

2025 Building Bridges Community Experience

H.O.M.E. for the Future

September 24-25, 2025

SCHEDULES (virtual & host sites)

Becoming more deeply committed to our communities
by being more deeply connected in community



BUILDING BRIDGES
of Opportunity

SEPT 24 SCHEDULE (VIRTUAL)

9:00-9:30AM - Welcome and Calling to Community

Featuring:

Roni Burkes-Trowsdell, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Michael Garrett, Ohio Department of Youth Services

9:30-10:30AM – What Works at the Intersection of Young Adult Criminal Justice Involvement & Reentry

When we know what the research shows, we can make better decisions about how to support and serve young people who were incarcerated as children and return as adults. This plenary provides the facts about factors for system involvement and what

works in successful reintegration for 18-25 year olds.

Presenter:

***Dr. Chris Damato, University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute
Yolanda Frierson, Department of Youth Services (Facilitator)***

10:30-10:45AM- Break

10:45 – 12:15PM - Putting Research into Practice

Representatives working in and on both the adult and juvenile Systems present on policies, practices, and practical needs, interventions, and necessary supports and services. These practitioners and community researchers highlight similarities and differences in the systems and identify the gaps in services that the community needs to provide.

Presenters:

***Brooke Burns, Office of Ohio Public Defenders, Youth Defense Division
Ruth Simera, NEOMED Coordinating Centers of Excellence, Dept of Psychiatry
Brittini Long, Department of Youth Services
Jennifer Nail, OH Dept. of Rehabilitation and Correction (Facilitator)***

12:15 - 12:30PM – Lunch Break

12:30 – 1:30PM – Lunch & Learn: Experts of their Experiences

Hearing from the most directly impacted is necessary. This panel of young returning neighbors and/or individuals who experienced juvenile justice system involvement and subsequent adult incarceration share their experiences and guide us into better ways to serve and support other young adults returning.

Presenters:

***Stan Ross, Positive Influence Team
Positive Influence Team Participants
Toriano Henry, Pastor Community Bible Church (Findlay)***

1:30 - 2:30PM – What Works Where We Are? Where are the Gaps?

This session starts with an overview of an innovative approach to create an employment pipeline for young adults returning. Our collaborative panel will address the differences between working with young persons and older adults in “doing life” along with developing the mindset necessary for developing innovative partnerships between a state agency, a county initiative, and a local community service provider.

Presenters:

Larry Simpson, Ohio Department of Youth Services

Jody Slagle, Ohio Department of Youth Services
Allison Steele, The Trades Institute

2:30 – 2:45PM – Break

2:45 – 4:00PM– Connecting & Co-laboring in Community Context Discussions

In this final session for the day, participants will first explore an effective model for multi-system coordination that the Ohio Family and Children's First Council has used for the last 15 years. Then, facilitators will guide small group discussions based on their community context - metro, mid-size and rural. Groups will identify the cross over of services between adults and youth, necessary differences in systems and services, and gaps that community services can fill through coordination of services for young adults ages 18-25. Each context will wrap up with facilitated reporting from small groups to the larger context group on three things they identified in crossover services, gaps, and coordinated services opportunities.. The session will end with a final open discussion on: "What is the first step you are going to take toward the long-term goal of serving and supporting young adults returning home?"

Presenters:

Colleen Tucker, Ohio Children and Family First Council
Aimee Matusik, Ohio Children and Family First Council

Facilitators:

Rachel Sobitz, Relink.org
Bill Hartford, The Four Seven Prison Ministry
Tom Luettke, Northwest Ohio Reentry Coalition, OALRC
Diane Bricker, Safe Harbor Peer Support Services, OALRC

SEPT 25 SCHEDULE (IN-PERSON)

Check your site for start and ending times. Individual site schedules are subject to change, and content is context-specific.

BUTLER COUNTY SITE AGENDA

BOARD OF DEVELOPMENT DISABILITIES, 282 N FAIR AVE, HAMILTON, OH 45011

Hosted by The Four Seven Prison Ministry/Butler and Warren Counties Reentry Coalition

9:45 – 10:00 | Welcome & Opening

10:00 – 11:00 | Opening Panel: System Perspectives

Panelists:

- Jeremy Evans – Defense Attorney
- Devin Goodman – Chief Probation Officer, Juvenile Probation
- Jason Goodrum – Head of Corrections, Juvenile Division
- Bruce Graham – Parole Bureau Chief, ODYS Parole Division
- David Tobin – Southern Parole Regional Administrator, ODYS Parole Division

11:00 – 11:45 | Breakout/Spotlight: Programs for Young Adults (18–24)

Panelists:

- Tonia Reed Williams – Community Operations Supervisor, Youth Services, Easterseals Redwood
- Kedara Carter – OhioMeansJobs
- Dustin Bowman – Serve City (Housing Initiative for ages 18–24)

11:45 – 12:15 | Networking & Transition

12:15 – 1:00 | Lunch & Keynote

- Judge Erik Niehaus – Juvenile Judge

1:15 – 1:35 | Spotlight: ODRC Reentry Perspectives

Speakers:

- Darryl Graves – Regional Reentry Administrator, ODRC
- Ernest Stockton – Reentry Coordinator, Dayton Region, ODRC

1:35 – 2:40 | Juvenile Reentry Case Study

2:40 – 2:55 | Wrap-Up & Local Call to Action

CINCINNATI SITE AGENDA

CINCINNATI STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGES, 3520 CENTRAL PKWY, CINCINNATI, OH 45223

Hosted by Hamilton County Office of Reentry & Montgomery County Office of Reentry

Registration/Check-in :: 8:30 AM

Event Closing :: 3:00PM

Featured Speaker this year...

Keynote: Chef Jeff Henderson

CLEVELAND SITE AGENDA

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 3625 W 138TH ST, CLEVELAND, OH 44111

Hosted by Relink.org

Welcome & Introductions :: 10:00-10:15AM

Barriers to Success :: 10:15-11:00AM

Chaplain Eddie Sands from Department of Youth Services Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facility will address the barriers he's seen with youth returning back home

Using Experiences and Tools to Disrupt Adult Involvement :: 11:00-11:45AM

Damian Calvert, Certified Violence Interrupter & Credible Messenger and Trauma & Recovery Coach, offers lessons learned from his lived experience and tools that community providers can use to help keep individuals from returning back to incarceration

Cuyahoga County Office Of Reentry :: 11:45AM-12:00PM

Chamomile Ware from the Cuyahoga County Office Of Reentry shares about the services and supports offered through this county organization

Lunch & Networking :: 12:00-12:45PM

Get to know your co-laborers and learn about the online reentry services support portal, Relink.org

Now What? Open Discussion :: 12:45-1:15PM

This guided discussion calls upon participants to strategize how they can support and serve to remove the barriers identified from the morning sessions

From Prison to Pastor :: 1:15-2:00PM

Pastor Toriano Henry from Community Bible Church in Findlay shares his own lived experiences as a young justice-involved person and offers guidance and encouragement on how best to help youth who are on the edge of involvement or are coming out of incarceration.

COLUMBUS SITE AGENDA

CITYVIEW CHURCH, 1150 West 5th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43212

Hosted by Franklin County Office of Justice Policies & Programs (OJPP) and Accompanying Returning Citizens with Hope (ARCH)

Registration/Check-in :: 9:00 - 9:45AM

Welcome :: 10:00 - 10:05AM

Wendy Tarr, Director of Accompanying Returning Citizens with Hope (ARCH)

Workshop #1 :: 10:15 - 11:00AM

In this session, a DYS staff member will present on culturally competent service delivery and why it is important in addressing the disproportionate number of black youths incarcerated and going through the juvenile justice system. Our presenter will challenge providers to be intentional about the services they provide in ways that recognize that one size does not fit all..

Presenter:

Brittany Neal, Department of Youth Services

Break :: 11:00 - 11:15AM

Workshop #2 :: 11:15AM - 12:00PM

DYS Behavioral Health Unit. This workshop offers a discussion with the Department of Youth Services Behavioral Health Unit on the services they offer and the care coordination following release to provide the opportunities for youth to continue their care upon release.

Presenters:

Chris Crine and Abigail Bauman, Department of Youth Services

Lunch 'n Learn Experience :: 12:00 - 1:00PM

Think, Make, Live & The Up Court - will have justice-involved youth graduates on hand to participate in an interactive lunch discussion and panel.

Workshop #3 :: 1:15 - 2:00PM

Franklin County Juvenile Justice Overview. This workshop provides an overview of the current juvenile justice system in Franklin County, including key trends, challenges, and reform efforts shaping the way we serve youth. Participants will gain insight into the structure and function of the local system—from intake and detention to community supervision and court-involved programming.

A special focus will be placed on juvenile reentry efforts, highlighting how Franklin County is working to support young people as they transition from detention or residential facilities back into their communities. We will explore collaborative strategies, community partnerships, and evidence-informed practices that are aiming to help reduce recidivism and promote long-term success for system-involved youth.

Presenter: Tresalyn Butler Sharp, Director of FACCES (Family Achievement and Cultural Community Enrichment Services) Franklin County Common Pleas Domestic Relations and Juvenile Division; Navigating the Current Landscape: Juvenile Justice and Reentry in Franklin County

Closing :: 2:05PM

Remarks, Evaluations, Wrap-up

PORTAGE COUNTY SITE AGENDA

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF KENT, 1435 E Main St, Kent, OH 44240

Hosted by Kent State University Department of Sociology and Criminology/Portage County Citizen Circle

Registration/Check-in :: 9:30-10:00 AM

Welcome :: 10:00 -10:30 AM

Bridget Stuntz, Portage County Citizen Circle Coordinator

Professor Kunkle Video: The History of Portage Co Juvenile Justice

Workshop :: 10:30 – 11:45 AM

Overcoming YOUNG People's Reentry Challenges

Dr. Meghan Novinsky, University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute

Dr. Elias Nader, Kent State University Department of Sociology and Criminology

Joe Tucker, South Street Ministries

Lunch & Learn Keynote Speaker :: 12:00 – 1:00 PM

The Community's Role in Juvenile Justice

Judge Patricia Smith

Sequential Intercept Mapping :: 1:15 – 2:00 PM

Ruth Simera, NEOMED University, Executive Director for the Coordinating Centers of Excellence in the Department of Psychiatry

What Can We Do? Investing in our Future :: 2:00 – 3:45 PM

Case Studies Group Discussion

Closing Remarks :: 3:45-4:00 PM

Pastor Nathan Howe, United Methodist Church of Kent

TOLEDO SITE AGENDA

OHIO MEANS JOBS, 3737 W SYLVANIA AVE, TOLEDO, OH 43623 in the Toledo Room

Hosted by the Reentry Coalition of Northwest Ohio (RCNWO) and Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

Registration/Check-in :: 9:30 - 10:00 AM

Welcome :: 10:00 - 10:20AM

Commissioner Lisa Sobecki & Tom Luetke, CJCC Reentry Coordinator

Navigating Reentry Challenges for Young Adults :: 10:20 - 11:00AM

Andre Jackson, TASC of N.W. Ohio

Housing and Young Adults in Toledo :: 11:00 - 12:00PM

Kristin McKinley, Youth Coordinator, Toledo County Homelessness Board (TLCHB)

Break :: 12:00 - 12:15 PM

Lunch - Recovery Management :: 12:00 - 1:15PM

David Nalls, H2O Behavioral Health

Break :: 1:15 - 1:30PM

Tactical Deescalation Training :: 1:30 - 3:30PM

Robert Kasprzak, Lucas County CIT Coordinator, Lucas County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board

Closing :: 3:30-3:45PM

Stan Smith, Facilitator, Lucas County Family & Children First Council

YOUNGSTOWN SITE AGENDA

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 201 WICK AVE, YOUNGSTOWN, OH 44503

Hosted by Route 11 Reentry Coalition

Registration/Check-in :: 9:30-10:00 AM