



IMPROVING OUTCOMES AFTER FOSTER CARE.

Resource List

ACTION Ohio

Alumni of Care Together Improving Outcomes Now – As Thanksgiving draws near, please RSVP for our early Central Ohio Thanksgiving events in Columbus for foster care youth ages 14+, including emancipated youth. Contact info@fosteractionohio.org for more information.

Applying for a Job

Impact Community Action
700 Bryden Road, Columbus OH 43215
(614) 252-2799

Services offered: Ohio foster care youth, between 14 – 21 years old, are 100% eligible for free workforce programs that are funded through CCMEP (a combination of TANF and WIOA funds).

Columbus Diaper Bank

1040 N. High St, Columbus, OH 43201
Rachael@columbusdiaperbank.com

Services provided: Provides diapers to families in need.

Columbus State Community College

Link to details: www.csc.edu/campus-life/cares/scholar-network.shtml

Eligibility: Current or former foster youth who are admitted and enrolled at Columbus State Community College

Services offered: Columbus State's Scholar Network: Passport to Success, which includes:

- Free registration for all events, including the Passport to Success Conference
- Ongoing mentor support
- Monthly Lunch & Learn Workshops
- Leadership experience
- Connections with peers
- Free meals, giveaways and program workbook

Eligible participants may receive scholarships and other incentives to support student success.



Filling Out the FAFSA

Former foster care youth should fill out the FAFSA as an “independent student,” in accordance with the 2007 College Cost Reduction and Access Act. This enables former foster youth to be eligible for financial aid.

Eligibility requirements: Youth must fit into ONE of the following categories:

1. An orphan, in foster care, or a ward of the court, at any time when the student was 13 years of age or older OR
2. An emancipated minor or is in legal guardianship as determined by the court in their state of legal residence OR
3. Verified as an unaccompanied youth who is homeless or at risk of homelessness and self-supporting

ETV Funds (Education and Training Voucher Program)

Foster Care to Success provides up to \$5000 a year for qualified school related expenses. Funding is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis to eligible students. Please visit: <http://www.fc2sprogram.org/ohio/>

Eligibility requirements:

1. At least 18 years old, but younger than 21 years old to apply for the first time. Youth can reapply for ETV funds, if they have a current grant, up to the age of 23.
2. Youth must either have been in foster care on their 18th birthday and aged out at that time, or adopted from foster care with the adoption finalized after his/her 16th birthday, or will have his/her foster care case closed between the ages of 18 and 21.
3. Must be enrolled in a degree, certificate or other accredited program at a college, university, technical, vocational school.
4. To remain eligible for ETV funding, youth must show progress toward a degree or certificate.

Free Legal Help

Foster Youth Advocacy Center (FYAC)
Capital University Law School, 303 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 236-6768
fyac@law.capital.edu

Services offered: Capital Law School provides a free legal clinic for current or former foster youth between ages 16-25 who need help with getting their foster care records, accessing healthcare, public benefits, housing or insurance, expunging criminal records and/or obtaining social security card, birth certificate, or other personal documents. This includes counseling for life-planning and decision-making to help foster youth avoid homelessness and poverty and help in understanding a lease.



Furniture Bank of Central Ohio

118 S Yale Avenue, Columbus, OH 43222
(614) 272-9544

Services provided: Provides up to 15 items of free furniture and household goods for individuals and families moving from difficult situations. Clients must receive a referral from a social services agency. Call Hands-On Central Ohio, in order to link with a referring organization: (614) 221-2255 or 211.

Huckleberry House

1421 Hamlet St., Columbus, OH 43201
24-hour Crisis Line: (614) 294-5553
Business line: (614) 294-8097

Eligibility: Homeless youth between ages 12-22

Services offered:

- **Huckleberry House Crisis Program** provides emergency shelter and crisis intervention to youth ages 12 to 18. Runaway youth can go to a designated Safe Place site for immediate assistance and support at any 24-hour Kroger store, White Castle or local fire station. Teens must be willing to work on family problems. Support is free and confidential.
- **Huckleberry House Transitional Living Program** assists youth ages 16 to 18 with independent living skills, mental health support and securing living arrangements. Teens meet with counselors for free and confidential support.

JobCorps

Job Corps is a free education and training program that helps young people learn a career, earn a high school diploma or GED, and find and keep a good job. This program provides free housing. The state of Ohio has three JobCorps Centers.

Cincinnati Job Corps Center

1409 Western Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45214
(513) 651-2000

Cleveland, OH 44110

(216) 541-2500

Dayton Job Corps Center

3849 Germantown Pike
Dayton, OH 45417
(937) 268-6571

Cleveland Job Corps Center

13421 Coit Road



Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs (JOIN)

578 East Main Street , Columbus, OH 43215
(614) 241-2530

Services provided: Provides clothing, food, bus passes, drug prescriptions, gasoline, rent, heating and utility-bill assistance.

Joseph's Coat of Central Ohio

240 Outerbelt Street, Columbus, OH 43213
(614) 863-1371

Services provided: Provides clothing, shoes, household goods, furniture, and personal care items to those in need.

Eligibility requirements:

- Referrals are not required for clothing and household items
- Furniture requests must be accompanied by a written referral from the Faith Mission, fire department, school counselor or Volunteers of America

Medicaid

Foster care youth who "age out" of foster care in Ohio are eligible for Medicaid until their 26th birthdays. After being initially signed up for Medicaid at age 18, former foster youth must stay in touch with Medicaid, so that they don't lose services between ages 18-26. Please contact the Medicaid Hotline: 1-800-324-8680.

Ohio Reach

Will Murray, Ohio Reach Coordinator
Public Children Services Association of Ohio
(614) 224-5802
www.ohioreach.org

Several Ohio colleges and universities have Ohio Reach Campus Liaisons to support the success for former foster youth pursuing post-secondary education.

Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG)

Tamika M. Braswell
(614) 728-8862
tbraswell@regents.state.oh.us
www.ohiohighered.org

Foster youth at community colleges can apply for OCOG funds, and have special permission to use these funds for housing if needed, in addition to other college-related expenses. The funding allocation is up to \$1,048 to assist with college living expenses.



PrimaryOne Health

1905 Parsons Ave, Columbus, OH 43207
(614) 645-5500

Services provided: Access to comprehensive healthcare services – especially for people experiencing financial, social or cultural barriers to healthcare.

Salvation Army of Central Ohio

966 E Main Street, Columbus, OH 43205
(614) 221-6561

Services provided: Clothing, furniture, food, utility bill assistance, job training, warm winter coats, meals and rent assistance.

Starfish Alliance

195 N. Grant Ave, Suite 200, Columbus OH 43215
(614) 908-0732

Jennifer@starfishalliance.org

Services provided: Results-oriented mentoring for young people who experienced foster care and are interested in leadership, starting your own business or getting a job in one of central Ohio's most in-demand career fields. Members are connected with mentors, peers, leadership and social entrepreneur development, education and careers.

Star House

1220 Corrugated Way, Columbus, OH 43201
(614) 826-5868

www.starhousecolumbus.org
info@starhousecolumbus.org

Services offered: A 24-hour drop-in center for homeless youth (ages 14-24) that provides a safe environment, food, showers, and assistance with bus passes, employment, housing, and other supports.

Heart to Heart Food Pantry

First Community Church
1944 W. First Avenue Columbus, OH 43212
Lamar Graham, Heart to Heart Director
(614) 488-0681, extension 203

hearttoheart@FCchurch.com