

**OHIO SUMMIT ON CHILDREN  
65 South Front Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3431**

**Post Summit Planning Form**

County Name: **Scioto County Post Summit Committee**  
Contact Name: **Judge James W. Kirsch**  
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**What are the top five issues affecting the safety, well-being and permanent home environment of children?**

1. Substance Abuse
2. Employment – culture of poverty
3. Untreated mental health
4. Crime and family violence
5. Dysfunctional families, lack of parenting skills, teen pregnancy
6. Lack of safe and affordable housing

**What are the top five strengths and/or resources in your community?**

1. Strong social services system – collaboration
2. Public support – tax levies
3. Good community education
4. Natural beauty of area
5. Presence of faith-based agencies (churches)

**What are the top five challenges facing your community?**

1. Motivating local government to address community needs of unemployment, poverty, social needs of families and children

2. Poverty and unemployment
3. Crime, drug abuse and trafficking
4. Recruitment and retention of qualified staff
5. Shrinking funds to support public services

**What are the top five most-needed services for children and families?**

1. Accessible health care, mental health and MRDD
2. Lack of specialized services for youth with special needs, autism, MRRD, mental health, educational
3. Supported employment opportunities for kids transitioning out of families
4. Foster care, therapeutic foster care
5. Early intervention and early childhood development

**What action steps will be taken locally to develop needed services or address local challenges?**

1. Explore option of agencies with health care grants to include abuse, neglect, dependency kids
2. Explore developing Family Court
3. Provide services in alternative settings such as school based services
4. Grant opportunities to support social programming in school settings
5. Summit Core Group - expand scope to explore grant opportunities, expand services, engage local government entities, community, grant writers, Steve Wells, Jennifer Hanley, Mrs. Kizer

**Beyond funding, what action does the county need from the state to help the county achieve its action plan?**

1. Repeal unrealistic regulations which waste precious resources locally and hinder performance
2. Provide flexible funding to establish cooperative, collaborative programs within the community