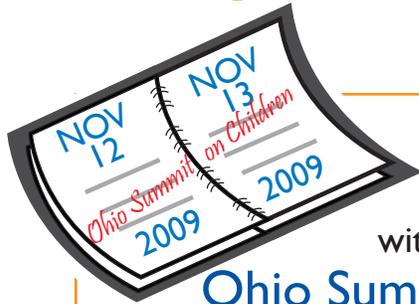




# Ohio Summit on Children

## ACTION UPDATE ■ FEB 2009



Mark your calendar  
NOW

with plans to attend the

### Ohio Summit on Children

NOV. 12 & 13, 2009

MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT  
[www.summitonchildren.ohio.gov](http://www.summitonchildren.ohio.gov)

### THINK 'TEAM' NOW

How is your team shaping up for the 2009 Ohio Summit on Children? Have you been meeting regularly with the same group you brought to Columbus? Or has your team brought in different stakeholders who are making contributions you had not foreseen? Now is the time to start thinking about who will join you in November.

Hotel accommodations, meals and parking are complimentary for your original five team members or substitute members to the team of five.

Counties may include up to three additional team members as space permits, provided the counties are responsible for the additional costs associated with extra hotel accommodations and parking.

More information will be available as registration, which opens Aug. 1, nears. 

Your Post-Summit County Plan is your voice to state leaders as they prepare for November. Don't miss your chance to be heard ... Submit your plan today. For more on county plans, see page 2.

### COUNTY PROFILE | Lorain



A laser-sharp focus on helping children who need it most resulted from the Lorain County Summit on Children.

Domestic Relations/Juvenile Court Judge Debra L. Boros said 19 staff members from five agencies first met

in September and now hold monthly meetings. Direct service providers, supervisors and managers from the five agencies participate.

“The focus of the series of summits is to develop profiles of the 5 percent of children we serve that we do not feel achieve good outcomes,” Boros said.

To better serve these children and their families, the group will develop recommendations for individual and cross-system policy/process change, new strategies and possible services. There also are plans to host a panel or series of panels of parents, youth and educators to get more ideas for reaching this group.

Besides focusing agency efforts toward a common goal, Boros said the first local summit was valuable for other reasons. “It provided a chance for people, who normally do not discuss policy and big picture ideas, to give their perspective and input. It’s also an opportunity to dispel myths and find common ground from which to work.”

As for the upcoming state Summit, Boros said the group favors topics centered on grant opportunities, innovative programming and the mechanics of different collaborative operations. 

## RULES MOST COMMONLY CITED NEED

The Post-Summit County Plan asks, “Beyond funding, what action does the county need from the state to help the county achieve its action plan?” The plans submitted to date have answered as follows:

**RULES** — Simplify/eliminate rules; support collaboration; reduce administrative burden; address inconsistent rules; advocate for system reform.

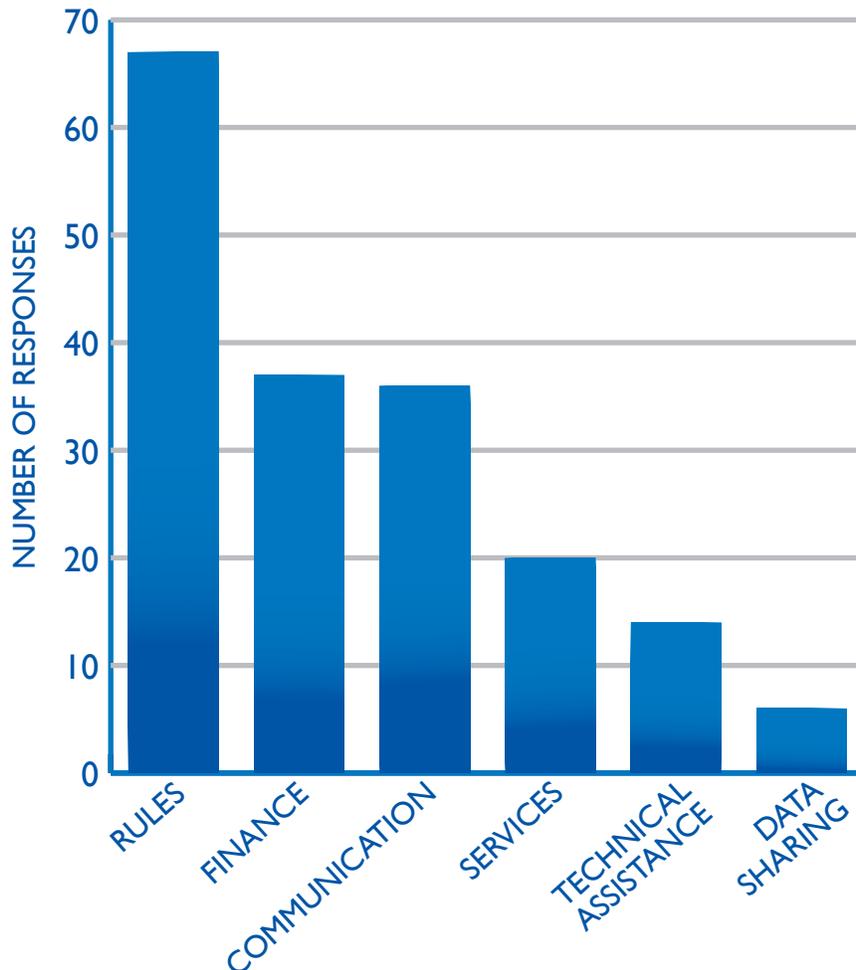
**FINANCE** — Flexible funding (dollars follow family, not services); no unfunded mandates; reduce requirements (burden) for accessing funds; reinvest dollars saved from good performance; equitable distribution of existing funds.

**COMMUNICATION** — Disseminate knowledge among communities; unify vision/synchronize communication from state agencies; cross-system release of information; include more partners at the table (e.g., ODADAS, ODOD, ODMH, ODJFS, ODE, FCF, Governor’s Office).

**SERVICES** — Education; basic living standards; evidence-based models; mental health; substitute care; regional service development.

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE** — Create a system for counties to access technical assistance; free training on child and family issues; program-specific training and technical assistance; help with intersystem relations and functioning.

**DATA SHARING** — Data sharing; measurement.



In order to more fully understand information contained in the Post-Summit Planning Forms, the Summit Planning Committee will conduct follow-up telephone interviews with county team contacts through April 24. In preparation for these interviews please review the Post-Summit Planning Forms submitted on behalf of your county team. We are particularly interested in identifying specific laws, rules and policies that you feel are an impediment to your work. We are also interested in learning more about your successes as you implement your plans. We will call the person identified as the county contact on your submitted form.

Questions? Contact Steve Hanson of the Supreme Court at 614.387.9387.