational speaker and consultant, and Trent Shelton, a former NFL player and founder of the nonprofit RehabTime Organization. Street spoke in

the morning, and Shelton spoke at lunch.

"Some of you have had really hard lives that you did not create," Tei said. "But it cannot be your excuse for failure. You may not use your past as an excuse for failure."

Throughout the day, workshops were offered for both youth and professionals. Youth workshop topics included navigating college deadlines, searching for jobs with OhioMeansJobs.com, "College Survival 101" and understanding dating violence.

Dr. Terrell Strayhorn, director of The Ohio State University Center of Higher Education Enterprise, kicked off the adult workshops. Topics ranged from engaging youth in transition planning to helping them "reach higher for college."

Once again, the conference featured the popular "Suits for Success" room, where youth could "shop" for new or gently worn professional clothing to wear to job interviews, school engagements or other important functions. More than 4,000 clothing items were donated by ODJFS staff, employees at other central Ohio agencies and the Ohio State Bar

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Scenes from the conference. Top left: the "Amazing" Tei Street delivers her keynote speech. Top right: Doris Edelmann, Montgomery County Human Services Planning and Development; Angela Sausser, PCSAO executive director; Tei Street; ODJFS Director Cynthia C. Dungey; and OFC's Sonia Tillman. Bottom: the ever-popular Suits for Success gives free professional clothing to foster youth at the conference.

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Association, which contributed the most items. The ODJFS Office of Workforce Development (OWD) collected nearly 6,000 donated hangers for the room.

This year's conference was organized by Alice Worrell, OWD project manager for the Connecting the Dots program, and William Murray, Ohio Reach coordinator at the Public Children Services Association of Ohio (PCSAO). The Suits for Success drive was coordinated by OFC's Laurie Valentine, a transitional youth coordinator, and Emily Dyser, an OWD program administrator.

Originally, the event was known as the "Connecting the Dots Conference for Teens and Young Adults" conference. Last year, it was combined with the former "Ohio Reach Summit," an annual event for higher education and child welfare professionals.

Foster care youth and alumni came up with the idea for the conference, and the OHIO YAB and ACTION Ohio remain available as resources for future planning.

Save the Date

Child welfare professionals from all levels and settings are invited to explore ways to "shine the light" and "lead the change," by registering for an hour-long Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) webinar at 11 a.m. on Dec. 2.

Participants will learn about the statewide shift to incorporate CQI in child welfare practice and why this is especially important now. They'll also hear real-world examples of how public and private agencies have used CQI to improve their practices.

Staff from PCSAs, private noncustodial agencies, private child-placing agencies, membership associations, local courts with juvenile jurisdiction, state agencies and treatment facilities are welcome to attend. Watch your email for your invitation.

Time for ACTION!

Ohio's foster care alumni have been joining with the voices of youth still in care since 2006 to improve long-term outcomes, create lasting change and generate hope for current and former foster youth. New this year, however, is the establishment of a state-based, membership-driven group of Ohio foster care alumni called ACTION Ohio.

ACTION Ohio evolved from a state chapter of Foster Care Alumni of America to an independent group. Members believe that foster care should not limit the goals of the youth who experience it. Right now, they're focused on maintaining and expanding programming. Eventually, they hope to achieve a greater impact with a broader audience. During the transition, the Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies is serving as the group's fiscal agent. Check out their new logo, created by Athens County foster care alumna Olena Sowers and approved unanimously by ACTION Ohio members.

"As adults, we've had time to reflect upon our experiences and make sense of them," said Lisa Dickson, ACTION

Ohio's communications chair and a former foster youth. "[W]e are uniquely aware of the challenges faced by young people in and from foster care. We have first-hand knowledge of what it is like to age out of care and navigate the adult world. Foster care alumni serve as role models, [proving] that foster children can overcome challenges and lead successful adult lives."

The group already has begun organizing events. It recently partnered with The Ohio State University and other organizations to facilitate a "College for a Day" event for more than 40 teens in foster care. The day consisted of a campus tour, information sessions about college applications and financial aid, and a visit to the Wexner Center for the Arts. Similar events are in the works

for both The Ohio State University and Ohio University next year.

ACTION Ohio plans to continue a tradition it started as the Ohio chapter of Foster Care Alumni of America: regional Thanksgiving celebrations. These dinners give current and former foster youth (ages 14 and older) the opportunity to come together as a family and celebrate their common bond during the Thanksgiving holiday. This year, regional dinners will be hosted in southeast, southwest, northeast and central Ohio. Public and private agencies are asked to encourage youth in their care to attend, and to help with any transportation barriers. Learn more at <http://thanksgivingtogether.wikispaces.com/>.



IMPROVING OUTCOMES AFTER FOSTER CARE.

Supreme Court Examines Use of Juvenile Restraint

Later this month, the Supreme Court of Ohio's new Subcommittee on Juvenile Justice is expected to propose a Rule of Superintendence regarding youth restraints during juvenile court proceedings. The subject is the first topic the subcommittee has considered and was the focus of its initial meeting on Sept. 9.

Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor noted that youth shackling has gained increasing national attention and that she has met with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Ohio discuss it.

"The American Bar Association and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges recently weighed in on the practice [of shackling juveniles] and the need for reform," O'Connor said. "Even before being approached by the ACLU earlier this summer, [the Supreme Court of Ohio was forming] working groups to examine best practices and make recommendations. Survey results about juvenile courts' practices in this arena and the concerns raised by the ACLU and others bolster the need to examine and address this issue as soon as possible.

"We must balance the safety of the juvenile and others in court proceedings with the rehabilitative focus that is at the core of our juvenile court system. Clearly, there are circumstances where restraints are needed. But blanket restraint policies that do not consider the least-restrictive means, backed by findings that restraints in individual cases are necessary, seems contrary to that purpose."

The chief justice said she would work with the Ohio Judicial College to update training for juvenile court judges, magistrates and probation officers with research that details the exacerbated trauma juveniles experience when they are restrained during court proceedings.

After the restraint issue is addressed, the subcommittee will examine the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, juvenile reentry and human trafficking.



Below: Susan Williams (OFC), Judge Michael J. Ryan (Cuyahoga County) and Judge Anthony Capizzi (Montgomery County) at the subcommittee's Sept. 9 meeting.

In-Depth: The Subcommittee on Juvenile Justice

Part of the Supreme Court's Advisory Committee on Children and Families, the Subcommittee on Juvenile Justice is charged with examining issues related to the juveniles who appear before courts for delinquency or such things as truancy or underage possession/consumption of tobacco or alcohol. The subcommittee also will examine issues related to "crossover youth," who have experienced both the child welfare and the juvenile justice systems.

The subcommittee has 21 members, including judges, magistrates, court administrators, probation officers, representatives from the Ohio departments of Youth Services and Job and Family Services, and other state-level legal organizations. It is chaired by Judge Elizabeth Gill of Franklin County.

The subcommittee aims to do the following:

- Improve the standards, practices and effectiveness of Ohio's courts in handling juvenile delinquency cases;
- Provide training regarding best practices for judges and other professionals who serve in Ohio's juvenile courts;
- Provide support for judges and other professionals through continuing education, research, publications and technical assistance;
- Contribute to the development and implementation of judicial policies, standards, best practices and procedures regarding court diversion, rehabilitation and reentry, detention reform, and other system-wide issues impacting Ohio's juveniles;
- Make recommendations to juvenile courts regarding their structure, management and procedures;
- Acknowledge and uphold the rights of all parties and victims, the safety of all family members, and the safety of the community;
- Inform all juvenile justice partners about the work of Ohio's juvenile courts.

Welcome, Christine Dobrovich!

OFC continues to welcome new staff and make the organizational changes announced in [July's First Friday](#). This month, we welcome Christine Dobrovich to OFC's Bureau of Fiscal Accountability. As the new Title IV-E policy supervisor, Christine steps into the spot vacated when Lakeisha Hilton was promoted to chief of the Bureau of Foster Care Licensing.

In addition to being responsible for public records requests, the administration of ProtectOhio, and coordination of rules and forms for OFC – including the OFC rule review website – Christine also will supervise OFC's Title IV-E policy unit, as her title implies.

Christine comes to OFC from the ODJFS Office of Child Support, where she supervised the Policy/Central Registry Unit. Prior to joining ODJFS, she was an attorney for the Delaware County Child Support Enforcement Agency, but we're most excited to tap into her experiences at Franklin County Children Services. She worked for seven years as a child welfare caseworker in the abuse and adoption units, then spent six years in child welfare and custody litigation after becoming an attorney. Christine has a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in rehabilitation counseling from Ohio University, plus a law degree from Capital University Law School.



Christine Dobrovich

Ohio Foster Care Alumna Appointed to National Council

Congratulations to Violet Ramunni (below), a 21-year-old student at Stark State College, on her



appointment to the National Foster Care Youth & Alumni Policy Council! This small group consists of just 20 members from across the country. Together, they give federal stakeholders relevant and timely information to guide policies affecting children and families involved in the child welfare system.

Violet was born into foster care. She was adopted at age 6 but then reentered foster care at age 14. By the time she aged out of foster care, she had experienced nine foster homes and six schools. She began advocating for other youth in care while preparing for her own emancipation. She participated in a caseworker workshop on resources for transitioning youth, where she was the only minor. Instead of being intimidated by the adults in the workshop, Violet focused on ensuring that she fully understood the resources that might be available to her. Her poise, insight and thoughtful questioning led Lisa Dickson, an OHIO YAB adult supporter, to recommend her for future leadership opportunities, including OHIOYAB.

In May 2014, Violet was chosen

to participate in the third annual Congressional Foster Youth Shadow Day, hosted by the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth. She shadowed Congresswoman Marcia Fudge, who tweeted, "I enjoyed meeting Violet for Foster Youth Shadow Day. She has the potential to lead our youth in [Ohio District] 11."

Violet said she has been inspired by the example of other youth in care and alumni leaders, and she continues to develop her leadership and advocacy skills and experiences. At Stark State, she serves as college liaison for the student organization LGBTS (Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Romantic, Transgender, and Straight) Global. She also is co-vice president of the OHIOYAB.

Regarding her work on the National Foster Care Youth & Alumni Policy Council, Violet said she hopes to educate policymakers about the need for transitional housing for foster youth and the need to create safe spaces for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) youth in care.

Take a bow, Violet!

New Requirements for Adult Guardians

Ohio guardians of adults are now required to participate in a one-time, six-hour guardianship fundamentals course, followed by an annual three-hour continuing education course.

To help guardians and courts meet this new requirement, the Supreme Court of Ohio's Judicial College is offering two versions of Fundamentals of Adult Guardianship – one for laypersons and one for attorneys and other professional guardians – in three formats:

1. **Live courses.** The Judicial College will offer 38 courses during the initial compliance period of June 2015 to June 2016. Courses will be offered in a different region each month to increase accessibility.
2. **Interactive sessions broadcast to local sites.** Currently, 25 local courts are hosting these popular sessions, which are live-streamed so participants do not have to travel.

3. **Online education.** This option allows for self-study with unlimited audience participation. The first two installments of the layperson version already are available. Remaining installments will be available later this year.

After taking the fundamentals course, individuals should be able to do the following:

- Understand how to establish adult guardianship
- Understand the responsibilities and reporting requirements of guardians of adults
- Understand the resources available for adult wards
- Know how to use best practices in specific situations

These new requirements resulted from recommendations made by the Supreme Court of Ohio's Advisory Committee on Children and Families. For more information, see "New Standards Proposed for Guardianship" in the [June 2014 First Friday](#).

CFSR Measure of the Month

Throughout the past year, each month in First Friday we have highlighted a Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) national standard, along with other important CSFR information. Although September's edition covered the final standard, our work is not yet done!

In future editions of First Friday, we will include a new recurring column called "CQI Corner," which will feature great examples of continuous quality improvement and ways we can work together to improve practice and outcomes. In the meantime, here is a recap of our CSFR Measure of the Month series:

[December 2014](#) – Three-part overview, including "The Whys and Hows of the CSFR," "CFSR: Understanding the Pieces" and "New CSFR National Standards"

[January 2015](#) – Placement Stability

[February 2015](#) – Permanency in 12 Months for Children Entering Foster Care

[March 2015](#) – Permanency in 12 Months for Children in Foster Care 12 to 23 Months

[April 2015](#) – Permanency in 12 Months for Children in Foster Care 24+ Months

[May 2015](#) – Reentry to Foster Care in 12 Months

[June 2015](#) – Caseworker Visitation

[July 2015](#) – Recurrence of Maltreatment

[September 2015](#) – Maltreatment in Foster Care

October 2015 Global Emails

The following emails were sent in September from Jennifer Justice to PCSA directors and/or private agency directors. They are organized below by mailing date and key word.

9/4/15 - Cost Free Training Child Abuse Inv Training

9/9/15 - Cost Free Training Child Abuse Inv Training — postponed

Exhibit Raised Awareness of Human Trafficking

A youth art exhibit earlier this month in Worthington was designed to raise awareness of human trafficking and educate young people about how to stay safe.

The exhibit, called "Portraits of Love," was on display Sept. 4 through 11 at the Peggy R. McConnell Arts Center. It featured artwork by Columbus youth ages 12 to 24 from Focus Learning Academy, St. Francis DeSales High School, the Homeless Families Foundation's Dowd Education Center, and The Ohio State University's Star House, a respite center for homeless youth. The youth produced the art after a discussion with outreach artists, educators and human trafficking survivors.

"What a great idea of combining art and having survivors go into the schools and talk with students about the dangers of human

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trafficking, as well as different things to look out for and the importance of valuing themselves," said Ohio Children's Trust Fund (OCTF) Executive Director Kristen Rost.

OCTF co-sponsored the initiative with the Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force and in collaboration with the Hope and Liberation Coalition, a nonprofit human trafficking prevention organization, and the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio's Youth Empowerment Program.

The exhibit was designed to promote dialogue, said Angela Lee, a Star House advisory board member.

"Art has been a fabulous way for us to have those serious conversations in a way that is nonthreatening and also educational," she said. "We're really grateful to have this opportunity and look forward to being able to replicate it."

During a Sept. 10 reception, Cynthia, a Focus Learning Academy student and human trafficking survivor, spoke about the importance of the project and why she chose to participate in it.

"I'm not as stable as I'd like to be, but I am safe now," she said. "I choose to participate in this awareness project to help people understand the reality of youth who do not have stable, safe, adult support and become vulnerable."

For more information about OCTF, visit <http://jfs.ohio.gov/OCTF/index.stm>. For more information about human trafficking prevention, visit www.humantrafficking.ohio.gov.

Federal Delegation Tours Columbus State

Columbus State Community College entertained a distinguished group of visitors from the federal government Sept. 18, including Rafael Lopez, the newly appointed commissioner of the federal Administration on Children, Youth and Families.

Columbus State's Scholar Network is one of four grant recipients of Ohio Reach's new mentoring program to help former foster youth succeed in higher education. The purpose of the visit was to promote how beneficial such a mentoring program and a broader scholar network can be for former foster youth. Discussion focused on the needs of Ohio's foster youth while in care and as they emancipate from care.

Other special guests from Washington included Johan Uvin, acting assistant secretary in the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education (OCTAE); Carmen Drummond, acting chief of staff for OCTAE; and Isabel Soto, confidential assistant for OCTAE. Their visit was coordinated by Kimberly Rhyan, director of student engagement and leadership at Columbus State and co-chair of the Scholar Network.

The group covered topics ranging from Title IV-E refinancing and extending age eligibility for services to educational supports for foster youth and early warning signs to keep children out of care. State and foundation partners also participated, including Dan Shook (OFC), Julia Harrison (Franklin County Children Services), Crystal Ward Allen (Casey Family Programs), Briana Hervet (Ohio Department of Higher Education), and Angela Sausser (PCSAO). Also on the table: youth homelessness, the need to more clearly define "medical necessity," juvenile justice and kinship care.

Following a tour of the campus, the group broadened to include Columbus State's president and key staff, who highlighted the Scholar Network and how vital community partners are to supporting students.



Above, left to right: Carmen Drummond, Crystal Ward Allen, Johan Uvin (front), Angela Sausser, Isabel Soto (front), Julia Harrison, Briana Hervet, Dan Shook, Rafael Lopez, and Kim Rhyan.

New Laws, New Rules

The passages of Ohio House Bill 213 (130th) and Public Law 113-183 in September 2014 required updates to several Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) rules. Below is a list of these rules, their effective dates and a brief overview of the changes. (For more on OAC rule revisions, please see "Rule Review Update" on page 9.)

Effective June 15, 2015

OAC 5101:2-42-19, "Requirements for the provision of independent living services to youth in custody."

- Lowers the age agencies are required to begin providing independent living services to children in custody to age 14. This includes the requirement to complete credit checks for youth.
- NOTE: Procedure Letter #290 allows for a delayed implementation date of Oct. 29, 2015, for 14- and 15-year-old children who were in custody as of Aug. 17, 2015.

Effective Sept. 1, 2015

OAC 5101:2-5-33, "Foster caregiver preplacement and continuing training."

- Requires preplacement training on the reasonable and prudent parent standard.
- Requires foster caregivers who care for children in planned permanent living arrangements (PPLAs) to be trained in providing independent living services.

OAC 5101:2-42-90, "Information to be provided to children, caregivers, school districts and juvenile courts."

- Requires the custodial agencies of children in PPLAs to give the children's caregivers a notice explaining the permanency of a PPLA and the requirement that the caregivers must actively participate in the children's case plans.
- Requires custodial agencies to provide the Foster Youth Rights Handbook (JFS 01677) to any children 14 and older placed in substitute care. The agencies also must review the handbook with the children.

Effective Oct. 1, 2015

OAC 5101:2-42-88, "Requirements when a child in substitute care disrupts from placement or is absent without leave (AWOL)." (Formerly "Requirements for substitute care placement disruptions.")

- Requires custodial agencies to contact both law enforcement and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children when a child is AWOL.
- Requires custodial agencies to document specific information about the child's status at the time of the AWOL and also upon the child's return.

Effective Nov. 1, 2015

OAC 5101:2-42-68, "Necessity for continued substitute care placement: court reviews and hearing requirements."

- Limits PPLA to children 16 and older.
- Requires custodial agencies to provide documentation regarding permanency efforts and normalcy opportunities for children at their initial and subsequent PPLA hearings.
- Requires children's presence at their permanency hearings unless a significant safety concern exists.

Congrats, PCSAs!

Congratulations to five PCSAs on their successful applications for one-time, competitive funding to support their roles in improving outcomes for families with substance use disorders. Agencies were asked to focus on any of four areas: screening, scale, infusion, and/or competency and efficiency. The following PCSAs will receive funding:

- Clermont, to create a recovery coach/peer support advocate program (competency and efficiency).
- Fairfield, to institute universal screening for substance use disorders and trauma, to increase case management and judicial oversight, and to establish a pre-filing option for the family dependency treatment court (all four areas).
- Hardin, to extend assessment and referral processes used in the family dependency treatment court to other individuals (infusion).
- Trumbull, to add a parent partner recovery coach to its drug court team and to make day-care services available during court appearances (infusion, competency and efficiency).
- Union, to institute a screening instrument with the ultimate goal of universal screening and to work with the local treatment agency to provide on-demand screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment and/or the Union County Family Drug Treatment Court (screening, scale).

This opportunity was open to the 19 PCSAs with family dependency treatment courts that have completed specialty docket certification through the Supreme Court of Ohio. Thank you to Casey Family Programs and the federal Children's Justice Act Program for making this funding available.

New and Improved Rule Review Website

Ohio's Families and Children Rule Review Site gives stakeholders the opportunity to comment on the OAC rules that govern programs for Ohio's families and children. We first announced the website in the May 2014 First Friday. Since then, 64 rules have been offered for comment.

Based on user feedback, OFC recently made the following enhancements to the site:

- Forms are now posted for review and comment.
- New rules that are being proposed for future consideration are posted for review and comment.

- Previous rules and forms are searchable by title and/or rule number.

In addition, we have made an effort to make the purpose of each rule revision clearer and more descriptive, to give users a better understanding of the reason for the review and the potential changes that may be made. Most often, rules are reviewed because of the state's mandatory five-year rule review.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to be heard in the rule-making process. Your opinion counts!

Rule Review Update

The following OAC rule was posted to Ohio's Families and Children Rule Review website, www.ohiorulereview.org, for the specified time frame.

From Aug. 10 to Sept. 10, 2015:

- OAC Rule 5101:2-42-60, "Placement services for infants of incarcerated mothers."
Purpose: Clarification to the rule.

Please continue to visit the site periodically for new postings. We welcome your input and hope you use this opportunity to share your experiences. The website received 1,725 hits during August 2015.

Principle of the Month

OFC seeks and supports strategies to strengthen the voices of youth and families for its work.

Feedback and Subscriptions

If you want to subscribe to First Friday, have comments or ideas about content, or wish to be removed from the mailing list, please send an email to First_Friday@jfs.ohio.gov. For additions to or removals from the list, be sure to include your name, organization and email address.



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