YOUTH ACTION BULLETIN
NOVEMBER 2026

OHIO
Balance of State
Continuum of Care

"Celebrating what we hope for together is better than fighting over what we believe separately."
— Steven Charleston

This monthly bulletin is provided by the Ohio Balance of State CoC with resources and techniques for building and sustaining an active and engaged local youth action board.

BRAVE SPACES AND SAFE SPACES

A 2025 review of *From Safe Spaces to Brave Spaces* by Brian Arao and Kristi Clemens defines safe spaces as "environments where individuals feel secure being their authentic selves, free from judgment or harm." That is important in a trauma-informed context, but be aware that avoiding all discomfort may prevent new learning and growth. A brave space "invite[s] us to step into conversations that challenge our perspectives. They require:

- Courage: The willingness to speak up, even when it feels uncomfortable.
- Vulnerability: A recognition that learning and unlearning require openness.
- Trust: A commitment to accountability, where mistakes are part of the process."

Read more here and think about how to create safe and brave spaces for your YAB.

SETTING SMART GOALS - RELEVANT!

Does your YAB want to accomplish something together? Use SMART Goals to create a plan that you can achieve! SMART stands for specific, measurable, achievable, **relevant**, and time-bound. Consider these things; the goal is relevant if it...

- helps answer the question "why are we doing this?"
- is connected to your community context, not someone else's
- doesn't feel like frustrating busy work

UNDERSTANDING THE BRIDGES PROGRAM

Learn more about Bridges, Ohio's extended foster care program, at this upcoming virtual training session with our state partners at the Ohio Department of Children and Youth.
Date: Wednesday, November 18, 2026
Time: 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm
Trainer: Ohio Department of Children and Youth
Register to attend here: Registration Link

MAKE A PLAN - DECEMBER MEETING IDEAS
TOPIC: YEAR-END REVIEW
CELEBRATE: WINTER HOLIDAYS

EQUIP YOUR TEAM
CHECK OUT UPCOMING TRAINING EVENTS ON THE COHHIO CALENDAR IN THE LINK BELOW!

614-280-1984 ohioboscoc@cohhio.org COHHIO Training Calendar: cohhio.org/calendar/