



# Ohio Summit on Children

## ACTION UPDATE ■ JAN 2009



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with plans to attend the  
2009

### Ohio Summit on Children

Resources and registration information available  
at [www.summitonchildren.ohio.gov](http://www.summitonchildren.ohio.gov)

*Welcome* to the first issue of the Ohio Summit on Children: Action Update, a monthly electronic newsletter featuring state and local activities related to the Ohio Summit on Children. Please take a moment to add our e-mail address, [summitonchildren@sc.ohio.gov](mailto:summitonchildren@sc.ohio.gov), to the safe sender list on your e-mail program's junk mail filter.

## POST-SUMMIT COUNTY PLANS A VALUABLE RESOURCE

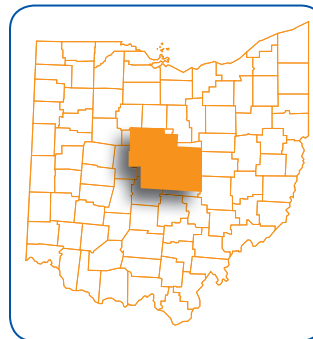
Thanks to those counties that submitted a Post-Summit County Plan (see box, page 2). The plans contain information on the challenges and successes in Ohio communities, as well as the steps the state can take to support local efforts. The plans are a valuable resource state-level planners are using to inform policy decisions, identify priorities, and establish new activities.

Each month, as state leaders continue to aggregate and study these reports in preparation for the November 2009 Summit, the *Ohio Summit on Children: Action Update* will focus on a topic extracted from these plans. We hope to share what we learn from the plans, examine data and state efforts related to a topic of county interest, and highlight promising practices.

Some counties used the May 2008 Summit as a springboard to a county Summit on Children. These communities embraced the framework of the Ohio Summit on Children, regarding it not

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## COUNTY PROFILE | Delaware



Delaware County's Summit on Children took its cue from the state Summit and explored ways to remove inter-agency barriers to serve foster and at-risk kids more effectively and efficiently.

Sixty professionals from 26 different agencies attended the session in late October. Teresa Tackett, bailiff for Probate/Juvenile Court Judge Kenneth J. Spicer, said the local summit focused on gaining administrative support for greater collaboration. An upcoming follow-up county summit will host staff members on the front lines who will be charged with implementing needed policy changes.


One area of improvement identified by the group concerned improving communication between county agencies and school districts. For instance, because the lines of communication

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## PLANS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

as a series of events, but as a unique opportunity for communication, problem-solving, and cross-disciplinary and cross-jurisdictional planning.

These counties are not alone. Each day, every Ohio community has its share of successes. The *Ohio Summit on Children: Action Update* would like to highlight the good work and link jurisdictions of common interest. To share information about your work ensuring the safety, well-being and permanent living situations for children in your community, or to suggest topics about which you would like to hear more, simply e-mail your question or program information to [summitonchildren@sc.ohio.gov](mailto:summitonchildren@sc.ohio.gov).

The Summit on Children's Web site, [www.summitonchildren.ohio.gov](http://www.summitonchildren.ohio.gov), is intended to be an active site with all of the latest updates about the Summit on Children. We continue to add resources you may find helpful, including a copy of each Post-Summit County Plan received. Check the Summit Web site after Jan. 31 for the latest information and to view the county plans. 

## DELAWARE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

were opened, school personnel now have a better understanding why social services agencies need the information they request on students, Tackett said.

Delaware County Summit participants also examined how to collaborate in order to benefit more kids, as well as ways to divert resources to other unmet needs if they discover agencies are duplicating services. She said the county is already benefiting from those realizations.

Tackett said a panel discussion by foster kids really opened some eyes. One young panelist noted that he had changed schools four or five times. This student said he wished teachers understood that homework was not always the most important thing on his mind. Instead, he worried about where he would stay each night.

Tackett said Judge Spicer raved about the value of the state Summit. One of his goals in hosting a local summit was to raise awareness in Delaware County. Tackett said she expects more Delaware County stakeholders to attend next November's state Summit. 

### MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

Your Post-Summit County Plan is your voice to state leaders as they examine what is needed from the state to support local action plans.

If you have not yet done so, join the 46 counties below and submit your plan for posting so your material will be available to assist and inspire others.

Allen	Crawford	Huron	Ottawa	Tuscarawas
Ashtabula	Clarke	Lake	Pickaway	Union
Athens	Erie	Logan	Preble	VanWert
Belmont	Fairfield	Lorain	Putnam	Warren
Carroll	Fulton	Meigs	Ross	Washington
Champaign	Greene	Mercer	Sandusky	Wayne
Clarke	Guernsey	Miami	Stark	Williams
Clermont	Henry	Montgomery	Summit	Wood
Columbiana	Holmes	Muskingum	Trumbull	Wyandot
Coshocton				