Ohio's Parent Mentor Project

PROJECT KICKOFF MEETING

2025-2026 PROGRAM YEAR

Wednesday, September 3, 2025

Department of Education & Workforce

The Ohio State University
Center on Education and Training for Employment

TODAY'S AGENDA

DEW Updates
- Lyndsay Havey and Brittany Williams

DEW Fiscal Updates
- Molly Cairney

OSU Updates
- Dr. Gabrielle Johnson

Question & Answer

Agency Showcase

Ohio™

Department of Education & Workforce

Ohio Department of Education & Workforce Updates

Lyndsay Havey, Education Program Specialist
Brittany Williams, Education Program Specialist
Molly Cairney, Assistant Administrator

Today's Agenda

- Department Vision, Mission, and Education Priorities
- Ohio's Integrated Multi-Tiered System of Supports
- Parent Mentor Scope of Work
  - What's New
  - Impact and Outcomes
  - Scope of Work Requirements
- Fiscal Update

Vision

Ohio students are prepared for success in the real world.

Mission

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce supports Ohio's students, families, and educators to ensure every student gains the knowledge and life skills needed for the future.

Education priorities

Literacy: Building a foundation for lifelong success by ensuring every student is reading at or above grade level.

Accelerating Learning: Advancing academic achievement for all students through statewide implementation of high-quality instruction, assessments, and supports.

Student Wellness: Fostering safe and supportive environments where students feel engaged and equipped to reach their full potential.

Workforce Readiness: Preparing students for success in life and careers through real-world knowledge, skills, and experiences.

Organizational Effectiveness: Delivering high-quality services and resources to strengthen Ohio's education community.

Literacy

Building a foundation for lifelong success by ensuring every student is reading at or above grade level.

Department of Education & Workforce

Accelerating learning

Advancing academic achievement for all students through statewide implementation of high-quality instruction, assessments, and supports.

Ohio Department of Education & Workforce

Student wellness

Fostering safe and supportive environments where students feel engaged and equipped to reach their full potential.

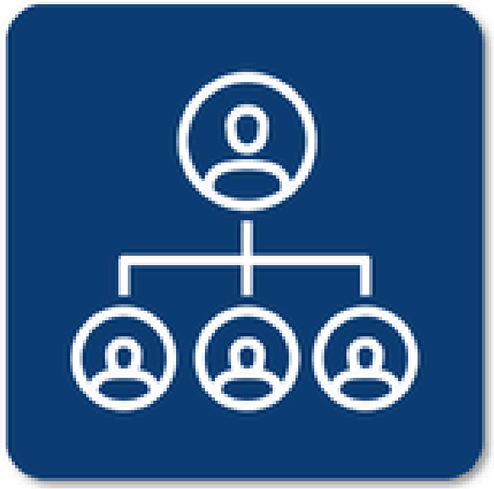
Ohio Department of Education & Workforce

Workforce readiness

Preparing students for success in life and careers through real-world knowledge, skills, and experiences.

Ohio Department of Education & Workforce

Organizational effectiveness



Delivering high-quality services and resources to strengthen Ohio's education community.

Department of Education & Workforce

Ohio's Integrated Multi-Tiered System of Supports

Providing effective instruction for all students through academic and non-academic supports.

Student Learning Components

Universal Screening

The proactive, systematic process of collecting academic and non-academic data of all students to identify areas of need.

Data-Based Decision-Making

The proactive and systematic process of collecting, analyzing and using forms of data to inform student needs and allocate resources.

Continuum of Supports

The organization of evidence-based academic and non-academic instruction and supports across three tiers that include core, targeted, and intensive instruction and supports.

Progress Monitoring

The ongoing and frequent collection and use of data for assessing students' performance and evaluating the effectiveness of instruction and supports.

Team-Based Problem Solving

The collaborative, responsive, and systematic process for understanding and addressing complex problems that are impacting students.

Adult Implementation Components

Shared Leadership

The collaborative approach to providing strong, ongoing leadership for the implementation of an integrated multi-tiered system of supports, including infrastructure, professional development, and monitoring for effective instruction within the continuum of supports.

Professional Capacity

The professional knowledge, skills, and practices that ensure staff members are knowledgeable, organized, and equipped to deliver effective instruction using an integrated multi-tiered system of supports.

Communication and Collaboration

The essential processes to promote and support engagement and shared responsibility for creating the conditions for effective instruction for all students through a strengths-based lens among all teaching and non-teaching staff, administrators, families, caregivers, and students.

Department of Education & Workforce

Scope of Work – What's New

- Alignment with DEW Priorities: Literacy, Accelerating Learning, Student Wellness, Workforce Readiness
  - Project and activity expectations (Required Response #3)
  - Expected Support for the Parent Mentor's work (Required Response #4)

Scope of Work – Impact and Outcomes

- Project goal
- Formative Outcomes
- Summative Outcomes
- Big Picture Outcomes
- Impact

Scope of Work Requirements – Educational Agencies

Roles and responsibilities of the Educational Agency receiving a Parent Mentor grant must include:

- Ensure that the Parent Mentor is involved in educational agency activities (e.g., attend staff meetings, participate in training, serve on committees)
- Work with the Parent Mentor through regular and ongoing communication to implement services

Scope of Work Requirements – Educational Agencies

Roles and responsibilities of the Educational Agency receiving a Parent Mentor grant must include:

- Attend the following (or ensure that an alternate designee attend): OCALICON Parent Mentor session; Parent Mentor Spring Conference – fully day; New Parent Mentor Orientation session (only if you have a new Parent Mentor)
- Submit project evaluation data to the Office for Exceptional Children and/or the OSU team at CETE upon request.

Scope of Work Requirements – Parent Mentors

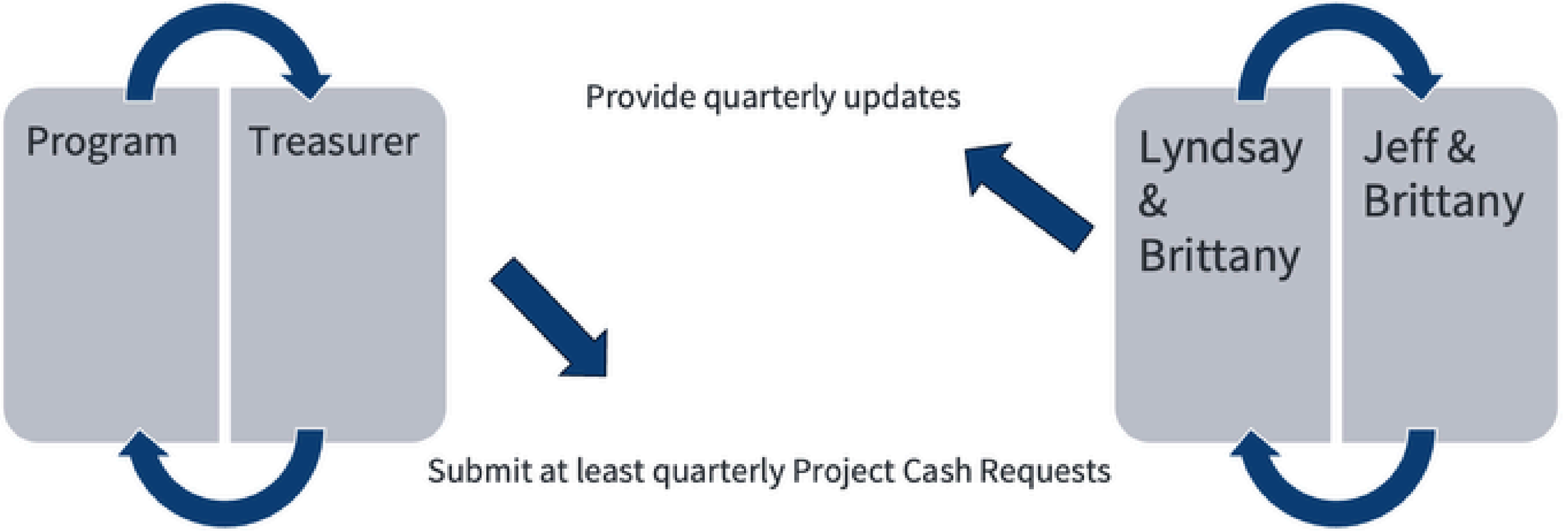
Expected duties of the Parent Mentor:

- Attend required events
- Submit project evaluation data by the provided deadlines to the OSU team at CETE for reporting to the Office for Exceptional Children
- Attend evaluation team report (ETR) /Individualized Education Program (IEP)- related meetings at family or district request (may be face-to-face, virtual, by phone, etc.)

Monitoring Compliance with Grant Expectations

- Monthly data review by OEC team of data provided by OSU as submitted by Parent Mentors
  - Intervention
- Site Visits
- Your role in compliance with grant expectations:
  - Alignment of this work with DEW priorities and detailed in Scope of Work responses
  - Attending required events (Parent Mentor and Educational Agency representative)
  - Regular meetings between the Parent Mentor and Educational Agency representative
  - Accurate and timely Parent Mentor data collection

Fiscal Update



Questions or need for support?

ParentMentors@education.ohio.gov

Department of Education & Workforce

EDUCATION.OHIO.GOV

Parent Mentor Checklist

Parent Mentor Activities Checklist 2025-2026

For more information and registration links, please visit the **Parent Mentor Calendar**.

Project Meetings

- [ ] Kickoff Meeting/Agency Showcase: Wednesday, September 3, 2025
- [ ] Year-End Closeout Meeting/Needs Assessment Review: May 6, 2026

Conferences

- [ ] OCALICON: Wednesday, November 19, 2025
- [ ] Parent Mentor Spring Conference: Friday, March 20, 2026
- [ ] (optional) Family Engagement Summit: September 18-19, 2025

Professional Development

- [ ] Virtual live session on Zoom: Wednesday, October 15, 2025
- [ ] Virtual live session on Zoom: Wednesday, January 21, 2026
- [ ] Virtual live session on Zoom: Wednesday, April 8, 2026
- [ ] Podcast Episode 1 available for listen October 1, 2025
- [ ] Podcast Episode 2 available for listen December 3, 2025
- [ ] Podcast Episode 3 available for listen February 4, 2026
- [ ] (optional) Charting the Lifecourse Champions Series on Zoom

Community of Practice & Connect Meetings

- [ ] Virtual Community of Practice #1 with your region/SST
- [ ] Virtual Community of Practice #2 with your region/SST
- [ ] In-Person Connect Meeting with your region/SST

See next page for District Representatives' Checklist

EA Representative Checklist

EA Representative Activities Checklist 2025-2026

Educational Agency Representatives, we appreciate your time and commitment to ensure the success of your Parent Mentor. If you are ever unbale to attend one of the required events below, you may send a representative in your place. Send us an email at **cete-parentmentor@osu.edu** to give us a heads up.

For more information and registration links, please visit the **Parent Mentor Calendar**.

Project Meetings

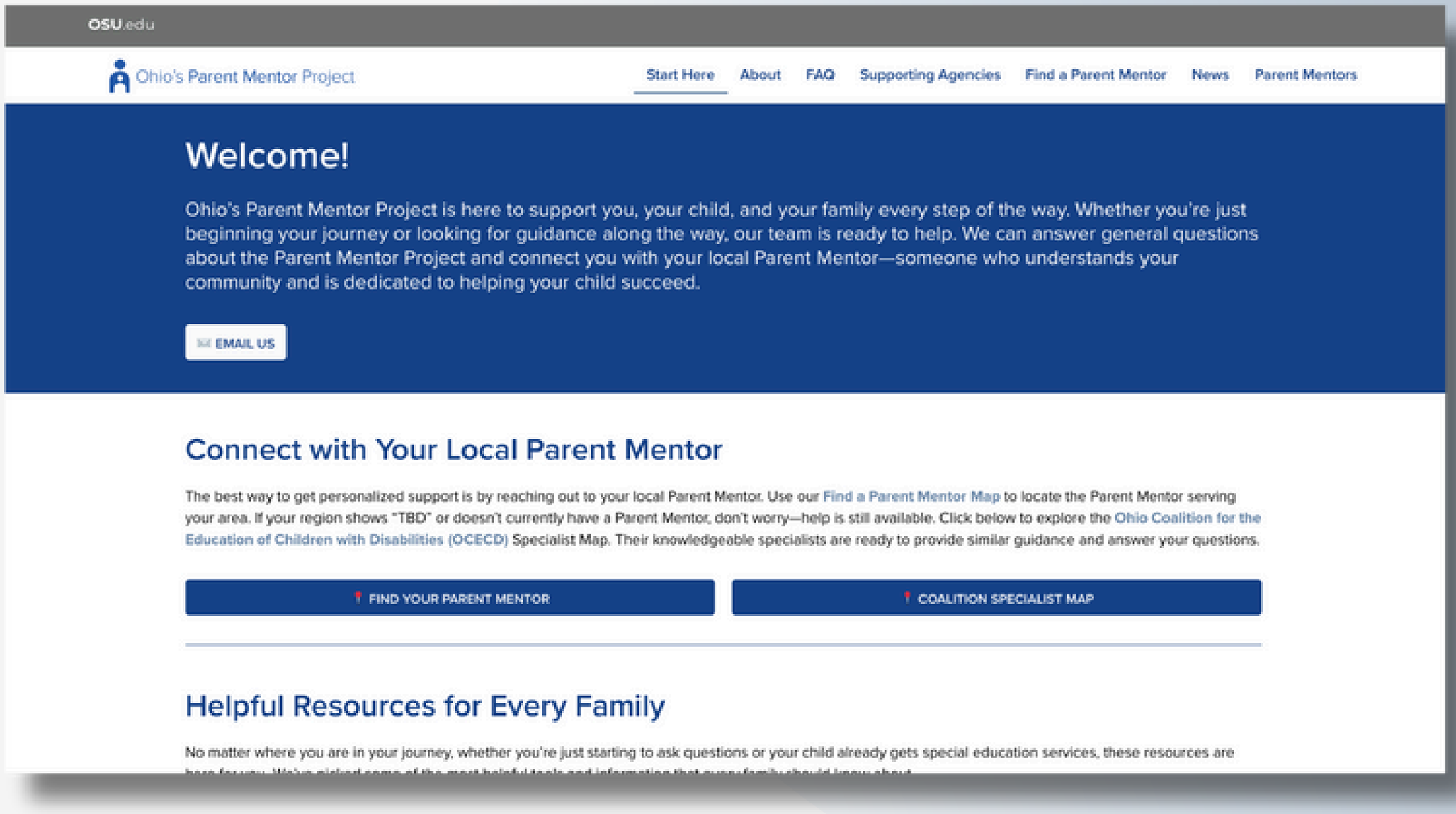
- [ ] Required EA Representative Closed Meetinng: September 3, 2025
- [ ] Kickoff Meeting/Agency Showcase: Wednesday, September 3, 2025
- [ ] Year-End Closeout Meeting/Needs Assessment Review: May 6, 2026

Conferences

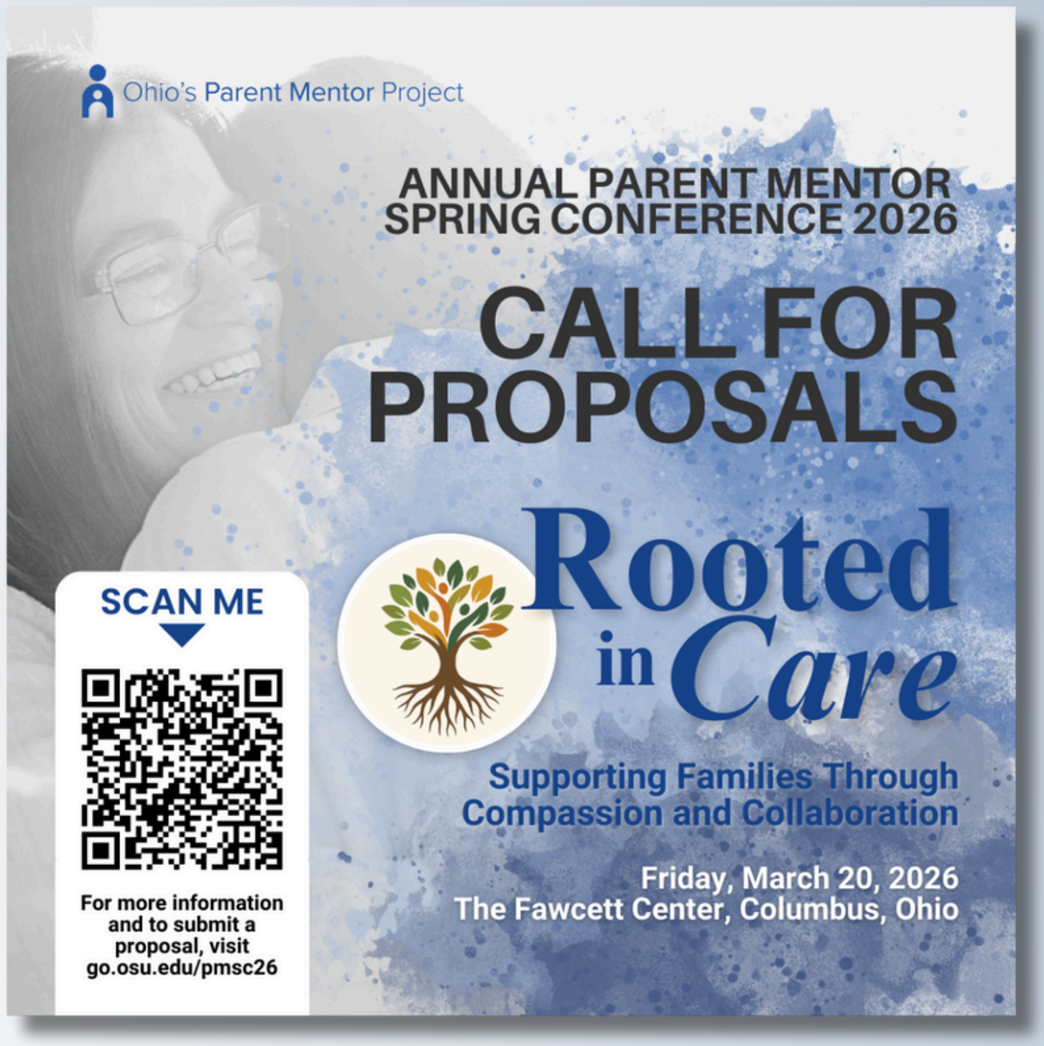
- [ ] OCALICON Required Meeting: Wednesday, November 19, 2025
- [ ] Parent Mentor Spring Conference: Friday, March 20, 2026

Available in the biweekly newsletter and on the Parent Mentor back page of the website

Website — New “Start Here” Page



Spring Conference 2026



General Programming Updates

- **OCALICON 2025 Registration**
  - Please wait for our instructions
  - Required session for Parent Mentors and EA Representatives (see calendar)
- **Biweekly Newsletter Archive**
  - If experiencing technology issues, please reach out to your district's technology support first and then reach out to us
- **SST-Specific Calendars on Your Dashboard**
- **Family Engagement Summit — Free Registration for Parent Mentors**
  - Deadline: email cete-parentmentor@osu.edu by September 4th (tomorrow)
- **Impact Data Emphasis More Than Ever Before**
  - Your monthly data collection and required attendance
  - Your events, highlights, and success stories

Ohio's Parent Mentor Project

PASSIONATE. CONNECTED. ACCESSIBLE.

QUESTIONS

Ohio's Parent Mentor Project

AGENCY SHOWCASE

Wednesday, September 3, 2025

Department of Education & Workforce

The Ohio State University

OHIO COALITION FOR THE EDUCATION
OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

OUR MISSION

Established in 1972
State-wide, non-Profit organization

PTI Grant since 1984

Composed of numerous parent and professional organizations presenting over 50,000 individuals

The mission of the Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities is to endorse and promote efforts to provide appropriate quality education for children and youth with disabilities.

We do so in the belief that all children have a right to a meaningful and relevant education. This belief affirms the dignity of each child or youth with disabilities, whose needs are unique and whose needs must be met equally and appropriately.

OCECD is dedicated to ensuring that every child with disabilities is provided a free appropriate public education.

We will continuously strive to improve the quality of our services for all children and youth with disabilities in Ohio.

PTIs

Parent Training and Information Centers

- Funded by the U. S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)
- Authorized in Part D of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- Every state must have at least one Parent Center

Help to resolve disagreements with the school

Obtain appropriate services

Better understand their child's disability and educational needs

Communicate more effectively with the school and related professionals

Understand their rights and responsibilities under IDEA

Connect with other community resources

OHIO COALITION FOR THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Executive Offices
125 Executive Drive
Suite 200
Marion, Ohio 43302

Phone Contact
1-844-382-5452

Visit us on the web
www.ocecd.org
facebook.com/ocecd
twitter.com/ocecd

Marbella Cáceres

Assistant Director/Statewide Accessibility Director

marbellac@ocecd.org

Lisa Hickman

Executive Director

lisah@ocecd.org

OCALI
Inspiring Change for People
with Disabilities

OCALI

Inspiring Change for People with Disabilities

OCALI Introduction & Resources

Ohio Parent Mentor Kick Off Meeting | September 3, 2025

About OCALI

Vision – *Why We Do What We Do*
People with disabilities have the opportunity to live their best lives.

Mission – *What We Do*
OCALI inspires change and promotes access to opportunities for people with disabilities.

Action – *How We Do What We Do*
OCALI informs public policy and develops and deploys practices grounded in linking research to real life,

About Language

Before moving forward, it is worth mentioning that there is a language consideration you may notice. **Person-first language** emphasizes the person before the identity or disability, such as person who is deaf or a child with autism.
Identity-first language puts the identity or disability first in the description, as in deaf person or autistic person, recognizing the culture or community.
When referring to learners in this presentation you may notice the use of **both** person-first and identity-first language to ensure that all people have their preferences respected and represented.

OCALI Centers

Autism Center

Lifespan Transitions Center

THE OUTREACH CENTER for Deafness and Blindness

Center for the Young Child

Teaching Diverse Learners Center

Assistive Technology & Accessible Educational Materials Center

Family and Community Outreach Center

Universal Design for Learning Center

Multi-System Navigation Center

OFFICE OF POLICY

LENDING LIBRARY

OCALICONLINE

Early Childhood CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

THE CENTER OF EXCELLENCE ON Instructional Practice

Family and Community Outreach

Equip and empower families to support the whole family

- Connect families to information and resources
- Raise awareness and acceptance in the community
- Cross-center collaboration to enhance family engagement

Family and Community Outreach Center

The Outreach Center

The Outreach Center for Deafness and Blindness increases access, communication, and belonging for learners who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind, or visually impaired. We do this by connecting resources and providing training for professionals and fostering relationships to equip communities to support families and learners where they are, with what they need, when they need it to learn, grow, and live their best lives.

THE OUTREACH CENTER
for Deafness and Blindness

OCALI Lending Library

Access to an extensive collection of books, videos, assistive technology devices, assessment tools, support kits, and more at no cost

Available to anyone over 18 living or working in Ohio

Borrow items for a short or long-term basis and shipped directly at no charge

Search the catalog and create an account today!
www.ocali.org/lending-library

OCALI
LENDING
LIBRARY

Contact Us

Jen Bavry, Program Director
Office of Strategic Connection

jennifer_bavry@ocali.org
614-410-0998

Michelle Motil, Family Support Liaison
The Outreach Center for Deafness & Blindness

michelle_motil@ocali.org
614-401-2889

Thank You

visit us at

www.ocali.org

Ohio

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION FOR TRANSITION-AGE YOUTH

Connecting Students with Work

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

TRANSITION-WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

Student with a Disability (SWD) =

- Age 14 through not yet 22
- Has a disability (e.g., learning, behavior, mental health, mobility, hearing, vision, etc.)
- Is in a recognized education program (enrolled in high school counts)

POTENTIALLY ELIGIBLE (PE)

Students with Disabilities (SWD)

14-21

Pre-ETS Subcategories (Fab 5)

- Instruction in Self-Advocacy
- Workplace Readiness Training
- Work Based Learning
- Job Exploration Counseling
- Counseling on Postsecondary Options

Designated Staff

Request for Pre-ETS form

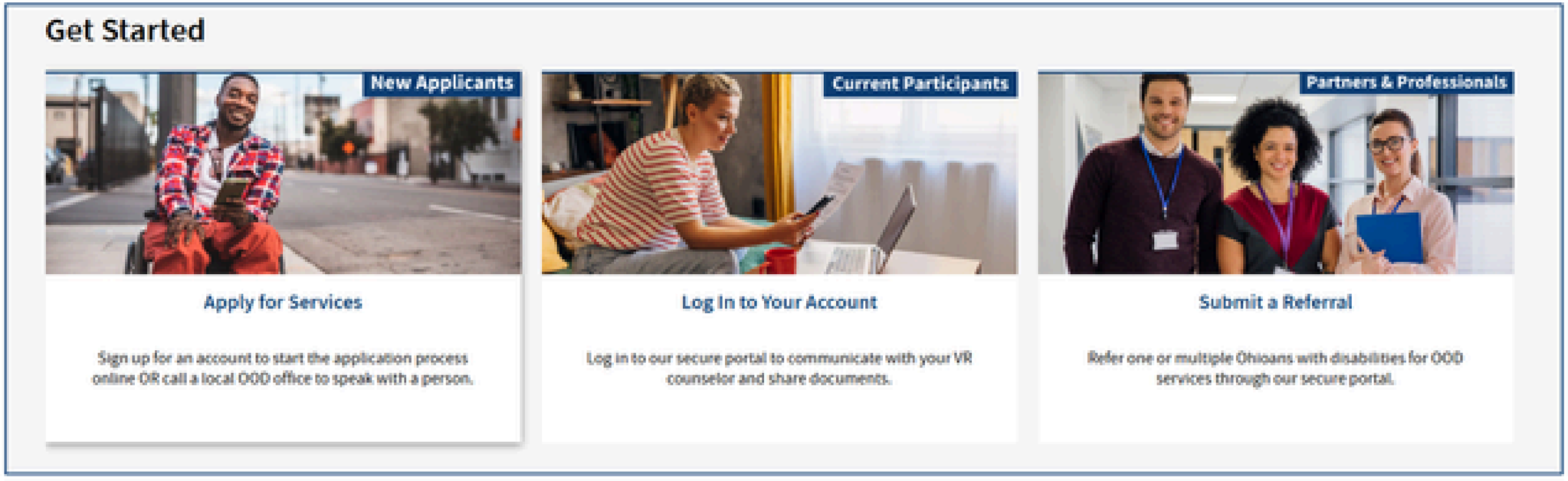
VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PROCESS

- Application for Services
- Eligibility & Order of Selection
- Individualized Plan for Employment & Services
- Closure

OOD REFERRALS

How to Refer:

- OODWorks.com
  - Individuals can refer themselves
  - **NEW! Professionals can submit referrals for multiple individuals in a single login**
- Call local OOD Office or Appointment Center
- School Liaison Counselor
- Student or Family Member
- Friends
- School Intervention Specialist
- Service and Support Administrator



TRANSITION SPECIFIC SERVICES MAY INCLUDE:

- Developmental activities & Career Exploration
- Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS)
- Summer Youth Work Experience
- School-Based Community Work Experience (CWE)
- Job Search Assistance
- Job Coaching

MISCELLANEOUS

- Travel Training
- Driver's Training
  - Driving Evaluation
  - Pre-Driver's Education
  - On the Road Driving Instruction
- Assistive Tech
- College/Occupational Training
- And more…

QUESTIONS?

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

CONTACT INFORMATION

BRITTANY BEAR

REHABILITATION PROGRAM SPECIALIST

Brittany.Bear@ood.ohio.gov

TAYLOR DIDONATO

REHABILITATION PROGRAM SPECIALIST

Taylor.DiDonato@ood.ohio.gov

THANK YOU

Supported Employment & Transition Unit

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

Ohio
Department of Children & Youth
Ohio Family and Children First

Agency Showcase for Ohio's Parent Mentors

Colleen Tucker, MBA
Ohio Family and Children First, Executive Director
Colleen.tucker@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov

09/03/2025

Department of Children & Youth
Ohio Family and Children First

MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO

Ohio THE HEART OF IT ALL.

OVERVIEW

- Ohio Family and Children First (OFCF) is a partnership of government agencies and community organizations committed to improving the well-being of children and their families.

- OFCF started as an initiative of the Office of the Governor in 1991, building upon previous legislation.

- The Ohio General Assembly codified OFCF in 1993.

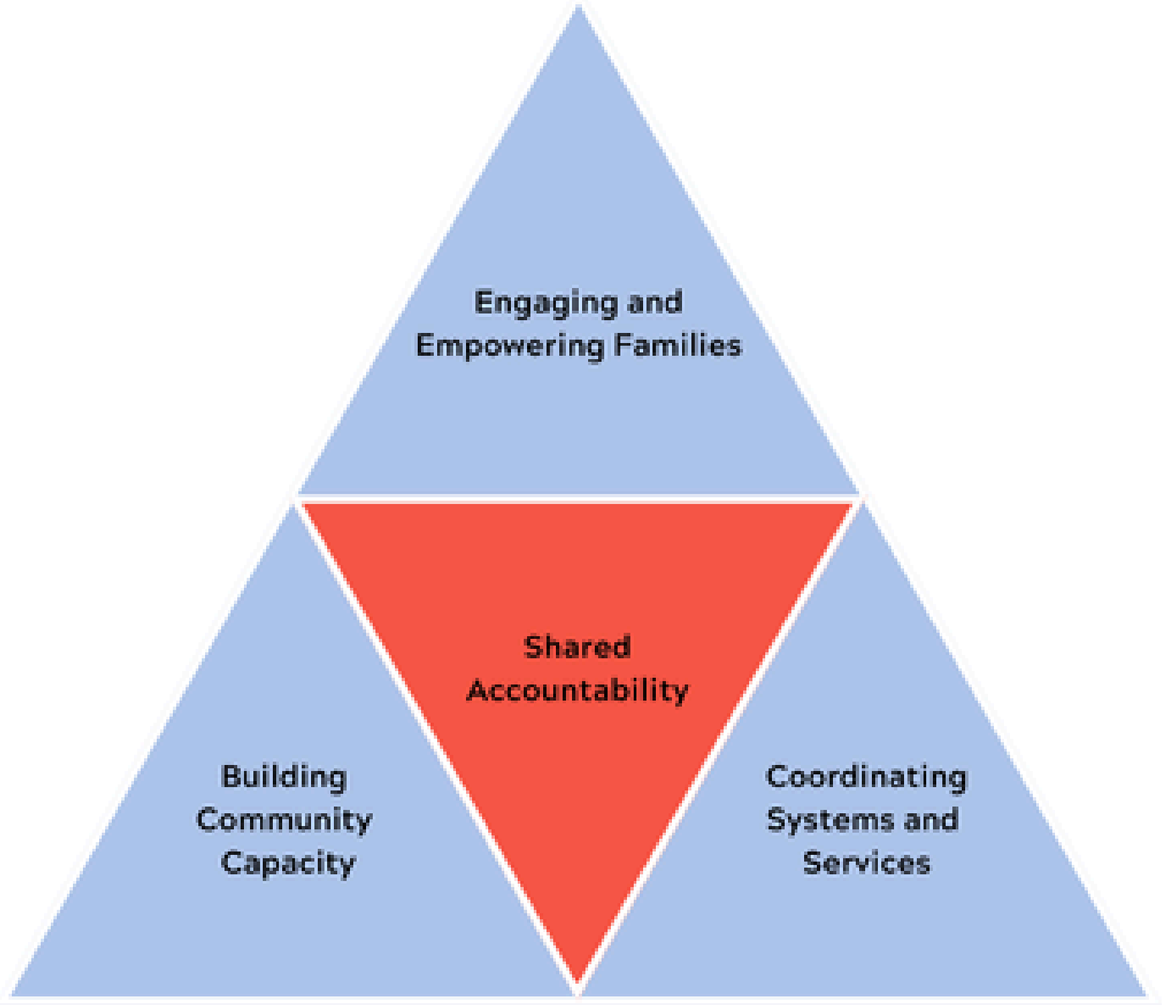
OUR PURPOSE

Ohio Family and Children First Cabinet Council was created in statute (ORC 121.37) in 1993 with the specific purpose:

"…to help families seeking government services…by streamlining and coordinating existing services for families seeking assistance for their children."

FCFC CORE FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Engaging and Empowering Families
- Building Community Capacity
- Coordinating Systems and Services
- Shared Accountability



MACRO VS. MICRO RESPONSIBILITIES

CORE FUNCTION	MACRO	MICRO
Engaging and Empowering Families	Involve families in program and policy development; Family Representatives on Council	Engaging families, Listening, Building Rapport to meet the needs of the youth and family
Building Community Capacity	Identify Gaps to Services, Supports, Funding, etc. Council is mandated to develop a 3-year shared plan to address gaps/needs within the community	Working with youth, families and teams; identify services and supports that were not previously available
Coordinating Systems and Services	Eliminate duplication of services across the county. Streamline eligibility. Pooled funding to support systems and services	Service Coordination/Wraparound (e.g. traffic controller) – connect families to needed services and supports
Shared Accountability	Council members have shared responsibility to meet the needs of youth and families in the county and improve/address community needs; not only the Council Administrator's responsibility	Everyone involved with a youth has a role and is accountable to moving activities forward

THANK YOU!

Department of Children & Youth
Ohio Family and Children First

MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO

Ohio THE HEART OF IT ALL.

Ohio
Department of
Children & Youth

Parent and Youth Ambassadors: Doing What's Right for Kids!

Melissa Palmer, MSW, LISW-S
DCY Project Manager

MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO

Ohio THE HEART OF IT ALL.

Ohio Department of Children and Youth

PARENT AND YOUTH AMBASSADORS

- Direct response to what families said in Listening Sessions
- PYAs provide a resource that will allow families to have their questions answered and access the support needed at a local level.
- PYAs have lived experience in social systems and will respond to inquiries by assisting with concrete support, service referrals, and benefit navigation.
- PYAs offer localized support and connection in 12 Service Delivery Areas (SDA) statewide.

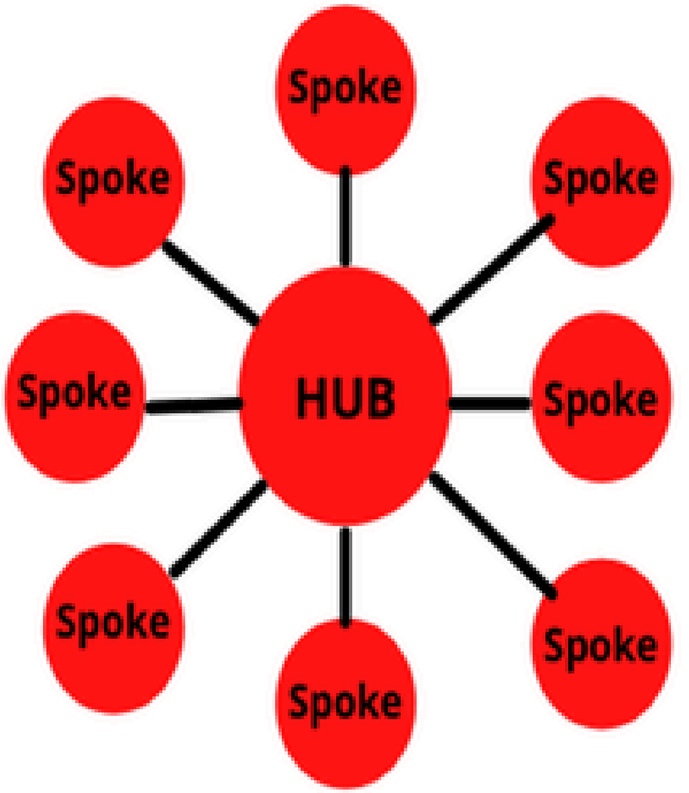
PYA'S SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

- Responding to questions and needs from individuals and families
  - Requests from Mothers, Fathers, Kinship Caregivers, and Community Providers
  - PYAs can support any request
  - Following up with families to ensure needs met
- Building community relationships and networking
- Facilitating Support Groups, Parent Cafes, and Family Listening Sessions

HUB AND SPOKE APPROACH

Part of a larger continuum of support:

- ✓ before,
- ✓ during, or
- ✓ after a crisis



SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

- ✓ Housing Concerns (unsheltered/unhoused, eviction)
- ✓ Financial Assistance (rent, utilities)
- ✓ Child Care (affordability, special needs)
- ✓ Food Insecurities

WHERE CAN I FIND A PYA IN OHIO?

- **SDA 1 = YWCA, Toledo**
- **SDA 2 = CCRC, Lorain**
- **SDA 3 = Starting Point, Cleveland**
- **SDA 4 = ECRC, Canton**
- **SDA 5 = COAD, New Philadelphia**
- **SDA 6 = 4C for children, Cincinnati**
- **SDA 7 = YWCA, Lima**
- **SDA 8 = 4C for Children, Miami valley**
- **SDA 9 = Action for Children, Columbus**
- **SDA 10 = COAD, Marietta**
- **SDA 11 = COAD, Piketon**
- **SDA 12 = YWCA, Mansfield**

MAKING A REQUEST FOR SUPPORT

- DCY Family and Customer Support Call Center:
  844-234-KIDS (5437) *Option 5

- DCY Email Boxes
  - Ambassadors@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov
  - info@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov

- Child Care Resource and Referral Agency (CCR&R)

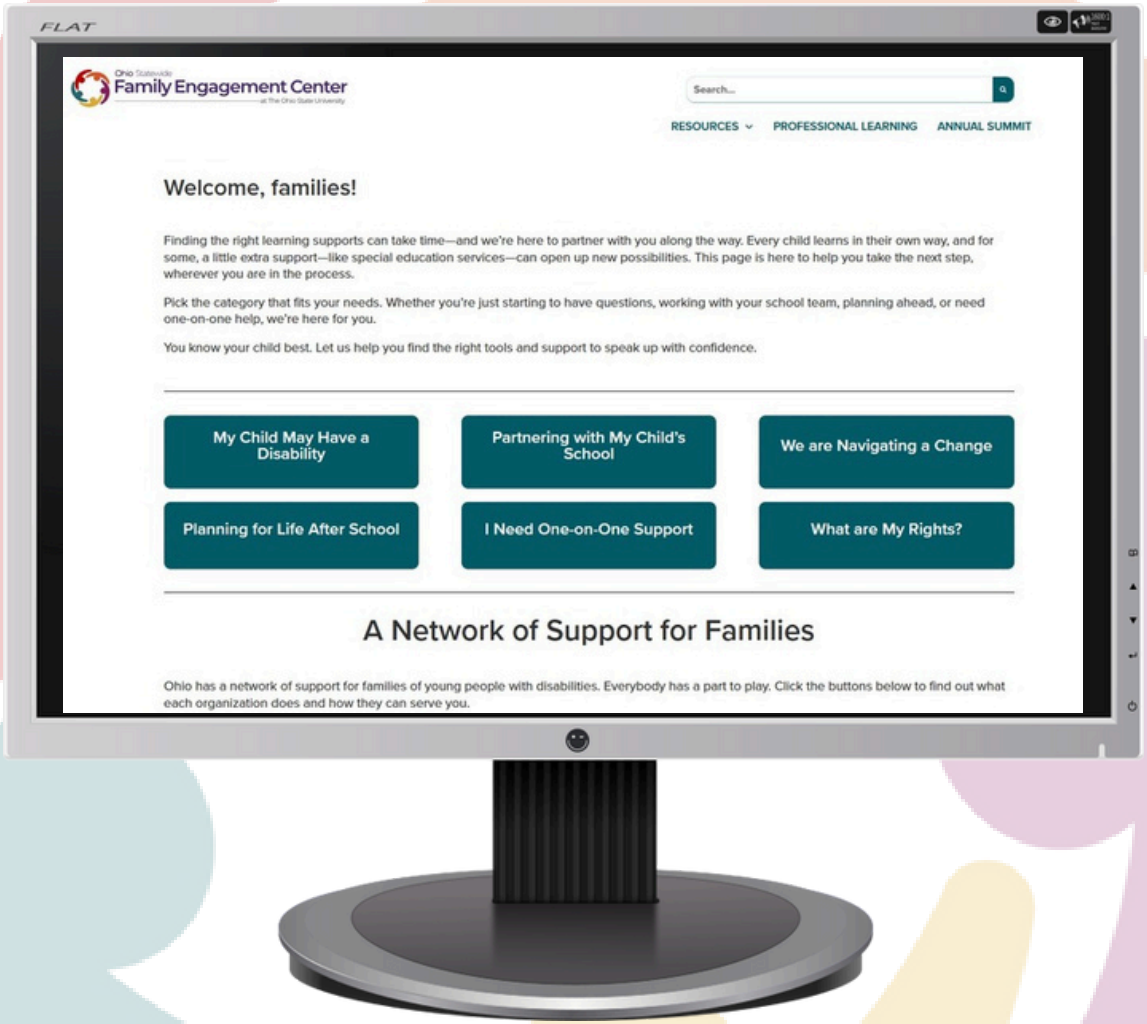
Ohio Statewide

Family Engagement Center

We’re glad you are here!

Ohio Statewide
Family Engagement Center

Our Website



All your meeting materials in one place

https://ohiofamiliesengage.osu.edu/fcenetworklogin/

Sign up for News and Guidance:

Free e-newsletter | Delivered to your inbox every month

https://go.osu.edu/newsguide

Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center

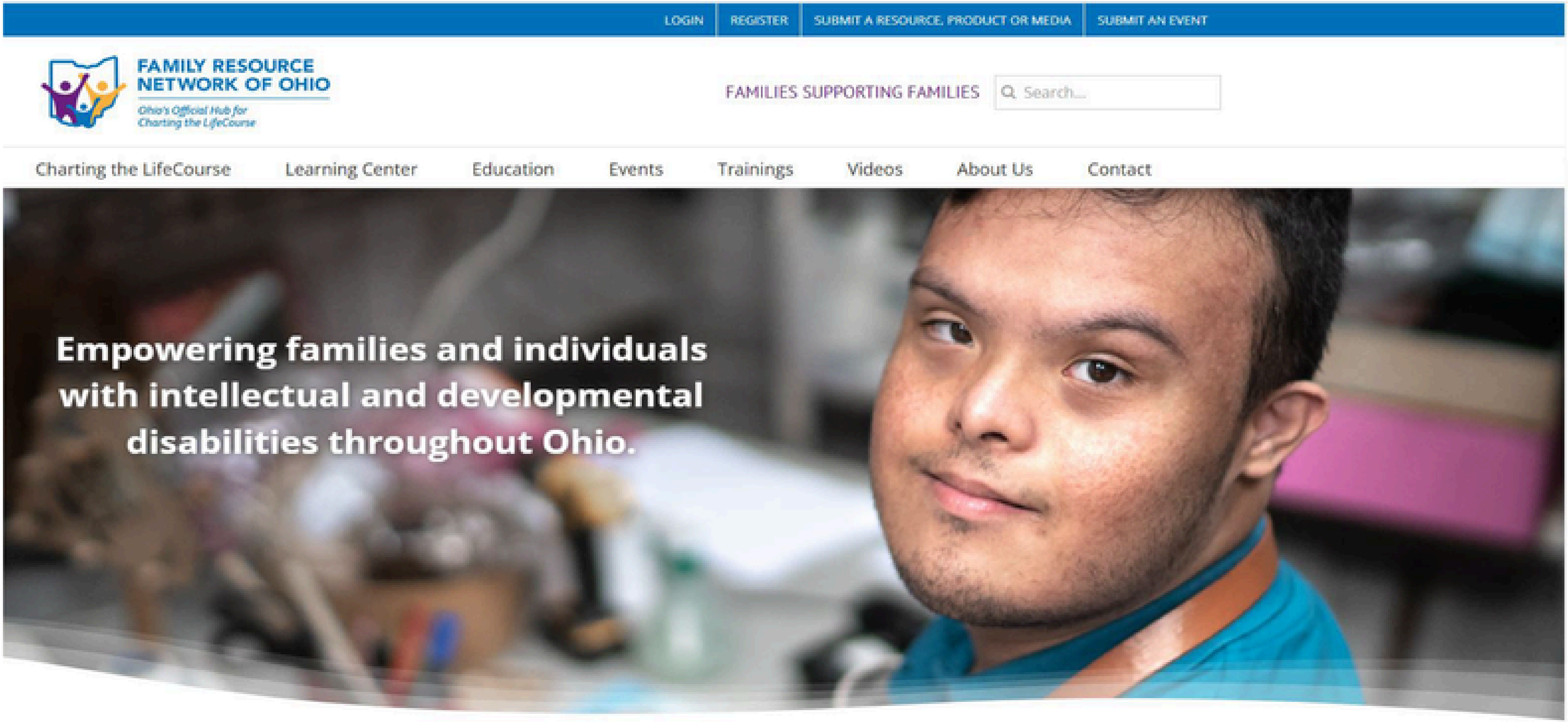
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
CENTER ON EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT

OEA
OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

FAMILY RESOURCE
NETWORK OF OHIO

Ohio's Official Hub for
Charting the LifeCourse

The Family Resource Network of Ohio



www.FRNOhio.org

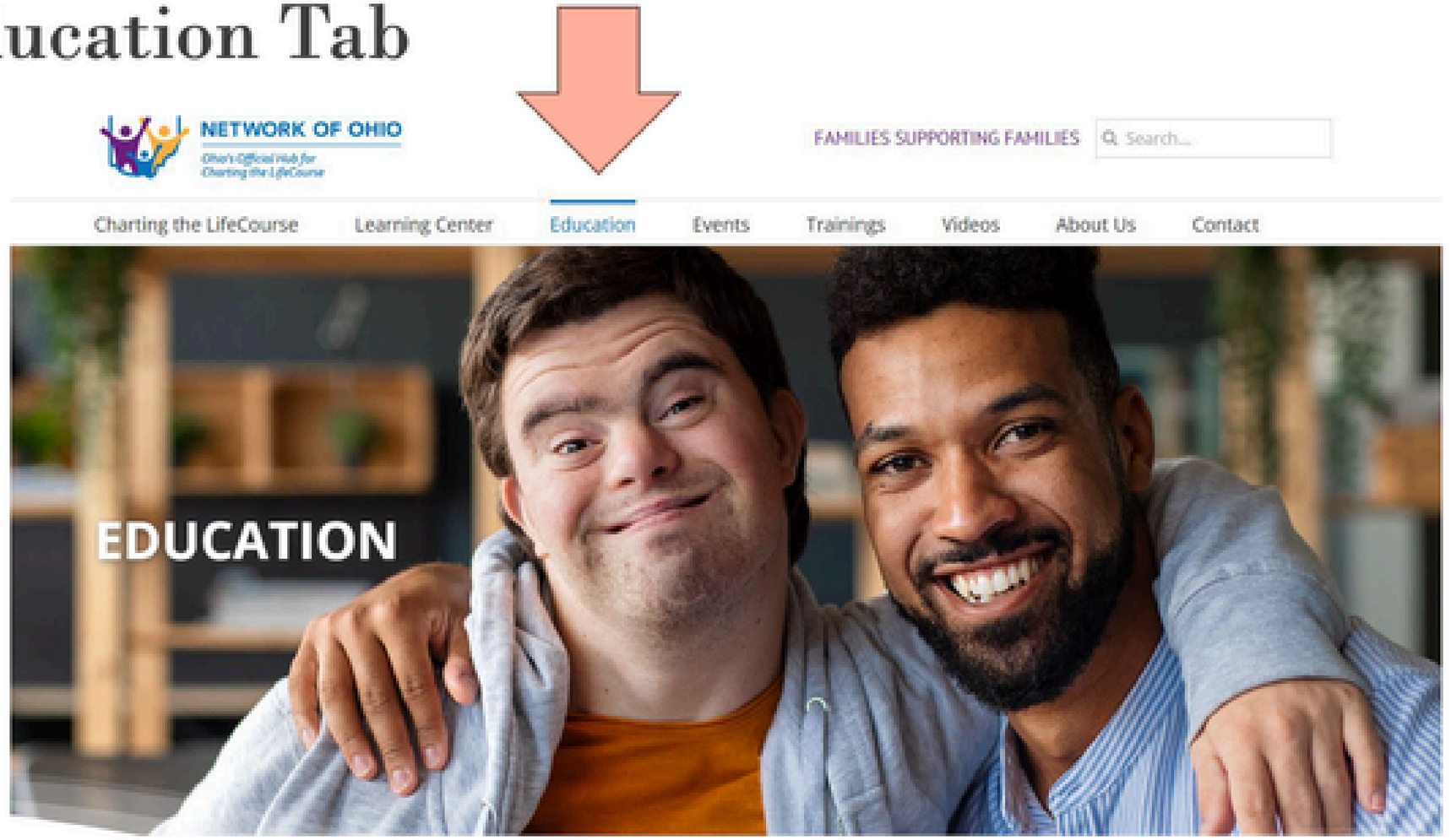
About us

Who We Are

The Family Resource Network of Ohio is here to help families by providing resources, tools, and trainings.

We use Charting the LifeCourse Framework to help individuals and families of individuals with developmental disabilities support each other in the pursuit of the good life. Together, we can achieve great things.

Education Tab



Instructional and Inspirational Videos

Videos

Join us in exploring the dynamic intersection of education and the LifeCourse framework, empowering learners of all abilities to navigate their unique pathways to success..

CtLC Champion Opportunities for Parent Mentors

Meeting Information

Community of Practice: Supporting Families of People with Developmental Disabilities.

This quarterly, 90-minute gathering is a chance for us to come together, share our experiences, support
Whether you're a family member, professional, or community partner, your voice matters—and we hop

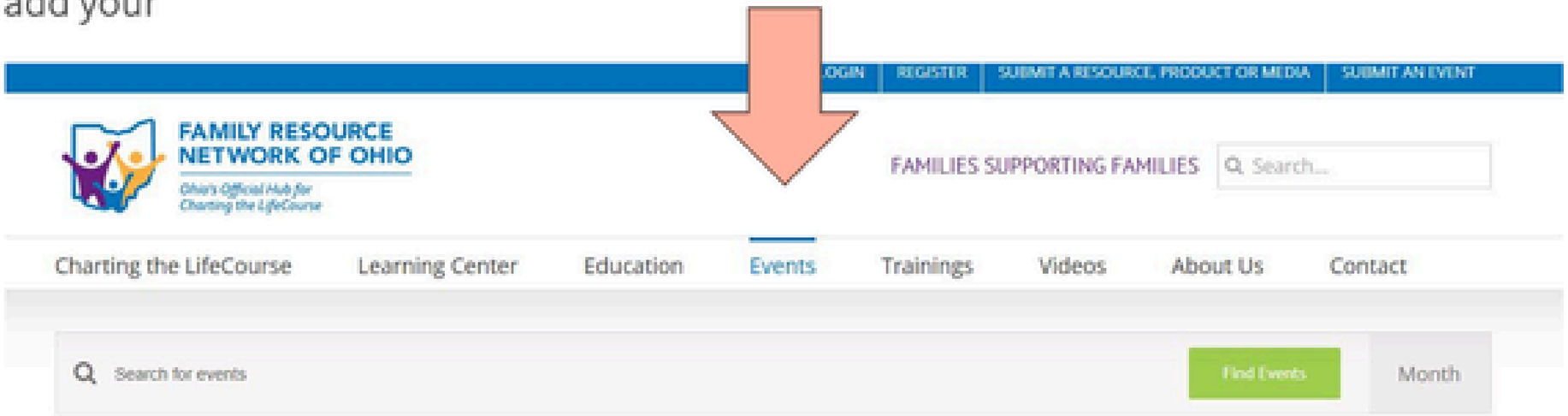
Community of Practice (CoP)

- May 28, 2025
- August 27, 2025
- November 19, 2025
- February 25, 2026: **(In-Person** more details coming soon!) Located at: The Grand Event Ce
- May 27, 2026

Add Community of Practice (CoP) to my Calendar

Events Tab

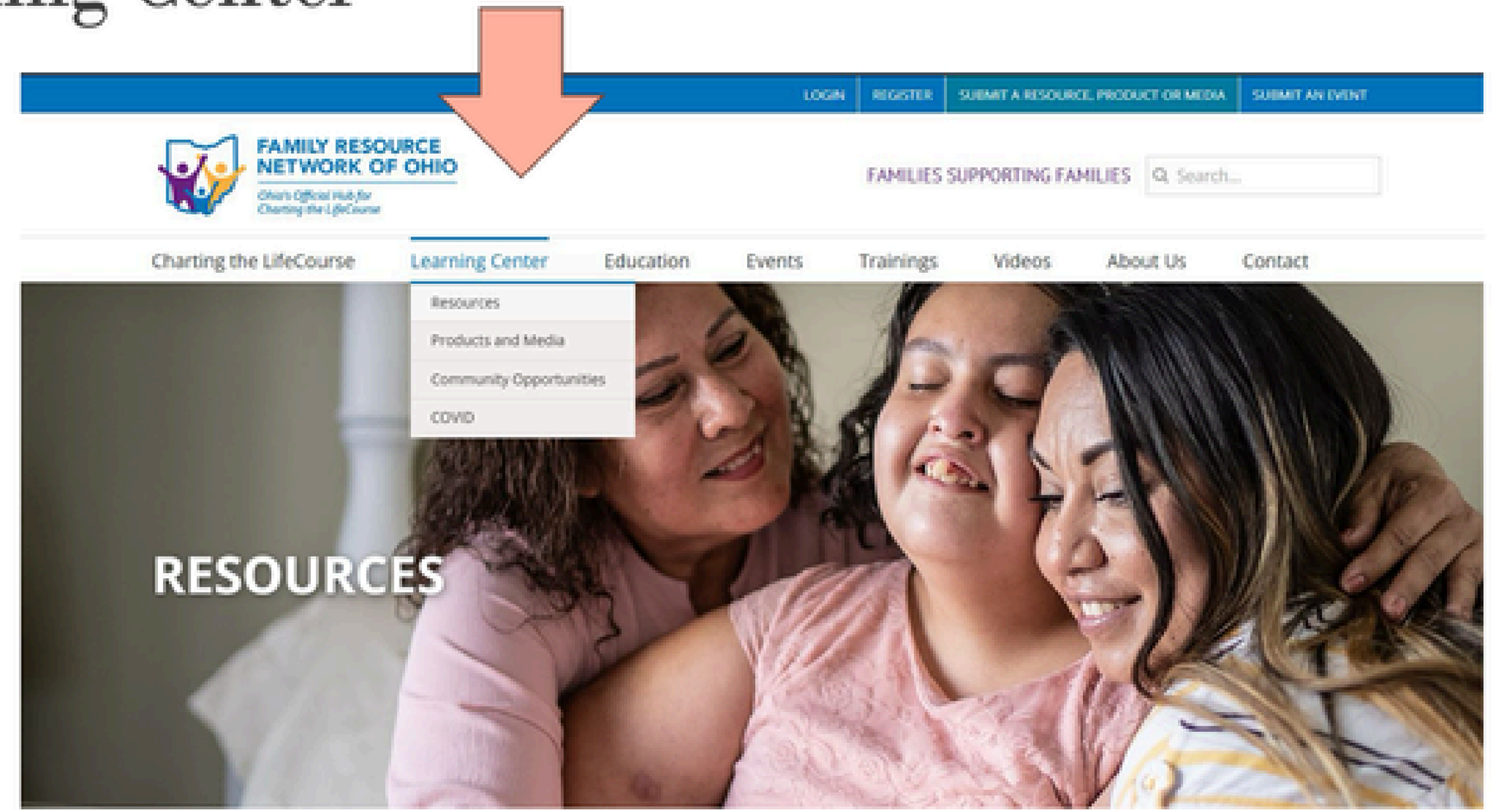
- Find events and add your own



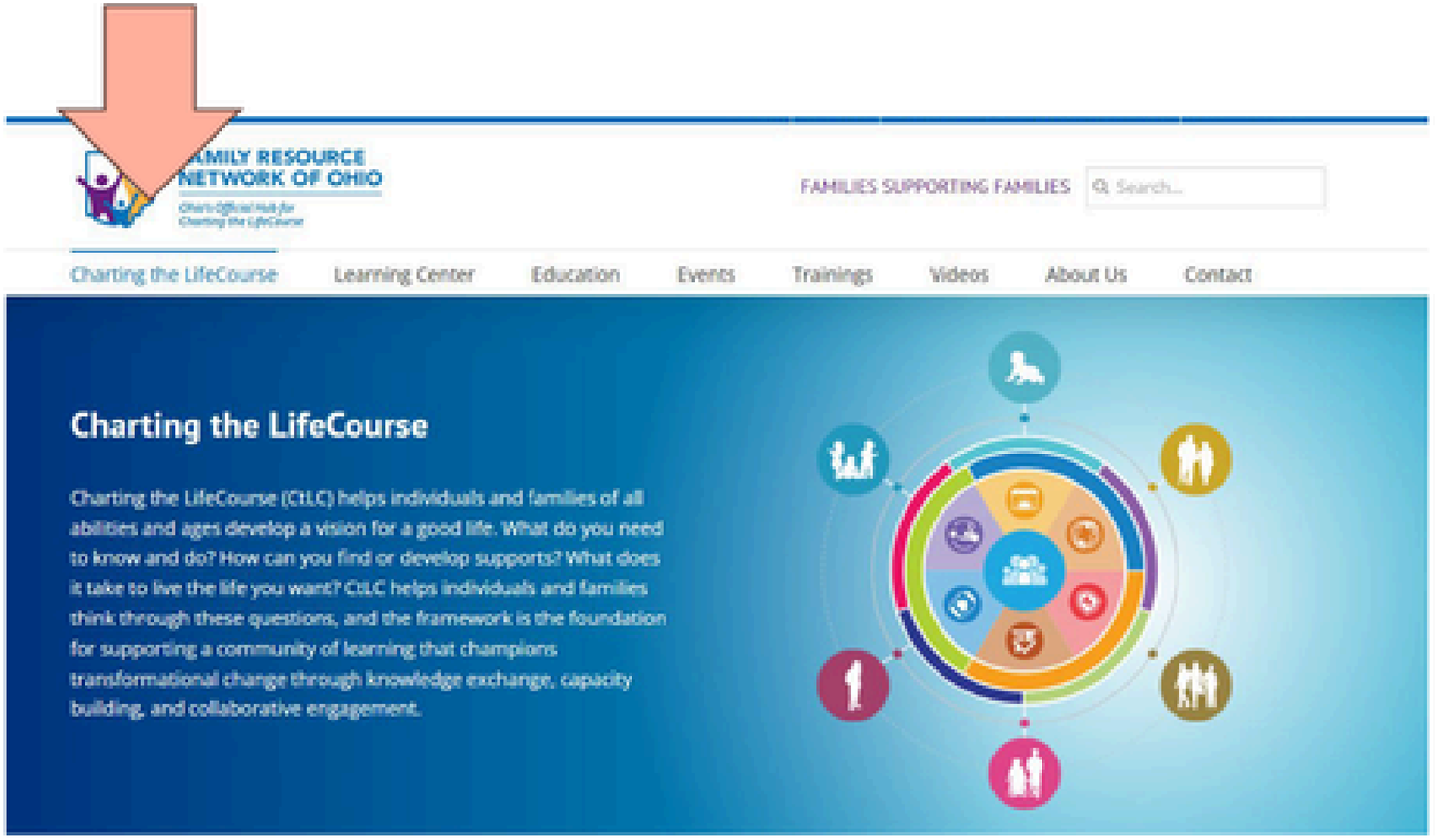
Events Calendar

- Clicking on any of the pictures will bring up details and additional information.
- If you have an event to add, you an do it directly from this page.
- The goal is for all events- statewide to be added here.

Learning Center



Charting the LifeCourse



- Principles
- Tools
- Ambassador Information
- Training Requests

Like us on Facebook and visit our website:

www.FRNOhio.org

Ohio's Parent Mentor Project

PASSIONATE. CONNECTED. ACCESSIBLE.

QUESTIONS

Department of Education & Workforce

The Ohio State University
CENTER ON EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT

Ohio's Parent Mentor Project

Thank you!

A copy of today's slides will be made available on the Parent Mentor website

Please do not hesitate to reach out for support.
We're here to help!

cete-parentmentor@osu.edu
parentmentors@education.ohio.gov
parentmentor.osu.edu