**Department of Youth Services (DYS) & Juvenile Court**

One of the unique functions and a mandate of the Ohio Family and Children First Cabinet Council and County Family and Children First Councils is to coordinate child and family serving partners to identify and address the needs of children and families through ongoing planning, implementing effective strategies, monitoring & reporting, and evaluating progress toward achieving desired outcomes.

**Why you are here.**

* To help promote the implementation of policies and programs for at risk youth to prevent youth from entering the justice system.
* To ensure a successful re-entry transition of youth returning from DYS or detention and back to community.
* To account for the impact of the justice system on youth, helping identify ways to keep youth out of the prison pipeline and on a beneficial and healthy trajectory as a local citizen.
* To advocate for policies and programs for justice involved youth, provide access to rehabilitative services.
* To help youth with diversion and keeping them out of Juvenile Detention Center.
* To fulfill governance and fiduciary responsibilities with respect to the operational and fiscal operations of the council.

**How you can support the system of care efforts in our community.**

* Share data regarding youth in custody, behavior trends, and offending trends.
* Share the number of kids in the Department of Youth Services (DYS); plan for discharge with the local community.
* Share data on the number of youths involved in the justice system; innovation and supports focused on reducing the number of youth and families involved in the justice system.
* Share juvenile justice trends, rehabilitation and reentry outcomes, and community feedback.
* Share your needs assessments, strategic plans, and information on successful programs.
* Provide indicators for the [shared plan](Department%20of%20Youth%20Services%20%28DYS%29%20%26%20Juvenile%20Court).
* Share data on incarcerated youth, including demographic stats.  Data on youth on parole and information on services and supports.
* Ensure collaboration regarding re-entry coalition.
* Share information on successful programs to prevent youth involvement in legal system (prevent delinquency and unruly).
* Provide representation on Clinical Committees and other Council committees.
* Provide information and updates on your system of care, best practices, and the projects you are working on that others can assist with or simply need to be aware of.
* Provide in-kind supports with technology, payroll, office space, and/or supplies.