

# NEORTC

## ONGOING FOSTER PARENT TRAINING SCHEDULE

**SPRING 2024**

APRIL, MAY, JUNE

### IN-PERSON TRAINING

COUNTY LOCATION	DAY	DATE	TIME	ID	SESSION TITLE	INSTRUCTOR
<b>ASHLAND DJFS 15 W. FOURTH ST., ASHLAND, OHIO 44805</b>						
NO TRAINING THIS QUARTER						
<b>ASHTABULA CS 3914 C COURT, ASHTABULA, OHIO 44004</b>						
Ashtabula	Tuesday	5/21/2024	6:00pm - 8:00pm	11447	Creating a Stable, Nurturing, and Safe Home Environment	Ronna Johnson
Ashtabula	Monday	6/3/2024	6:00pm - 9:00pm	11348	The Effects of Fostering	Janice Williams
<b>COLUMBIANA DJFS GOVERNMENT SERVICE CENTER, 7989 DICKEY DR., LISBON, OHIO 44432</b>						
Columbiana	Wednesday	5/1/2024	6:00pm - 8:00 pm	11448	Attachment	Ronna Johnson
Columbiana	Wednesday	5/1/2024	8:15pm - 9:15pm	11449	Maintaining Children's Connections with Siblings, Extended Family Members, and their Community	Ronna Johnson
<b>GEAUGA DJFS 12611 RAVENWOOD DR., CHARDON, OHIO 44024</b>						
Geauga	Wednesday	4/16/2024	6:00pm - 9:00pm	11459	Build a Brain: How Trauma Affects Brain Development	Susan Darden-Kautz
<b>HOLMES DJFS 85 N. GRANT ST., MILLERSBURG, OHIO 44654-0072</b>						
Holmes	Tuesday	4/30/2024	6:00pm - 9:00pm	11349	Relax! It's Only A Crisis	David Zidar
<b>LAKE DJFS 177 MAIN ST., PAINESVILLE, OHIO 44077-3402</b>						
Lake	Tuesday	4/23/2024	6:00pm - 8:00pm	11351	Attachment	Brian Lowery
Lake	Tuesday	4/23/2024	8:15pm - 9:15pm	11354	Mental Health Considerations	Brian Lowery
Lake	Tuesday	5/28/2024	6:00pm - 9:00pm	11450	Educational Advocacy: Supporting Your Child's Success at School	Ronna Johnson
Lake	Thursday	6/13/2024	6:00pm - 9:00pm	11451	Substance Use and Abuse Among Children and Adolescents	Stacy Simera

**LORAIN CS 226 MIDDLE AVE., ELYRIA, OHIO 44035-5644**

Park in the garage attached to the backside of the Lorain County Administration Building (access to parking garage is off 3rd St.) Entrance into the building will only be available at lower level of parking garage. Someone will be at the door to let you in (usually 15 minutes before and until 5 minutes after class begins) and direct you to room location. Please call cell - 440-213-5474, if you have any trouble with directions.

Lorain	Thursday	4/25/2024	6:00pm - 8:00pm	11393	Trauma Related Behaviors	Brian Lowery
Lorain	Thursday	4/25/2024	8:15pm - 9:15pm	11394	Mental Health Considerations	Brian Lowery
Lorain	Tuesday	5/7/2024	6:00pm - 9:00pm	11452	Build a Brain: How Trauma Affects Brain Development	Susan Darden-Kautz
Lorain	Monday	6/3/2024	6:00pm - 9:00pm	11460	Engaging with Primary Families	Angela Irby

**MAHONING CS 222 W. FEDERAL ST. 3RD FLOOR, YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO 44503**

Parking is available in parking garage underneath the building. Entrance for parking lot/garage is on W. Commerce St., which is the street behind MCCS. Enter lot after waiting for parking arm to raise. Drive through the lot and park in parking garage. Enter building through the doors on your left (non-employee doors). Take elevator to third floor for training. Do not park on Federal St. or try to enter from the front doors on Federal St. as these doors are locked afterhours. Parking garage will close 15 min after the start of training.

Mahoning	Tuesday	4/2/2024	6:00pm - 7:00pm	11461	Mental Health Considerations	Ronna Johnson
Mahoning	Tuesday	4/2/2024	7:15pm - 9:15pm	11462	Separation, Grief, and Loss	Ronna Johnson
Mahoning	Saturday	4/13/2024	9:00am - 1:00pm	11463	AHA Heartsaver Pediatric First Aid and CPR Without Skills Testing <b>(Mahoning County Foster Parents Only)</b>	Deanna Prezioso
Mahoning	Saturday	5/18/2024	9:00am - 12:00pm	11614	ZZZ's to A's: Supporting Sleep for Better Functioning	Stacy Simera
Mahoning	Saturday	5/18/2024	1:00pm - 4:00pm	11615	Anxiety Disorder among Children and Adolescents: Recognition and Interventions	Stacy Simera
Mahoning	Saturday	6/22/2024	9:00am - 4:00pm	11616	Interventions for Children who have Suffered Trauma	David Zidar
Mahoning	Saturday	6/22/2024	9:00am - 1:00pm	11472	AHA Heartsaver Pediatric First Aid and CPR Without Skills Testing <b>(Mahoning County Foster Parents Only)</b>	Deanna Prezioso

**MEDINA DJFS 232 NORTHLAND DR., MEDINA, OHIO 44256**

Entrance and parking are in the Employee Parking Lot off Walter Road in the back of the JFS building. From 232 Northland Drive, turn left onto Huntington Street, left on Longview Road, left onto Walter Road.

**NO TRAINING THIS QUARTER**

PORTAGE DJFS 253 S. CHESTNUT ST., RAVENNA, OHIO 44266						
Portage	Wednesday	5/15/2024	6:45pm - 7:45pm	11473	Cultural Humility	Ronna Johnson
Portage	Wednesday	5/15/2024	8:00pm - 9:00pm	11474	Mental Health Considerations	Ronna Johnson
Portage	Saturday	6/8/2024	9:00am - 4:00pm	11350	Interventions with Lying and Stealing	David Zidar
STARK DJFS CORNERSTONE, 402 SECOND STREET SE, CANTON, OHIO 44702						
Stark	Monday	4/29/2024	6:00pm - 9:00pm	11475	Anxiety Disorders among Children and Adolescents: Recognition and Interventions	Stacy Simera
Stark	Saturday	5/4/2024	9:00am - 11:00am	11476	Creating a Stable, Nurturing, and Safe Home Environment	Nadine Musser
Stark	Saturday	5/4/2024	11:15am - 12:45pm	11477	Parenting a Child with a History of Sexual Trauma	Nadine Musser
Stark	Saturday	5/4/2024	1:45pm - 3:45pm	11478	Trauma Informed Parenting	Nadine Musser
SUMMIT CS EDUCATION CENTER, 264 S. ARLINGTON ST., AKRON, OHIO 44306						
Summit	Tuesday	4/9/2024	9:00pm - 12:00pm	11028	Seven Best Practices: LGBT Youth (JOINT Staff/Caregiver)	Cory Chan Frederick
Summit	Tuesday	4/9/2024	1:00pm - 4:00pm	11030	Seven Best Practices: LGBT Youth (JOINT Staff/Caregiver)	Cory Chan Frederick
FOSTER PARENT CONFERENCE APRIL 18-20						
Summit	Thursday	4/18/2024	9:00am - 4:00pm	11480	Lifelong Connections: Permanency for Older Youth	Lamar King & Arlene Samuel
Summit	Thursday	4/18/2024	5:00pm - 7:00pm	12182	Separation, Grief and Loss	Angela Irby
Summit	Thursday	4/18/2024	6:00pm - 9:00pm	TBD	Lifebooks: The Gift that Keeps Giving	Beth Cardina
Summit	Friday	4/19/2024	9:00am - 4:00pm	11481	Street Smart Ohio: Substance Abuse Awareness and Recognition for Child Welfare Professionals (JOINT Staff/Caregiver)	Shawn Bain
Summit	Friday	4/19/2024	9:00am - 12:00pm	11482	Healthy Sexual Development of Children and Teens	Ronna Johnson
Summit	Friday	4/19/2024	1:00pm - 4:00pm	11484	Role of Caregivers in Healthy Sexual Development of Children and Teens	Ronna Johnson
Summit	Friday	4/19/2024	5:45pm - 9:00pm	11487	Race Matters for Transracial Adoptions: Preparing and Supporting Families to be Race-Conscious Advocates	Laura Morello
Summit	Saturday	4/20/2024	9:00am - 4:00pm	11490	How to Help Youth Manage Their Anger	Anthony President
Summit	Saturday	4/20/2024	9:00am - 12:00pm	11491	Conscience Development in Children	Jim Still-Pepper

Summit	Saturday	4/20/2024	1:00pm - 4:00pm	TBD	Tug of War: The Inns and Outs of Power Struggles	Jim Still-Pepper
Summit	Saturday	5/4/2024	9:00am - 4:00pm	11604	For Better or For Worse: How to Get Along with the System	Jim Still-Pepper
Summit	Friday	5/17/2024	9:00am - 4:00pm	11395	Invisible Injuries: The Impacts of Trauma (JOINT Staff/Caregiver)	Paula Walters
Summit	Tuesday	5/21/2024	6:00pm - 9:00pm	11605	Normalcy and the Reasonable and Prudent Standard	Beth Cardina
Summit	Saturday	6/1/2024	9:00am - 4:00pm	11606	Reaching Higher: A Curriculum for Foster Adoptive Parents and Kinship Caregivers Caring for LGBTQ Youth	Ronna Johnson
Summit	Saturday	6/29/2024	8:30am - 11:30am	11607	Car Seat Clinic: Ensuring Safety for Child Passengers	Angela Buckalew
Summit	Saturday	6/29/2024	12:30pm - 4:30pm	11610	AHA Heartsaver Pediatric First Aid and CPR without Skills Testing	Angela Buckalew
<b>TRUMBULL CS 2282 REEVES ROAD NE, WARREN, OHIO 44483-4354</b>						
Trumbull	Saturday	4/27/2024	9:00am - 4:00pm	12024	Interventions with Lying and Stealing	David Zidar
Trumbull	Saturday	5/18/2024	9:00am - 4:00pm	11617	Invisible Injuries: The Impacts of Trauma	Paula Walters
Trumbull	Thursday	5/30/2024	6:00pm - 8:00pm	11618	Creating a Stable, Nurturing, and Safe Home Environment	Ronna Johnson
Trumbull	Thursday	5/30/2024	8:15pm - 9:15pm	11619	Maintaining Children's Connections with Siblings, Extended Family Members, and their Community	Ronna Johnson
Trumbull	Wednesday	6/12/2024	6:00pm - 9:00pm	11673	The Importance of Working with Primary Families	Jill Roberts
<b>WAYNE CS 2534 BURBANK RD., WOOSTER, OHIO 44691-1600</b>						
Wayne	Thursday	4/4/2024	6:00pm - 9:00pm	11620	NCTSN: Becoming an Advocate and Taking Care of Yourself	David Zidar
Wayne	Saturday	5/18/2024	9:00am - 12:00pm	11621	Verbal De-escalation in Child Welfare	Brian Lowery
Wayne	Saturday	5/18/2024	1:00pm - 4:00pm	11622	Don't Talk...Don't Trust...Don't Feel: Growing Up with an Addicted Parent	Brian Lowery
Wayne	Saturday	6/29/2024	9:00am - 4:00pm	11623	Children Grieve Too	Maggie Lupton

VIRTUAL TRAINING						
VIRTUAL	DAY	DATE	TIME	ID	SESSION TITLE	INSTRUCTOR
Virtual	Saturday	4/6/2024	9:00am - 4:00pm	11441	Caseworkers and Parents: Legal Rights and Responsibilities	Kathryn Mercer
Virtual	Thursday	5/2/2024	6:00pm - 9:00pm	11442	Using Positive Psychology and Clinical Resilience, Wellness, and Happiness in the Prevention and Management of Mental Health Disorders	Stacy Simera
Virtual	Tuesday	5/7/2024	8:45am - 12:00pm	11050	Survivor-Led Human Trafficking Awareness Interdisciplinary (JOINT Staff/Caregiver)	Teresa Merriweather
Virtual	Monday	5/13/2024	7:30pm - 9:00pm	11443	Parenting a Child with a History of Sexual Trauma	Brian Lowery
Virtual	Tuesday	5/21/2024	7:00pm - 9:00pm	8138	Understanding ADHD	OCECD/Lamar King
Virtual	Wednesday	6/5/2024	7:00pm - 10:00pm	11446	The Effects of Fostering	Brian Lowery
Virtual	Monday	6/10/2024	6:30pm - 9:30pm	12183	Distinguishing Between Poverty Experienced by Families and Child Neglect	Christine Kelly Cross
Virtual	Sunday	6/23/2024	11:00am - 2:00pm	11458	Connect: Supporting Children Exposed to Domestic Violence	Michele Bell



*16<sup>th</sup> Annual*

**NEORTC**

**Foster Parent Conference**



**Thursday, April 18th**

**Friday, April 19th**

**Saturday, April 20th**

**2024**

**Conference Location**

NEORTC

Summit County Children Services Education Center

264 South Arlington Street

Akron, OH 44306


330-379-1805

## Foster Parent Conference 2024 Schedule


### Thursday, April 18

<u>TIME</u>	<u>SESSION ID</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
9:00am-4:00pm	#11480	Lifelong Connections: Permanency for Older Youth	Deanna Prezioso
4:30-5:30pm		<b>Pizza and Salad Dinner Served</b>	<b>NEORTC</b>
5:00pm-7:00pm	#12182	Separation, Grief, and Loss	Angela Irby
6:00pm-9:00pm	#12278	Lifebooks: The Gift that Keeps Giving	Beth Cardina

### Friday, April 19

<u>TIME</u>	<u>SESSION ID</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
9:00am-4:00pm	#11481	Street Smart Ohio: Substance Abuse Awareness and Recognition for Child Welfare Professionals	Shawn Bain
9:00am-12:00pm	#11482	Healthy Sexual Development of Children and Teens	Ronna Johnson
12:00pm-1:00pm		<b>Deli Sandwich and Chips Lunch Served</b>	<b>NEORTC</b>
1:00pm-4:00pm	#11484	Role of Caregivers in Healthy Sexual Development of Children and Teens	Ronna Johnson
5:45pm-9:00pm	#11487	Race Matters for Transracial Adoptions: Preparing and Supporting Families to be Race-Conscious Advocates	Laura Morello

### Saturday, April 20

<u>TIME</u>	<u>SESSION ID</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
8:30am-9:00am		<b>Pastry &amp; Fruit Breakfast Served</b>	<b>NEORTC</b>
9:00am-4:00pm	#11490	How to Help Youth Manage Their Anger	Anthony President
9:00am-12:00pm	#11491	Conscience Development in Children	Jim Still-Pepper
1:00pm-4:00pm	#12277	Tug of War: The Ins and Outs of Power Struggles	Jim Still-Pepper



## Conference Location

**NEORTC**

at

Summit County Children Services Education Center

264 South Arlington Street

Akron, OH 44306

330-379-1805

## PLEASE NOTE

There is **no charge** to attend the Foster Parent Conference.

**Registration** through CAPS LMS by **Sunday, April 14, 2024**.

See Last Page for more details if you have not yet used CAPS LMS.

If the session details state “No Seats Available”, disregard and click the “Add to Waitlist” button. You will receive an email when you are granted registration into the session

**Check-in** begins 30 minutes prior to the training start time.

If you are unable to attend a session, please withdraw yourself from the session so that accurate registration numbers are obtained.

**Evaluations and Certificates** will be available in CAPS LMS after each training.

Beverages, light meals, and evening cookies will be provided by NEORTC.

**Pizza and Salad will be provided on Thursday at 4:30pm**

**Deli Sandwiches and Chips will be provided on Friday at 12:00pm**

**A Pastry and Fruit Breakfast will be provided on Saturday at 8:30am.**



New this  
Year

The Ohio Child Welfare Training Program (OCWTP) is an approved Continuing Education Provider through the Ohio Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage & Family Therapist Board. OCWTP programs designated as approved for licensure credit hours can be used by licensees toward license renewal requirements. Only individuals completing training in its entirety will receive Certificates of Training.

Social Work Approved Provider number: **RSXX038702**/Counselor Approved Provider number: **RCX012101**

Participants CANNOT use the same workshop to satisfy renewal requirements for both.



# 16<sup>th</sup> Annual

## Foster Parent Conference

### Session Descriptions



**Thursday, April 18**

9:00am – 4:00pm

#### **Lifelong Connections: Permanency for Older Youth**

Instructor: Deanna Prezioso

CAPS LMS Session ID: 11480

JOINT TRAINING WITH STAFF

When planning for permanency with adolescents, we have to think and use approaches differently from when planning for younger children. Permanency for older youth is not centered around the living arrangement; it is not simply providing independent living services; and it is not just offering adoption. Instead, it provides youth with the opportunity to forge lifelong permanent connections to people they identify as important. This training allows participants to experience the impact of permanent connections and grasp why they are important. Finally, participants will come to understand how adolescent development relates to permanency.

5:00pm – 7:00pm

#### **Separation, Grief and Loss**

Instructor: Angela Irby

CAPS LMS Session ID: 12182

This course helps participants understand the impact of separation and ambiguous loss, and the different ways children grieve. Life-long grieving and the importance of providing opportunities for grieving is explored. Strategies to help children deal with grief and loss are identified. Participants will understand loss and fractured attachments with birth family members and previous placements; recognize the importance of establishing and maintaining essential relationships with and for children; understand the impact of frequent moves and the importance of managing transitions for children; and understand the separation, grief and loss experienced by all members of the foster/adoption network.

6:00pm – 9:00pm

#### **Lifebooks: The Gift that Keeps Giving**

Instructor: Beth Cardina

CAPS LMS Session ID: 12278

Children involved in the child welfare system are often at risk of moving multiple times before permanency is achieved. Lifebooks serve as an important and concrete tool for resource families: foster caregivers, adoptive parents, birth parents, and children services workers, as they work with the child to fill in the “gaps” of their story. Lifebooks can also be used as a way to open up discussion and help a child work through losses. This course will help to define what a Life Book is, discuss the importance of a team approach, review the parameters and expectations of a Lifebook and view various outlines and pages of a Lifebook

## Friday, April 19

9:00am – 4:00pm

### Street Smart Ohio: Substance Abuse Awareness and Recognition for Child Welfare Professionals

Instructor: Shawn Bain

CAPS LMS Session ID: 11481

JOINT TRAINING WITH STAFF

Street Smart Ohio realizes that substance use affects so many Ohio families. Ohio is experiencing record numbers of overdose deaths, so now more than ever, it is important that anyone with a nexus to children understands the importance of recognizing the appearance, behavioral, and conduct indicators of drug abuse. Drugs do not discriminate and any of our families could be affected by addiction.

9:00am – 12:00pm

### Healthy Sexual Development of Children and Teens

Instructor: Ronna Johnson

CAPS LMS Session ID: 11482

This training, part of the Fundamentals of Fostering series, introduces basic concepts of sexual development and the Johnson continuum of childhood sexual behavior. Normal sexual behaviors for children from birth to adolescence are outlined along with factors which may influence a child's sexual behaviors. The training will help foster parents know when a child's sexual expression is normative and developmentally appropriate.

1:00pm – 4:00pm

### Role of Caregivers in Healthy Sexual Development of Children and Teens

Instructor: Ronna Johnson

CPS LMS Session ID: 11484

This training, part of the Fundamentals of Fostering series, helps caregivers discuss sexual issues with children and adolescents in a way that is consistent with their developmental level. Content also includes strategies on how to maintain a supportive and safe environment with children and adolescents that encourages healthy sexual development and provides exposure to normal experiences that promote healthy sexual development appropriate to each child.

5:45pm – 9:00pm

### Race Matters for Transracial Adoptions: Preparing and Supporting Families to be Race-Conscious Advocates

Instructor: Laura Morello

CAPS LMS Session ID: 11487

MEETS ETHICS REQUIREMENT FOR LISENCED SOCIAL WORKERS

It can feel challenging to assess prospective adoptive parents who will be adopting a transracial child. Following MEPA (Multiethnic Placement Act) regulations may leave workers feeling perplexed about how to discuss race or racism during assessment or preparation with parents. This course seeks to address some of those concerns by exploring how to best support transracially adoptive families through exploring best practices, gleaned from adoptees themselves. As vital members of the adoptive family's journey, workers will also explore how systemic racism seeps its way into their work and result in unconscious biases. However, with understanding and the development of cultural humility, workers will be able to better support adoptive families around the issues of race and racism. With that understanding, adoptive parents and transracial adoptees will then have much better outcomes.

# Saturday, April 20

9:00am – 4:00pm

## How to Help Youth Manage Their Anger

Instructor: Anthony President

CAPS LMS Session ID: 11490

Prolonged anger robs us of our inner peacefulness. We tend to show our worst and fail to be our best when we act in fits of anger. While it is human to become angry, we must not live our lives in a state of anger. This workshop teaches foster parents how to help youth manage their anger by recognizing when they are experiencing the stress reaction (fight or flight syndrome) and using strategies to reverse it.

9:00am – 12:00am

## Conscience Development in Children

Instructor: Jim Still-Pepper

CAPS LMS Session ID: 11491

Violence without remorse; cruelty without regard. Children without a conscience scar and scare us. This workshop explores the world of conscience. During the workshop we'll take an in-depth look into common diagnoses of kids without a conscience. Foster and adoptive parents will learn how to develop effective strategies for teaching conscience to their children.

1:00pm – 4:00pm

## Tug of War: The Ins and Outs of Power Struggles

Instructor: Jim Still-Pepper

CAPS LMS Session ID: 12277

Workers and Caregivers face power struggles and oppositional behavior from youth they serve. Whether the issues are part of normal child development, or indications of more serious problems, this course was created to give insight and understanding into behaviors that often lead to relationships that are filled with frustrating stalemates. It will give space, time and suggestions for participants to develop a strategic approach to dealing with the underlying issues behind power struggles.



*16<sup>th</sup> Annual*

## **Foster Parent Conference**

### **Meet Our Instructors**

#### **Shawn Bain**

Shawn retired after serving over 33 years with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office in Columbus, Ohio an agency responsible for serving a population of over one million citizens. He has been assigned many different areas of responsibility in Law Enforcement including the jail division, patrol division, canine unit, SWAT, and Special Investigations conducting vice and narcotics investigations. He has also served as a supervisor in all of these areas. His expertise in Law Enforcement lies within drug investigations, with 25 years of experience in the drug field. He has served as the lead undercover detective or supervisor on over 3,000 undercover drug buys and participated in over 1,000 drug search warrants both at the local and federal levels. He has assisted in supervising several Federal Title III wire taps and State wire taps involving large scale drug trafficking organizations. Shawn has been assigned as Task Force Commander of the Franklin County-HIDTA Drug Task Force with a focus on disrupting/dismantling large-scale drug trafficking organizations within the United States coming from Mexico. Shawn found his passion the last 20+ years in drug education. With the experience he gained while interviewing or interrogating thousands of drug traffickers and drug abuses, he has come to the realization that enforcement of drug crimes is not the solution to the drug epidemic plaguing our country today. Instead, the answer lies with education to change the culture of drug abuse in our society. This passion for drug education is evident during his instruction. He has lectured throughout the United States at a variety of national conferences, seminars, and drug-free workplace education with an emphasis on front line supervisors and managers. Shawn has completed training on conducting drug investigations in Quantico, Virginia, San Diego, California, El Paso, Texas, and Columbus, Ohio. He has attended several schools and seminars related to narcotics across the country. His accomplishments include the following: Graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) National Academy. Graduate of the Drug

Enforcement Administration (DEA) Drug Unit Commanders Academy. Certified instructor, Ohio Peace Officers Training Academy. Certified Prevention Specialist Assistant (CPSA) with the Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals Board. Licensed with the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. Certified by Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation. Shawn is also currently assigned as the Drug Intelligence Officer for the State of Ohio for Ohio (HIDTA) High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area.

### **Beth Cardina**

Beth Cardina began her career in child welfare in 1988. She is a Licensed Social Worker and currently serves as the Program Director for the CASA/GAL Program of Summit County, one of the largest and most successful programs in the state of Ohio. Beth has a BA in Individual & Family Studies with a concentration in Family Life Services. She has extensive experience working with foster and adoptive parents in both the public and private sectors. Beth served on the Ohio CASA Board of Directors from 2017 until December 2023. She is a member of the "Ohio Citizen Review Panel" which are federally mandated mechanisms for citizen participation in child protection, through evaluation and public outreach. In 2019 she received the "NEORTC Trainer of the Year" award and in 2020 she earned a Diversity and Inclusion for HR Certificate from Cornell University.

### **Angela Irby**

Angela Irby, LSW, has over 30 years of experience in child welfare, including 28 years in a public children services agency. She has experience involving organizational, leadership, and communication and interpersonal skills. She retired from Summit County Children Services with many years of experience in foster care and adoption. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Social Services from Mount Union University (1984) and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Akron (2000). Angela is a Licensed Social Worker.

### **Ronna Johnson**

Mrs. Johnson received her Bachelor's of Science Degree in Nursing from Kent State University in 1980, and completed training for her Pediatric Nurse Practitioner National Certification through Metro Heath Medical Center in 1983. She has spent her entire career working with children with medical and developmental special needs. Since 1986 she has provided; training, support, consultation and case management services for program staff and Caregivers to promote best care for children with complex health and development needs who are being served through the Child Welfare System. Mrs. Johnson has been a foster and adoptive parent since 1994. Mrs. Johnson received the OCWTP 2011 Rising Star Award and the OCWTP 2013 Linda Pope Award. Mrs. Johnson has provided recovery parenting education and support for mothers striving to be in recovery who are pregnant as well as postpartum to support them in building skills and confidence in their care of their babies and young children through a MOMS program since 2017.

### **Laura Morello**

Laura Morello, MA, LSW received her Bachelor of Arts in Social Work from University of Akron in 1997, received her Master of Arts in Journalism in 2001 and will receive her Master of Education in Counseling in May of 2024. She is currently working as a counselor to provide counseling for individuals and families who have been affected by adoption, complex trauma and mental health issues. She has worked as a social worker, and as a researcher in health disparities and is currently an adjunct faculty instructor at Case Western Reserve University. She is an adoptee and adoptive parent.

### **Anthony President**

Master Trainer, International Speaker and author of the book “Invincible Social Worker”, Anthony President has empowered and inspired more than 100,000 people to perform, produce and partner better at their places of work. Thousands of companies and organizations have been transformed as a result of Anthony’s work. With over 20 years of facilitation experience, Anthony utilizes a broad range of active learning methodologies to engage and inspire learners to put new ideas into practice creating tangible results for their organizations. Anthony launched his training career and gained his expertise in social services as a former social worker and later as Senior Training Officer for the Cuyahoga County Department of Child and Family Services in his native Cleveland, Ohio. As Founder and CEO of Presidential Consultants, Ohio’s #1 Human Services Training Firm, Anthony leads a team of more than a dozen training and consulting professionals who serve more than 16,000 learners each year.

### **Jim Still-Pepper**

Jim is the Director of Community Based Clinical Services at Allwell Behavioral Health Services Inc., a community mental health center. He has invested 34 years at the same counseling center. His clear mission is to get clinical services out of the centers and into the community. 27 years ago, Jim founded Still Light Seminars LLC, a motivational training and consulting company. Jim's motivational training and consulting has captivated audiences in the U.S. and abroad. His passion lies in empowering and connecting with audiences to create a transformative impact. Jim makes about 140 presentations a year and has trained nationally and internationally. Jim is an adjunct instructor in Ashland University’s Founders School of Continuing Education. He develops online courses around behavioral interventions and understanding the mental health of students. He has a YouTube Channel called EnterActive devoted to teaching others how to use interactive hands-on activities that create healthy communication. You can find the channel at <https://www.youtube.com/@enteractiveEEP>. He is the past winner of the Linda Pope Award through the Ohio Child Welfare Training Program and was the winner of the Distinguished Trainer Award through the National Staff Development and Training Association. He has been awarded the Rising Star Award from OCWTP. He was also trainer of the Year at the Northeast Ohio Regional Training Center. Jim has an empathetic and creative style in his

presentation that motivates participants to try practical interventions and skills taught. Jim's workshops focus on nurturing the mental health and care of children, adolescents, and adults. Over the course of two decades, he has made over 3300 professional presentations. Jim is an accomplished author, having penned nearly 100 articles and authored or co-authored seven books. His talents stretch even further, with his poetry, artwork, and photography adorning galleries, magazines, and greeting cards.

### **Deanna Prezioso**

Deanna Prezioso, MSW, LSW, has a Bachelor of Social Work (1999) and a Master of Social Work (2016), from Youngstown State University. Deanna has been employed at Trumbull County Children Services since 2006. At TCCS she has held a variety of positions including a substitute care and foster care caseworker, visitation coordinator, foster care, kinship care and adoption supervisor and assessment supervisor. She was also selected for and successfully completed the Agency's Leadership Academy. Deanna has also developed and implemented programming, including an ethics committee, sibling protocol, and foster caregiver mentoring program at TCCS. She has also consulted with other PCSA's and private foster care agencies to assist them with implementation of foster caregiver mentoring programs. Additionally, Deanna's passion for and advocacy work surrounding siblings in the foster care system led to her having an article being published in the national foster care magazine "Foster Families Today". Deanna has been a certified adoption assessor since 2003 and a trainer for the Ohio Child Welfare Training Program since 2017. In her role as a trainer for OCWTP, Deanna has developed several of her own curriculum and trains both Child Protective Services Staff as well as resource families.

## Meet the NEORTC Caregiver Coach



**Patricia Hill, MPA, LSW**  
**NEORTC Caregiver Coach**  
**264 S. Arlington Street**  
**Akron, Ohio 44306**  
**330-375-1685**  
**234-340-0591 (cell)**  
**[patricia.hill@summitkids.org](mailto:patricia.hill@summitkids.org)**

**If your family would benefit  
from in-home or virtual  
coaching, please reach out  
to your foster care  
coordinator, or contact Pat to learn more.**

## Health & Safety Update

Masks are optional at NEORTC and there is no longer a Covid-19 Protocol; however, we do ask that any trainee who is not feeling well not attend training.

### Questions?

Kim Gear at 330-379-1976 or [Kimberley.Gear@summitkids.org](mailto:Kimberley.Gear@summitkids.org)  
Cindy Wallis at 330-379-1931 or [Cynthia.Wallis@summitkids.org](mailto:Cynthia.Wallis@summitkids.org)  
Vickie Webb at 330-379-1935 or [Vickie.Webb@summitkids.org](mailto:Vickie.Webb@summitkids.org)





*16<sup>th</sup> Annual*

## **Foster Parent Conference**

# **CAPS LMS Registration Guide**

### **PUBLIC AGENCY CAREGIVERS**

CAPS LMS Website Log In [here](#)

See the printable [Login job aid](#) for details.

Printable Job Aid to: [Register for a Course](#)

### **PRIVATE AGENCY CAREGIVERS**

- New participants will need to complete the **self-registration request** form within the system to create a CAPS LMS account and register for session. To register as a new user, please [Click Here](#).
- **Registration Form Hints:** Complete Identifying Information. For other needed information, click on the blue arrow to see additional information.
  - Division, Private +, type your county in Search box, Click on **Agency Name**.
  - Primary Position, Click Certified Caregiver
  - Primary Position County, type your county in Search box, Click **County Name (where your host agency is located, not where you reside)**.
  - You will need to set up a temporary password when creating the account.
- Participants will be notified by email once your account is approved. A new temporary password will be assigned at that time and be included in your e-mail.
- Once you enter the system, you will be prompted to set a more permanent password to keep for your records.
- You can then begin registering for Ongoing Training.
- Please see the [Login job aid](#) for additional details to create a CAPS LMS account. Follow the login Access directions on page 3.

**Job Aids/Directions** to withdraw yourself from a session as well as how to perform other functions within CAPS LMS can be found under the Collaborate Tab-Knowledge Bank-Topics-CAPS LMS User & Manager Job Aids.

If you have issues with the CAPS LMS, feel free to contact your RTC, agency foster care worker or the CAPS LMS Helpdesk at [capslms@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov](mailto:capslms@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov)