



Administrative Office of the Courts

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For Immediate Release

Volunteers needed in 30 Kentucky counties
to review cases of children in foster care

Citizen Foster Care Review Boards make recommendations to courts on behalf of children

FRANKFORT, Ky., Sept. 24, 2018 – [Citizen Foster Care Review Boards](#) in 30 Kentucky counties are seeking volunteers to make a difference in the lives of local children in foster care and other out-of-home care. The boards need volunteers to review cases of children placed in care because of dependency, neglect or abuse, to ensure they are placed in safe, permanent homes as quickly as possible.

The counties in need of volunteers are Allen, Barren, Breckinridge, Butler, Caldwell, Calloway, Christian, Clark, Crittenden, Fayette, Fulton, Garrard, Graves, Grayson, Green, Hardin, Hart, Hickman, Jessamine, LaRue, Lincoln, Livingston, Logan, Lyon, Madison, Marshall, McLean, Todd, Trigg and Warren. Volunteers are not required to live in these counties.

The Kentucky General Assembly created the Kentucky CFCRB in 1982 to decrease the time children spend in out-of-home care. CFCRB volunteers review Cabinet for Health and Family Services files on children placed in out-of-home care and work with the cabinet and courts on behalf of the children. The court-appointed volunteer reviewers help ensure that children receive the necessary services while in out-of-home care and are ultimately placed in permanent homes.

All volunteers must complete a six-hour initial training session. Potential volunteers are encouraged to apply as soon as possible so they can be screened and, if approved, scheduled for training in their area.

All potential volunteers must consent to a criminal record and Central Registry check. A recommendation is then made to the chief judge of the District Court or Family Court for appointment.

For more information and to apply to be a volunteer, visit the [CFCRB section](#) of the Kentucky Court of Justice website.

Citizen Foster Care Review Board

More than 700 volunteers across the state serve as members of the Kentucky Citizen Foster Care Review Board. In Fiscal Year 2017, volunteers conducted more than 20,000 reviews of more than 11,400 cases of children in foster and other out-of-home care.

The Administrative Office of the Courts administers the CFCRB program. The AOC is the operations arm for the state court system and supports the activities of nearly 3,300 employees and 404 elected justices, judges and circuit court clerks. The AOC also executes the Judicial Branch budget.

Foster Care Forums

CFCRBs are hosting [regional community forums](#) across the state for the public to discuss improving outcomes for Kentucky children and families involved in the state foster care system.

CFCRBs will host seven regional community forums across the state between Aug. 24 and Oct. 29. The forums are among the reforms called for in [House Bill 1](#), legislation passed in 2018 to address issues with foster care and adoption.

“These forums are an important opportunity for people to share their concerns about how children and families experience the foster care system in Kentucky and talk about what can be done to improve it,” said Ed Staats, chairman of the state CFCRB, which guides the work of local CFCRBs statewide. “Some of the topics we anticipate discussing are getting children into permanent homes as soon as possible and ensuring their safety and well-being while they’re in care. This will be the first time CFCRBs will hear directly from our communities about these issues. I’m hopeful that citizens will also learn more about the work of their local CFCRBs and consider getting involved.”

Findings from the forums will be reported to the Kentucky Citizen Foster Care Review Board and included in the board’s annual recommendations to the Supreme Court, governor and legislature.

Due to confidentiality, specific case information will not be discussed at the forums.

Forum Schedule

Elizabethtown

Aug. 24, 2018
1:30-3 p.m. ET
Hardin County Extension Office
201 Peterson Drive

Salyersville

Sept. 21, 2018
1:30-3 p.m. ET
Magoffin County Extension Office
15 Rockhouse Road

Lexington

Sept. 25, 2018
1:30-3 p.m. ET
Robert F. Stephens Circuit Courthouse
Community Room
120 N. Limestone St.

Madisonville

Sept. 28, 2018
1:30-3 p.m. CT
Baptist Health Building I
8th floor, 200 Clinic Drive

Florence

Oct. 19, 2018
1:30-3 p.m. ET
Florence Government Center
8100 Ewing Blvd.

Somerset

Oct. 26, 2018
12:30-1:45 p.m. ET
Pulaski County Community Room
925 N. Main St.

Louisville

Oct. 29, 2018
1:30-3 p.m. ET
Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky
1640 Lyndon Farm Court

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