

**Together We
RISE** *Cornerstone Connection*
#riseupstark



You are invited to attend the free opening reception of the 2024 Heart Gallery Art Exhibition on Monday, Nov. 4, 2024 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Malone Art Gallery in the Johnson Center, Malone University, 2600 Cleveland Ave. NW, Canton, OH 44709.

The Heart Gallery is an art exhibition that pairs local artists with children waiting to be adopted from foster care, to create a series of special portraits. It is presented during the month of November to coincide with National Adoption Awareness Month.

This year's exhibition includes Aiden, Angel, Cameron, Camri, Croy, De'Vonte, Khloe, Kylie, Ronald, Treshaun, Tyree, and Xzavier. Pictured here is the portrait of Cameron and Camri by Maureen Magner-Sylak.

During the opening reception, guests can enjoy refreshments, view the outstanding artwork, and mingle with artists, youth, and staff from our agency. This is a family friendly event.

Family Skate Night on Nov. 7

Join us for our Annual Adoption Celebration on Thursday, Nov. 7, 2024 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the North Canton Skate & Entertainment Center, 5475 Whipple Ave NW, North Canton, OH 44720.

Skate rental will be paid for by the agency for all adoptive parents, adopted children, biological children, and foster children in the home. *Rental does not include roller blades. Pizza and snacks will be provided. The snack shop will also be open for additional purchases.

RSVP to Sharmalee.Flott@jfs.ohio.gov or 330-451-8246.



 330-451-8789  Jennifer.Loomis@jfs.ohio.gov



 330-451-8789  Jennifer.Loomis@jfs.ohio.gov



Hope Bridge Thanksgiving Dinner

Attention foster care youth, alumni, and allies! Hope Bridge is hosting an early Thanksgiving Dinner (18+) on Nov. 16, 2024 from 1 to 3 p.m. at North Canton Chapel. There will be a traditional Thanksgiving dinner, photo booth, raffle prizes, party favors, and more.

This event is free, but registration is required! Scan the QR code or email Lisa@fosteractionohio.org.



Children Services’ Social Worker Honored by the Ohio Child Welfare University Partnership Program



On Monday, Sept. 9, 2024, Angi Rosa MSW, LSW, children services training supervisor, was honored by the Ohio Child Welfare University Partnership Program (UPP) with the designation of UPP Field Instructor of the Year. She was recognized during the Public Children Services Association of Ohio’s (PCSAO) annual conference in Columbus, Ohio.

Rosa is a social worker who has been employed by Stark County Job & Family Services for 24 years. She currently serves as Training Supervisor in the Division of Children Services, where she provides guidance and mentorship to new caseworkers, performs community outreach, and speaks to organizations about the agency. Her role includes acting as liaison between UPP and the Division of Children Services to provide guidance, feedback, and support to college students studying social work.

Rosa was recommended for the award by Ashlee Pfile, manager of UPP at The Ohio State University and Monica Ascar MSW, LISW-S, Master of Social Work (MSW) coordinator at The University of Akron. In their recommendation, they described Rosa as, “an outstanding field instructor who embodies the principles of excellence, dedication, and compassion... her efforts have made a lasting impression on the students, equipping them with the skills and confidence to succeed in their careers.”



Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library of Ohio

Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library is dedicated to inspiring a love of reading by gifting free books to children from birth to age five. The Ohio Department of Children Youth recently partnered with Dolly Parton. They will register foster youth into this program, maintain their information, and keep their address updated. The monthly book delivery will follow the foster child wherever they may go. You may have already started receiving the books – but wanted to share the new and exciting news!

Questions? Receiving duplicate books? Or no book? Contact Debby@ohioimaginationlibrary.org.

Attend a Parent Café - Receive Training Hours, Dinner, Childcare, & Gift Card

A Parent Café is a meeting of parents, for parents, and by parents designed to create opportunities for parents to connect, share, and learn from each other.

Attend an upcoming Parent Café from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on the following dates all on a Tuesday: Nov. 12, Dec. 10, and Jan. 14. Participants will receive training hours (1.5 hours), dinner, childcare, and a gift card (\$20 per person). These will take place at the Early Childhood Resource Center, 1718 Cleveland Ave. NW, Canton, OH 44703.

Please scan the QR code to register. If you need additional help, email Katelyn.Speicher@jfs.ohio.gov.



Children Services’ Chief Legal Counsel Receives Recognition

On Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2024, Quay Diane Compton, chief legal counsel for the Division of Children Services, was presented the 2024 PCSAO Child Protection Support Advocate of the Year Award. Each year, the Public Children Services Association of Ohio (PCSAO) recognizes the achievements of child protection professionals who serve within an Ohio public children services agency. The Support Advocate of the Year Award is, presented to an individual who may not work on the frontlines, but whose work is critical to child and family outcomes.



Compton is an attorney who has been employed by SCJFS for over 23 years. She began her career as a staff attorney in the Division of Children Services and currently serves in the role of Chief Legal Counsel. The work she does has a direct impact on the lives of children who have been affected by abuse and neglect.

Compton is described by colleagues and community members as being fair, committed, compassionate, and empathetic. She is a valuable resource to the Stark County legal community and has a reputation for having extensive knowledge of child welfare laws and case history.

Outside her legal career, Compton is an accomplished baker. Known locally as the “Cookie Queen”, her iced sugar cookies, shaped and decorated to match each occasion, are famous among her friends, family, and coworkers. She donates dozens of cookies every year to community organizations, such as Project KARE and the Children’s Network of Stark County, to be shared during their special events and fundraisers.

Foster Parent Directory - Submit Your Information

If you forgot to submit your information for the first edition - don't worry! You can still be included in future editions. Simply email Rachel.Koller@jfs.ohio.gov and include your phone #, email address, and a current photo.