

June 7, 2022 ➤

COHHIO COURSE TO HOME

NEWSLETTER

2022

Summer Edition



...

INTRODUCING OUR QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

A LIVING
RESOURCE

Welcome to the COHHIO Course to Home Summer Newsletter! COHHIO Course to HOME is an exciting new opportunity for Ohio school districts and Educational Service Centers to increase knowledge and response in meeting the need of vulnerable students experiencing homelessness. The first

of many, this quarterly newsletter is meant to serve as a resource for service providers like you. This edition features an overview of COHHIO Course to Home, strategies for supporting students through the longest break of the year, ways to celebrate Pride Month, resources, tools, and more!

COHHIO Course to HOME

	Housing, Opportunities, Meaningful, Engagement	
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Where We Started and Where We're Going

COHHIO Course to Home, a partnership project between the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) and the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio (COHHIO), officially launched in January of this year. The purpose of COHHIO Course to HOME is to increase resources and coordinate intentional responses for districts in order to meet the needs of vulnerable students experiencing homelessness.

Since the project's inception in January of this year, the COHHIO Course to HOME team has:

- Hosted 2 McKinney-Vento Community of Practice sessions, totaling 246 attendees
- Hosted 2 HomeRoom Network Community of Practice sessions, totaling 58 attendees
- Responded to over 45 Technical Assistance requests

In coming months, the COHHIO Course to HOME team will be:

- Continuing to host Community of Practice sessions
 - Creating resources for students and families experiencing homelessness, translated into the 5 most common languages in Ohio
 - Developing the COHHIO Course to Home E-Learning Center
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SUMMER STRATEGIES



COLLABORATION

During the longest break of the school year, community programs, organizations, and agencies are valuable partners for identifying and supporting students experiencing homelessness. This [presentation from the National Alliance to End Homelessness](#) highlights case studies of effective collaboration that have directly benefited students and families experiencing homelessness.

MENTAL HEALTH

The mental health needs of young people have continued to rise, with symptoms doubling during the pandemic. To combat this, the [Ohio Departments of Education, Mental Health and Addiction Services](#), and [Public Safety](#) have created a [School Wellness Toolkit](#) to help schools, districts, and families respond to the mental and behavioral health challenges amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic.

SELF CARE

In working with [students and families experiencing homelessness](#) and other forms of [trauma](#), it's important to practice [self-care](#). Student and family engagement and safety are compromised when both the care providers and students are up-regulated by the [affects of trauma](#). Take time to find activities and strategies to help manage your [well-being](#).



CELEBRATING PRIDE MONTH



Pride Month is an entire month dedicated to the uplifting of LGBTQ+ voices, celebration of LGBTQ+ culture, and the support of LGBTQ+ rights. Starting in 1970, Pride Month is celebrated in June to coincide with the Stonewall Uprising of 1969 - a catalyst of the Gay Liberation Movement. Today, LGBTQ+ youth continue to experience discrimination and are 120% more likely to experience homelessness than their non-LGBTQ+ peers. Celebrate pride month by learning and utilizing best practices for inclusivity, allyship, and supporting your LGBTQ+ students.

**[Students and Gender Identity:
A Toolkit for Schools](#)**

**[Missed Opportunities: LGBTQ
Youth Homelessness in America](#)**

**[Supporting LGBTQ Students of
Color](#)**

Featured Resources

Stronger Together: Children's Mental Health and Resiliency Conference

Held June 28 - 29, this virtual conference will provide opportunities for teachers, administrators and community partners to learn about [best practices and resources for the implementation of mental health and resiliency supports for children](#), directly from those implementing programming in Ohio's schools.



Data-Driven Engagement

This Engaging Black Girls Tip Sheet explores the importance of engagement with Black girls; identifies political, social, and cultural barriers; recommends considerations and practices; and offers resources for an intersectional approach to partnership with Black girls. [Download the new resource!](#)

State of Housing in Ohio Forums

The Ohio Department of Development invites you to participate in a discussion to identify opportunities for the state of Ohio to understand the housing landscape, identify gaps in services, and identify practices. [Forums will be held across the state, learn more here!](#)

Tools for Student-Centered Collaboration with Education Systems

[Attend this webinar](#) on Friday, June 24th from 3 - 4 PM to learn tools and techniques for building effective youth-centered partnerships between justice systems, schools, districts, and other youth-serving system.

2022 National Conference on Ending Homelessness

The 2022 National Conference on Ending Homelessness will bring together service providers, advocates, people with lived experience of homelessness, and others to learn from each other, discuss best practices, and share new innovations in the field. The conference will take place in Washington, D.C., from July 25 - 27, 2022. Register and learn more [here!](#)

LGBTQ+ Youth Homelessness Prevention and Diversion Report

Recent literature documents the widespread problem of youth homelessness, particularly among LGBTQ+ and BIPOC youth. [This report](#) summarizes findings from an exploratory research study that examined youth homelessness prevention and diversion services in the United States.



2022 NAEHCY Conference: Shining For Our Youth

The 2022 NAEHCY Hybrid Conference (in-person and virtual) will be held in San Diego, CA from October 29 - November 1, 2022. Mark your calendar and stay tuned for more information regarding sessions and registration!

District

Spotlight

COLUMBUS CITY SCHOOLS

Roughly one in six families in the Columbus City School District are in a home where English is not the primary language. On top of housing instability that has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, language has been a major barrier for English-learning students and families to receive the support and services they need. To address these barriers, the Columbus City School District has utilized ESSER funds to create a bilingual family ambassador program. Bilingual family ambassadors work alongside traditional family ambassadors who help serve as liaisons between school and home and connect families to community-based resources. The languages they cover include Spanish, Arabic, Somali and Maay Maay. As a result of this program, the district now has increased capacity to engage, communicate with, and support English learning families.



Tell Us About It!
Share a district or
ESC who's working
to prevent and end
youth
homelessness!



FRSH AIR

SUNSHINE

SUMMER



HAVE A GREAT SUMMER

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