

Educational Excellence

During the month of December, we will continue to focus on our second objective which is to gain and acquire facts about our Foster Care initiative which is the word **Knowledge**.

Share this **Knowledge** about the Foster Care Process with members in your OSO Chapter during your monthly meetings so that they are provided with these important facts.

Did You Know That....

- There are 19,000 Foster Children/Youth in Ohio. The majority of those children/youth are placed into Foster Care due to neglect, physical abuse, parental substance abuse or abandonment concerns.
- Almost 40% of children/youth in Foster Care will remain in Foster Care for more than 2 years; Nearly one fourth of the children/youth who are in Foster Care environments will experience three or more placements while in care.
- When children/youth are removed from unsafe environments and are placed in temporary Foster Care placement about 80% have no medical information and have few or no personal items to transport with them.
- As we approach this Holiday season, Children in Foster Care sometimes feel the separation from their biological families. Your Chapter might want to explore and investigate ways that they can share with children and youth who are in Foster Care environments by sending gloves, hats, socks, books, scarfs or other items to a Salvation Army or a Foster Care Agency in your area.

Continue to watch for more facts about 'Foster Care in Ohio' next month so that we can continue to gain and acquire information about the needs of children and youth in our communities.

Melodie McGee, Chair