



# OHIO Youth Advisory Board YOUTH TRACK

## New specialized Training Just for Foster Youth at the 2008 PCSAO Conference!

PCSAO has partnered with the Overcoming Hurdles in Ohio (OHIO) Youth Advisory Board to host a one-day Youth Track on September 18, 2008 at the PCSAO Conference. OHIO YAB is a statewide organization of young people (aged 14-23), who have experienced foster care that work across the state to advocate for changes in the child welfare system to improve the experiences of other foster youth. You can find out more about OHIO YAB, including their recommendations for foster care, on their website at [www.pcsao.org/ohioyouth](http://www.pcsao.org/ohioyouth).

The Youth Track will allow for foster youth from across the state to participate in three workshops provided by nationally renowned organizations. Youth Track participants will also attend the conference luncheon at which Rising Up and Moving On winners from across the state will be recognized. The Youth Track will run congruent with workshops being offered to child welfare professionals to allow for both foster youth and their caseworkers to attend the conference on the same day. PCSAO and OHIO YAB strongly encourage PCSAs to consider registering their youth for this statewide conference as this will be an excellent opportunity for them to learn more about the child welfare system and share their experiences with other foster youth.

## OHIO YAB Youth Track Schedule

Thursday, September 18, 2008

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. **Registration** – Youth will receive their registration for the conference, be able to meet with OHIO YAB officers, as well as other foster youth and have identification cards made by FosterClub.

9:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. **Workshop A. Foster Care 411** – Think you know foster care? Think again! This workshop takes on the form of a game show, engaging participants in lively discussion about how foster care works. Questions range from the wacky to the serious, and participants have an opportunity to develop their own questions to build on to the Foster Care 411 Challenge. While the FosterClub All-Stars may not have answers to the questions, young people will learn through their role modeling that it's okay to ask questions and that it pays off to become more involved in their case plan, to ask questions to gain information, and that everyone can benefit from better self-advocacy skills.

**Presenter:** Foster Club All-Stars – Former or transitioning foster youth selected from across the country to serve a summer internship with FosterClub and assist in planning, facilitating and evaluating FosterClub's Teen Conference U.S. Tour. Each FosterClub All-Star will demonstrate leadership qualities and an ability to connect with peers. FosterClub is the National network for young people in foster care.

11:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. **Luncheon and Awards**

1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. **Workshop B. What's Love Got to Do With It?** – Do you think teen pregnancy rates are up or down in our country? Who most influences your decisions about sex and relationships? What advice would you give to your friends about preventing teen pregnancy? This session will provide some background information on teen pregnancy and what you can do in your community to become involved. A facilitator will lead participants through a discussion on sex, love, and relationships.

**Presenter:** Kristen Tertzakian is the Assistant Director for State and Local Outreach at the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy. In this capacity, Kristen provides technical assistance to states and communities on programs and policy. She conducts training and outreach for the CDC-funded project, Putting What Works To Work and manages the National Campaign's project on teen pregnancy prevention for foster care youth.

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. **Workshop C. Making a Difference for Our Brothers and Sisters From Care** – Learn about the national alumni movement—people who share the foster care experience coming together to make a difference for the ones who come after us in foster care. This workshop gives examples from across the United States of how young people and alumni are influencing foster care practice and policy—and how you can be part of the national alumni movement! You will have a clearer understanding of your place of belonging in the community of 12 million of us who are alumni of the US foster care system, and you will know that your older brothers and sisters are looking out for you too, laying a foundation, side-by-side with your brothers and sisters from foster care, to make a lasting difference.

**Presenter:** Misty Stenslie, Deputy Director at Foster Care Alumni of America, brings multiple perspectives and a great deal of experience and commitment. Her professional experience has included work as a clinical social worker for young people in treatment foster care and their families, county child protection services, advocacy and community organizing around foster care issues, and training foster/adoptive/kinship caregivers and professionals. In addition to her years of professional experience with and on behalf of people in and from foster care, Misty spent most of her own childhood in foster care, experiencing about 30 placements.



# 2008 Youth Track Registration

**Please note:** Registration is open to current and former foster youth between the ages of 14 and 23. There are a total of 45 slots open for the Youth Track, and everyone is encouraged to register as soon as possible. The final deadline for registration is 08/29/08. The cost for this one day Youth Track is \$50.

### YOUTH PERSONAL INFORMATION (Please print or type.)

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Address \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization/Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Caseworker: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby grant permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to attend the OHIO YAB Youth Track on 9/18/08 and participate in related workshops. In addition I also grant permission for photographs (for promotional purposes) to be taken during the conference.

Youth Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

### **REGISTRATION FEES AND PAYMENT**

Youth Track Registration: \$50.00.

- Bill my agency, at above address.
- Payment enclosed.

### **SPECIAL NEEDS – PLEASE CHECK ALL APPLY**

- I prefer vegetarian meals.
- I need special accommodations.  
(Please contact us as soon as possible.)

**CANCELLATION** - A refund will be given on cancellations received by September 5, 2008. No refund will be given after this date. You may send a substitute. Please let us know in advance.

Are you interested in being added to the OHIO YAB email list in order to receive updates regarding activities and meetings for current and former foster youth?

- Yes
- No

Would you like to receive a phone call from an OHIO YAB member to receive more information regarding OHIO YAB?

- Yes
- No

Please send your registration with payment or billing arrangement by August 29, 2008.

#### Mail to:

Attn: OHIO YAB, Youth Track Registration  
510 E. Mound St., Suite 200, Columbus, OH 43215

#### Fax to:

Attn: Kelly Knight, 614-228-5150

#### Questions:

all 614-224-5802  
or E-mail [kelly@pcsao.org](mailto:kelly@pcsao.org).

Update on the 2008 PCSAO Annual Conference, please visit :

<http://www.pcsao.org/AnnualConference.htm>

More information on OHIO YAB, please visit:

<http://www.pcsao.org/ohioyouth.htm>