

Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS)

Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING	Wednesday, February 5, 2025 4:00 pm -6:00 pm – Cuyahoga County Administration Building/Teams
ATTENDEES	Karin Austin (DCFS), Gabriella Celeste, Beverly Charles, David Crampton, Bianca Crawford, Jacqueline Fletcher (DCFS), Andrew Garner, Angela Newman-White, Lakecia Wild Guests – Andrew Kenneson (Cleveland Documenters), Lara Parks (DCFS), Rachel Amick (DCFS)
MINUTES	Available Online –Deborah Barber will post minutes upon approval
RECORDER	Deborah Barber

AGENDA ITEMS

	Introduce and Welcome
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Angela Newman-White opened meeting Introductions Motion to accept meeting minutes from December 4, 2024 David Crampton– 1st Beverly Charles– 2nd Minutes Approved
	Public Comment
DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.

	Director's Report – Jacqueline Fletcher
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kudos given to staff for ongoing efforts. Efforts have been made to fine tune recruitment. Currently there are only 3 vacancies. The Emergency Search and Engagement Unit work to find relatives, review homes, and find placements for children in the building. The kids awaiting placement situation continues to evolve. Efforts to complete the H.O.P.E. Campus continue. There have been wide ranging efforts by staff to place youth.
Action Item – Does DCFS have anyone on the committee?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion of House Bill 583 – regarding residential facilities for foster children A state committee is exploring if juvenile offenders and child welfare children can be placed together.

Subcommittees	
<p>Action Items – Lara Parks will check data for child maltreatment in out of county settings, number of approved families for adoptions, number of potential foster families, T-Suite’s data, and Fatherhood engagement.</p> <p>Action Item – data on prevention sources, follow up with Lara Parks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intervention – David Crampton – presentation of the DCFS Dashboard – The dashboard has been revamped to be shorter and easier to digest. • Motion to approve the Dashboard – Gabrielle Celeste • Second – Andrew Garner • Dashboard Approved • Governance – Angela Newman-White –They are meeting soon. • Prevention – Gabriella Celeste – The committee met with the director; discussion continues how to help families that are screened out. The group decision making process has reduced the number of families screened into DCFS for services. The concern was how to offer help to those families.

Information Sharing/Adjournment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates – Bianca Crawford – Job Fair, March 7; Empower Me Conference, April 25-26 Gabrielle Celeste – Violence Prevention Presentation, Dr. Barksdale, Laura Voigt, Feb. 11 Angela Newman-White – Shared that there is now a housing program that provides free housing for two years for pregnant girls under the age of 18. • Adjournment

[Next Meeting:](#) April 2, 2025, 4:00pm – 6:00 PM

Location – County Headquarters, 2079 E 9th St., Room A, Cleveland, OH 44115