

How to Volunteer

An important and meaningful way to invest your time and energy is to advocate for the dependent, neglected and abused children in your community.

If you would like to become a Citizen Foster Care Review Board volunteer for your county or would like more information, mail in this response form or contact:

Department of Family and Juvenile Services
Administrative Office of the Courts
800-928-2350
juvileeservices@kycourts.net

Request for Information

Kentucky Citizen Foster Care Review Boards

I am interested in learning more about volunteering with my local Citizen Foster Care Review Board. Please contact me with more information.

Name _____

Profession _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Please return this form to:

Department of Family and Juvenile Services
Administrative Office of the Courts
100 Millcreek Park
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Phone 502-573-2350, Fax 502-573-1412
juvileeservices@kycourts.net



Chief Justice
John D. Minton Jr.

CFCRB volunteers help protect Kentucky's children

Thousands of Kentucky children enter foster care each year due to dependency, neglect and abuse. Citizen Foster Care Review Board volunteers play an important role in protecting these children by reviewing the cases of each child in the custody of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

As a result of this major undertaking, review boards provide a valuable service to courts throughout the Commonwealth by helping guard the safety and well-being of the children in foster care. I appreciate the many dedicated volunteers who selflessly commit to this important endeavor.



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Administrative Office of the Courts
100 Millcreek Park, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
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www.courts.ky.gov

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Kentucky Citizen Foster Care Review Boards

Working for Kentucky's Future ... Our Children



Ensuring our Children's Future

Citizen Foster Care Review Board volunteers review the cases of thousands of children who have been removed from their homes due to dependency, neglect and abuse. Recommendations from these volunteers guide judges who must make critical decisions about placing children in safe, permanent homes.

These dedicated volunteers regularly review the case files of children who are in the care of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services. They help ensure that permanency for at-risk children remains the central objective of the courts and the cabinet.

The Citizen Foster Care Review Boards operate within the Department of Family and Juvenile Services of the Administrative Office of the Courts in Frankfort. The AOC is the support arm of the Kentucky Court of Justice.

Volunteer Review Boards

Kentucky has the largest volunteer-based citizen review system in the nation

Review boards are located in all 120 counties and are supported by a volunteer base of more than 800 dedicated people from throughout Kentucky. Each year volunteers conduct more than 20,000 reviews of nearly 10,000 children who have been removed from their homes and placed in foster care, in child-care facilities or with relatives.

The Kentucky General Assembly created the Citizen Foster Care Review Boards in 1982 as a way to decrease the time children spend in foster care.

The volunteer reviewers help ensure that children receive the necessary services while in foster care and are ultimately placed in safe and permanent homes.

CFCRB Vision

» With respect to children in care: Ensure adequate and necessary services are provided to families and children with the utmost importance given to safety, well-being and permanency.

» With respect to the judges we serve: Provide timely, accurate and sufficiently detailed information about children in care so as to promote knowledgeable permanency decisions.

» With respect to CFCRB volunteers: Promote awareness and understanding regarding children's issues through educational opportunities at local, regional and state levels.

Volunteers at Work

CFCRB volunteers give their time and efforts to advocate for the children in their communities. Volunteers come from various educational and professional backgrounds and have a deep compassion for children.

The majority of volunteers are female. The average age of volunteers is 53 and the average length of service is 5.2 years.

Appointing & Training Volunteers

Those interested in volunteering must complete an initial six-hour training session and consent to criminal record and Central Registry checks.

New volunteers attend regional training sessions that focus on:

- » Department for Community Based Services procedures
- » Forms used in dependency, neglect and abuse cases
- » Court process
- » Mental health issues of children in out-of-home care
- » Sample file review

Once training is completed, a recommendation is made to the chief judge of the local District Court or Family Court for appointment. Judges appoint volunteers for three-year terms.

All volunteers receive a comprehensive handbook on the program and a variety of opportunities for continuing education.

Review Board Meetings

The review boards usually meet once a month for approximately two hours. Each board consists of at least three members, with some boards having as many as 12 members.



Our mission is to ensure safe, permanent, timely placement of Kentucky's children in out-of-home care.

» With respect to the Cabinet for Health and Family Services: Provide meaningful, respectful feedback regarding paths to permanency.