

Mission Moment: Parent Youth Ambassadors (PYAs)

>>> **Mission Moment:** As part of a new Ohio Department of Children and Youth initiative, the Early Childhood Resource Center (ECRC) recently added a pair of Parent and Youth Ambassadors to the ECRC staff. Parent and Youth Ambassadors are a part of Ohio's Child Care Resource and Referral network and serve as connectors, guiding families through challenges related to child care, foster/kinship care, adoption support, maternal wellness, homelessness, and more. As individuals with lived experience dealing with social systems, Parent and Youth Ambassadors play an essential role in helping families navigate state and local services and identify needed benefits and resources. Families receive support without judgement, and all referrals are provided free of charge.

"We are thrilled to be able to now offer this additional streamlined and much-needed support to families across our six-county service area," ECRC Executive Director Angela Moses shared. "This partnership with the Department of Children and Youth enhances the existing services our organization provides and addresses the critical need for holistic support for caregivers. The real-world experience our Parent and Youth Ambassadors bring to this role allows them to make real connections with families that make a real impact."

You can visit the ECRC website for [more information on Parent and Youth Ambassadors](#).



call **844-234-KIDS (5437)**

SDA 4 **SERVING:** MAHONING, MEDINA, PORTAGE,
STARK, SUMMIT, & TRUMBULL COUNTIES

Parent and Youth Ambassadors provide a single, in-person resource that will allow families to have their questions answered and access the support needed quickly. PYAs will respond to inquiries (phone, email, in-person) by providing assistance for concrete supports, service referrals, and benefit navigation.

CONTACT US

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TO LEARN MORE PLEASE VISIT:

Early Childhood Resource Center
ecresourcecenter.org
 Ohio Department of Children & Youth
childrenandyouth.ohio.gov

