

# RTC News

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The East Central Ohio Regional Training Center and the NE Region of the Ohio Human Services Training System (NEOHSTS) both operate under the umbrella of Guernsey County Children Services. In March 2015, the RTC became the second Regional Training Center in Ohio to model this concept (the other one is SWORTC). Many of you know that the OCWTP is primarily responsible for training staff and caregivers in the Child Welfare System in Ohio. Many of you may not know that the OHSTS program is primarily responsible for training the Adult Protection staff in Ohio.

Many of the Adult Protection staff are employed by Job and Family Services, and in some cases they are a caseworker for both systems. In other cases they are employees of other organizations or community partners, which makes the OHSTS system very unique and innovative. According to Brian Wear, with ECORTC and NEOHSTS under one administrative umbrella, "It's a great way to collaborate and streamline processes to bring the best training to both systems." Brian Wear has stated "the collaboration far outweighs the challenges and it's good for the taxpayers to have this type of operation to reduce duplication costs and increase efficiency."



The Northeast Ohio Regional Training Center gathered on a beautiful fall day on Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> for their annual retreat. Six counties were in attendance along with Kyle Hoffman (IHS), Michelle Wolcott (Northeast Ohio Adoption Services) and Chris Cross and Gina Callender from the North Central Ohio Regional Training Center. During the retreat we talked about new trainings, got an update on Normalcy training for foster caregivers and an update on the OCWTP retreat. Congratulations went out to Mahoning County and Lorain County for their COA reaccreditation. We ended the day with a three-hour training "Removed: Strategies for Hope and Healing for Youth in Care" presented by John Ward, our Trainer of the Year.

NEORTC would like to pass on to our trainers that we are slowly phasing out the capacity to provide VCR usage at our Training Center. One of our VCRs is no longer working, and as a result, one of our training rooms will no longer have VCR capabilities as we are not replacing them. If you are coming to train at NEORTC, please let us know if you need access to a VCR and we will schedule you in a room that has one. Trainers should consider whether any of the videos they show on VCR are available in DVD format.



The Northwest Ohio Regional Training Center hosted a Caregiver Conference on October 22-23 at the Ramada Inn in Toledo. The conference offered a tremendous amount of caregiver training. Contact Rebecca Battles at 419-213-3447 or [rebecca.battles@co.lucas.oh.us](mailto:rebecca.battles@co.lucas.oh.us) for more information.



The Southeast Ohio Regional Training Center bid farewell to our Office Manager, Carmen Mitchell, on July 24, 2015. Carmen has returned to a position she held at Athens County Department of Job and Family Services prior to joining the SEORTC team. We are grateful to have Sherry Davis as our interim Office Manager “on loan” from Athens County Children Services. SEORTC plans to hire a part time Office Assistant very soon-stay tuned!

We want to extend our thanks to Stacey Saunders-Adams, IHS, who recently spent an afternoon with SEORTC staff to provide an overview of CAPMIS and SACWIS.

SEORTC hosted their first “Fall Foster Parent Training Blitz” on October 15, 16 & 17. Thanks to our colleagues at NEORTC for this great idea!



Denise Orchard joined the Southwest Ohio Regional Training Center team on July 20, 2015 as the new director.

In September 2015 SWORTC hosted their annual Foster Parent conference which was very well attended with positive feedback from the foster parents. Kudos to all the trainers: Joan Dostal, Eugene Smiley, Jody Johnston-Pawel, Brandy Pendleton and Key Note Speaker Denise Goodman. They all made the weekend conference a huge success!

In October, Stacey Hatte worked closely with Butler County to develop their first inaugural foster parent conference. It was also a success with a great turn out. Good Job Stacey! Special thanks to the trainers: Arleta James, Jody Johnston-Pawel, Cheryl Reber, and Victoria Solomon.



The Western Ohio Regional Training Center teamed up with Montgomery County Children Services to put on a Psychotropic Medication Symposium on September 17, 2015. The Symposium was held at Sinclair College in Dayton. Attending were members of the 13 counties who are part of an ODJFS Efficiency and Innovation Grant. Six of the 13 counties in the Western Region are participating in this grant.

Presenting at the Symposium were experts in the fields of Psychiatry and Social Work: Dr. Eileen McGee, Dr. Rick Smith, Dr. Joshua Lorenz, and OCWTP trainer Stacey Simera. The focus was on ways to manage and provide oversight to foster youth in the custody of county agencies who are prescribed psychotropic medications.