



“Lighting the Way for a Brighter Day!”

Volume 1, Issue 1

Special points of interest:

- **Guess how many truancy kids have already been helped!**
- **The repurposing of an old investment.**
- **We don't know everything, but we know a lot of people who know a lot of things!**
- **Right now the “menu” is small, but ... it'll grow!**
- **Autism parenting class**

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September 2025

Clermont County's Latest Addition

Introducing the new **Clermont County Juvenile Community Resource Center!** The goal of the CCJCRC (RC) is to provide help to a youth and their family, help that connects the family with resources while empowering the youth to stay out of Juvenile Court ... and out of the Detention Center, too. While the grant funding the RC was obtained by Juvenile Court, and while Juvenile Court does still employ the RC's current staff, the stipulations of the grant do not allow for the RC to refer youth to the court for formal hearings. Again, the goal is to keep kids out of the juvenile justice system altogether.

Take, for example, a youth who is struggling with truancy. Many

truants are dealing with problems that school staff are unaware of and, therefore, are unable to address. But what if that child can come to the Resource Center and—prior to having any involvement with court—they can get help with solving problems at home? In other words, what if tailored prevention strategies can be identified and implemented before that youth's behavior ends up resulting in legal consequences? The idea here is to work collaboratively so that the youth who is struggling can benefit from their own participation in that process, thereby helping themselves to get back on track and avoid trouble.

In addition, the RC will also be

able to provide some key assessments to help aid in the problem-solving and referral process. While families can always use the RC as a type of “home base,” the goal is to get them connected with appropriate resources in the community as quickly as possible. Participation in RC services is 100% voluntary and will never be court-ordered. If a referral comes to the RC from court, it will be because a youth is very young and even the court's Diversion Program is not ideal for helping the family. **Wow!** - over 40 families have already been helped!

See page 2 for our webpage address!

Core Values of the CCJCRC

- ⇒ Collaboration & Communication
- ⇒ Making Informed Decisions
- ⇒ Friendliness & Support
- ⇒ Strengths-Based Case Plans
- ⇒ Usefulness & Relevance
- ⇒ Prevention of Court Involvement
- ⇒ Safety for All
- ⇒ Family Voice & Choice
- ⇒ Team-Based
- ⇒ Failing Forward
- ⇒ Natural Supports
- ⇒ Community-Based
- ⇒ Culturally Sensitive
- ⇒ Individualized
- ⇒ Persistence, Persistence, Persistence.

These values are shared by many people-helping agencies and not-for-profits around the world. It's important that here at the Resource Center we make sure to include them in our daily work as well. Bottom line?: The future of each youth and their family is best served when these values form the foundation for each service.



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“Lighting the way for a brighter day!”

<https://clermontcountyohio.gov/clermont-county-juvenile-community-resource-center/>

Quote of the Month:

“No one cares how much you know until they know how much you care.”

This quote has been around for a long time, and for good reason! Whether you're a parent, a social worker, a police officer, a plumber, or a teacher, the fact remains: The most important investment anyone can ever make is in the building-up of others. If you were raised to be “tough,” consider: There was probably a time when you knew something was missing. That ‘something’ may have been the appropriate caring, affection and/or expressed love your heart longed for. Now it's time to give to those around you what you yourself might have never gotten enough of! You might be surprised at what comes back to you as a result!

Location, Location, Location!

The new CCJCRC is now housed inside an already existing county building, namely, the former Juvenile Probation building across the street from the new Juvenile Court Courthouse. Back in the 1980s and 1990s this building was actually the original Juvenile Court and Detention Center. Now, this site has again been repurposed! With some fresh paint and a little love, our goal is to make the new RC both inviting and relaxing - after all, families have enough stress in their lives, right!? This location is ideal, as Batavia is located near the center of the county and is therefore accessible from all points of the compass. And so, because of this central location, another long-term goal for the RC is to make it something of a “one stop shop” for families to access help and resources, with various county agencies eventually taking up residence inside the same building. In this manner, then, families will be able to make fewer trips and schedule fewer appointments during the time of their involvement.

Parenting Class/Support Group for Parents of Autistic Children

In 2025, one in every 31 kids is suffering from some degree of Autism (ASD - Autism Spectrum Disorder), not to mention AD/HD, too. As many as 90% of ASD kids also struggle with sensory sensitivities, whether diagnosed with Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD) or not. In order to begin to meet a need in our community, our Resource Center staff member, Greg Handleton MA, LPCC-S (licensed therapist) has started a FREE, OPEN, and WEEKLY class/support group on Tuesday mornings from 10:00—11:30. An **RSVP** is requested to Greg's email at ghandleton@clermontcountyohio.gov. He can also be reached at **513.732.7699 (w)** or **513.427. 2269 (Google Voice)**. Go to <https://clermontcountyohio.gov/clermont-county-juvenile-community-resource-center> for the **(1)** location, **(2)** updated class info, **(3)** curriculum link, **(4)** intro video, **(5)** handouts links, **(6)** a newsletter subscription link, and also **(7)** a Microsoft Teams link! Virtual attendees are encouraged to remove their last name from their Teams avatar if they'd like to remain anonymous.

What's On the Menu?

First and foremost, any family coming to the RC can expect to be truly heard. Youth can expect to be treated with respect. They also can expect that RC staff will work *with* them to come up with options that target the problems. Once a basic Intake is completed, each youth will complete a Terrace Metrics assessment. This assessment will serve as the central hub for any/all additional data gathering, as the information is stored in the cloud and can be changed or added to at any time. This amazing tool also generates helpful reports for parents based on their child's input. In addition, these other assess-

ment tools may be utilized:

- ◇ YASI (assesses 12 life domains)
- ◇ TSCC (trauma screener)
- ◇ C-SSRS (suicide screener)
- ◇ PADDI-5 (a mental health screener covering a broad range of DSM 5 diagnoses)
- ◇ MAYSI-2 (general risk and mental health screener)

Essentially, RC staff are open to meeting with youth and their parents in any way that is helpful - e.g., brainstorming sessions; detailed problem-solving (pros/cons, etc.); using Motivational Interviewing to help draw-out a youth's true thoughts about their life, barriers, and goals; helping with

making phone calls; help with accessing important websites and setting up accounts, and other things. The sky is the limit! Lastly, two groups will be offered starting this fall:

- ◇ Coffee Time With Grandparents, and
- ◇ A Group for Parents with Kids Challenged with ASD (Autism).

More than anything we want for youth to experience meaningful support the moment they walk through our doors, with warm handoffs happening each and every time they no longer need us and are ready to move on to greener pastures.