

Subject: Announcement: Opening of the Ohio Ombudsman Office

Good Morning All,

I'm reaching out to pass along some important state level implementation in the foster care system -- that impacts youth at-risk of or experiencing homelessness -- by creating a new *pathway* for youth and families to express individual concerns with the system at the state level.

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services announced the opening of the Ohio Youth and Family Ombudsmen (last week) as described in the 2020 [Children Services Transformation Recommendations Report](#) (page 15).

Governor Mike DeWine appointed the two ombudsmen to lead the new office -- Jenny Stotts (youth) and Jennifer A. Sheriff (families) – *“Who will ensure the independent and impartial review of youth, family, and community complaints and concerns, while attempting to resolve the issues”*. Below is information to contact the office and make a complaint.

To reach the **Youth Ombudsman Office**:

- Call 1-877-OH-YOUTH (m-f 8a-5p) or email YouthOmbudsman.ohio.gov

To reach the **Family Ombudsman Office**

- Call 1-877-OH-YOUTH (m-f 8a-5p) or email FamilyOmbudsman.ohio.gov

More Information:

- More information about the office can be found in the [ODJFS press announcement](#).
- More information about Jenny Stotts (youth) and Jennifer A. Sheriff (families) can be found in the press release [here](#).

Warmly,

Lisa

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Lisa Brooks, [TRCC-1](#) (she/her/hers)
Youth Housing Initiative Director
Coalition on Homelessness & Housing in Ohio (COHHIO)
Office: 614.280.1984 ext. 132
Cell: 740.517.8336
www.cohhio.org/youth