

Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS)

Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING	Wednesday, June 4, 2025 4:00 pm -6:00 pm – Cuyahoga County Administration Building/Teams
ATTENDEES	Gabriella Celeste, Beverly Charles, David Crampton, Bianca Crawford, Verna Darby, Jacqueline Fletcher (DCFS), Andrew Garner, Angela Newman-White, Debra Rex, Daniel Smith, Beverly Torres (DCFS), Lakecia Wild Guests – Rachel Benders (Special Projects Manager, HHS), Rachel Amick (DCFS), Lara Parks (DCFS), Jennifer Johnson (Canopy), Michael Bokmiller (Canopy), Cleveland Documenters
MINUTES	Available Online –Deborah Barber will post minutes upon approval
RECORDER	Deborah Barber

AGENDA ITEMS

	Introduce and Welcome
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Andrew Garner opened meeting• Introductions• Motion to accept meeting minutes from April 2, 2025• David Crampton– 1st• Beverly Charles– 2nd• Minutes Approved
	Public Comment
DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guest Speakers: Rachel Benders, Special Projects Manager, Health and Human Services
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rachel Benders presented information regarding the Youth Villages Grant the county received to assist youth aging out of DCFS custody. It will be used as an opportunity to look across systems and explore different elements of the public systems available. The funds will also be used to pay stipends to young people that will participate in the focus group. Dollars will also be utilized at the Child Welfare Providers Summit June 5.

Director's Report – Jacqueline Fletcher	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The director congratulated Gabrielle Celeste on receiving a lifetime achievement award. She then yielded her time to Rachel Amick and Lara Parks from DCFS and their data dashboard presentation.

Subcommittees	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intervention – David Crampton – Data Dashboard Presentation – Rachel Amick (DCFS), and Lara Parks (DCFS) - A detailed presentation of the data dashboard was given. David Crampton made a motion to approve the dashboard. The dashboard was approved for posting. Governance – Angela Newman-White – Chair appointments are at the end of the year. Andy Garner does not wish to be appointed again to the vice chair position. Volunteers for the position are requested. Prevention – Gabriella Celeste – No updates

Information Sharing/Adjournment	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates – Angela Newman-White shared that the First-year Cleveland website is going live. A phone app will be available soon. Groundwork of Ohio is hosting a rally for families in Columbus on June 17th. Gabriella Celeste shared that the Council Subcommittee on Juvenile Justice released their report today. Deborah Barber will share the report with the Advisory Board. Adjournment

[Next Meeting:](#) August 6, 2025, 4:00pm – 6:00 PM
Location – County Headquarters, 2079 E 9th St., Room A, Cleveland, OH 44115