

Administrative Office of the Courts

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For Immediate Release

Volunteers needed statewide to review cases of children in foster care Citizen Foster Care Review Boards make recommendations to courts on behalf of children

FRANKFORT, Ky., Dec. 10, 2018 – Citizen Foster Care Review Boards statewide 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.

Volunteers are not required to live in the county in which they volunteer.

The Kentucky General Assembly created the state 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 state's foster 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.

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.

To get more information and apply to be a volunteer, visit the <u>CFCRB web page</u> on 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 2018, volunteers conducted more than 25,000 case reviews of more than 12,000 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.

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