

Lake County Department of Job and Family Services Kinship/Relative Resource Guide

Introduction

Raising a child comes with many joys but for individuals raising a relative or a friend's child (also known as kinship care), it can also create many unexpected burdens. This resource guide has been developed to help answer many of your questions regarding available services in Lake County including financial, legal, educational, and supportive resources which may be available to you.

The Lake County Department of Job and Family Services is committed to assisting you with this undertaking. If you have questions about the information provided in this guide or need assistance in initiating services, please do not hesitate to contact Eugene Tetrick at Eugene.Tetrick@jfs.ohio.gov or (440) 350-4260.



CHILDREN GROW BETTER IN FAMILIES

Financial Resources

Caregivers may be eligible for assistance programs through the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to help meet the needs of the child in their care. Some of these programs are specific to relatives of the child. Some of these programs do not consider the caregiver's income in determining eligibility. Below is a description of income maintenance assistance programs.

Ohio Works First- Cash Assistance for Relatives Caring for Children

This is a cash assistance program available to assist caregivers in providing for children who are relatives. The caregiver's income is not considered for the OWF-Cash Assistance program. In order to be considered for assistance through this program, relatives must submit an application for assistance in the county where the caregiver resides. A link to this application is provided below. For questions regarding this program in Lake County, please call (440) 350-4000.

Kinship Permanency Incentive Program (KPI)

The Kinship Permanency Incentive Program was created to support children in the homes of relatives or friends who have committed to caring for them when birth parents cannot. The KPI program provides cash payments for children in the legal custody or guardianship of the caregiver. Some families will not be eligible for this program. In order for a caregiver to be eligible for this program, a court must have issued an order granting legal custody or legal guardianship to the caregiver on or after July 1, 2005. The child must be residing with the caregiver and the caregiver must be a resident of the state of Ohio. To qualify for KPI funds, the gross income of the caregiver's family cannot exceed 300% of the federal poverty guidelines. For example, the poverty guideline for a family of 3 is a gross family income below \$54,930. KPI payments are in addition to the Ohio Works First (OWF) case assistance received for the child. In order to be considered for this program, caregivers should submit an application in the county in which they reside. In Lake County, residents may call (440) 350-4311 with questions or to request an application.



Food Assistance

Assistance is provided for the purchase of food products by determining eligibility based upon family size and gross monthly income. To be considered for this program, relatives must submit an application for assistance in the county in which they reside. A link to this application is provided below. For questions regarding this program in Lake County, please call (440) 350-4000.



Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging

Caregivers who are 60 years of age or older may be eligible to receive one coupon set worth \$50.00 to redeem for fresh produce and honey through the Ohio Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program. The purpose of this program is to improve the nutritional health of low-income older adults and to increase business for local farmers throughout Ohio. You may be eligible if you have an annual income of \$20,035 or less. Applications for the program are available at WRAAA authorized senior centers. For more information you can call 216-621-0303 or visit their website at www.psa10a.org.

Child Care

Assistance may be provided to subsidize the cost of child care to eligible families with children under age 12 whose caretaker(s) are employed, attending school or cooperating with their self sufficiency contract. Over 70 licensed child care centers in Lake, Ashtabula, Geauga and Cuyahoga counties are under contract with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services for the purpose of providing subsidized child care. To be considered for this program, relatives must submit an application for assistance in the county in which they reside. A link to this application is provided below. For questions regarding Day Care eligibility in Lake County, please call (440) 350-4483 or (440) 918-4483.



Medical

Medical assistance may be available to relative providers for the children in their care regardless of the family's income. Benefits may include medical coverage for physician office visits, prescriptions, and hospitalization. To be considered for this program, relatives must submit an application for assistance in the county in which they reside. A link to this application is provided below. For questions regarding this program in Lake County, please call (440) 350-4000.

The following link provides access to the application for the above mentioned assistance programs: <http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/forms/inter.asp>

Click on form number and enter 7200 in search box

To request an application be mailed to you, please call (440) 350-4483 or (440) 918-4483.

Other Assistance Programs

PCSAO (Grandparent Caregiver Affidavit)

House Bill 130 created legal documentation to assist Grandparent Caregivers who are caring for children without any court involvement or custody paperwork. When properly completed, notarized and filed with the court, these forms will assist grandparents in enrolling grandchildren in school and participating as the parent; accessing routine and emergency medical and dental care. Follow <http://www.pcsao.org/KinshipSupports.htm> to obtain these forms.

211



You can dial 2-1-1 from any landline phone to speak with an information and referral specialist who can help you find answers for questions regarding community services and connect you with area resources that may be able to offer assistance in a wide range of areas from housing and food to support groups and counseling services. The service is free and available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. 2-1-1 is not an emergency line. If you have an emergency you should call 9-1-1 immediately. 2-1-1 is the result of a collaborative effort among community partners including United Way of Lake County, the Lake County ADAMHS Board, and the Lake County Commissioners.

Salvation Army

Salvation Army sites are located throughout Lake County and offer social, recreational, and supportive services to individuals and families. Services include a food pantry, clothing room, emergency financial assistance, as well as an after-school tutoring program. For more information in Lake County, call (440) 354-3774.

Catholic Charities Services

Emergency services are available to assist with rental/mortgage assistance and food (Food Force) to individuals in need of emergency food resources. For more information in Lake County, call (440) 352-6191 or (440) 946-7264

Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC)

The purpose of the WIC program is to provide eligible women, infants and children within Lake County with supplemental food and nutritional counseling for children up to age 5. Eligibility guidelines are based on the gross earnings of the household.



For more information in Lake County contact:

Central

33 Mill Street
Painesville, Ohio 44077
440) 350-2552

East

33 East Main Street
Madison, Ohio 44057
(440) 428-2003

West

37111 Euclid Avenue
Willoughby, Ohio 44094
(440)269-8790

Social Security Administration

The Social Security Administration can offer help in applying for social security benefits and/or supplemental security income as well as information on obtaining a social security card, retirement, disability, and Medicare benefits. Children with a mental and/or physical disability which severely limits their activities may be eligible for disability benefits through the Social Security Administration. Caregivers can obtain more information by visiting www.ssa.gov or calling (800) 772-1213.

Lake County Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA)

The Lake Metropolitan Housing Authority assists families in finding affordable and safe housing through two federal housing programs: Housing Choice Voucher Program (formally Section 8) and the Public Housing Program. Under these programs low-income families may have the security they need to achieve economic self-sufficiency

189 First Street, Painesville, OH 44077

Phone: (440) 354-3347

www.lakehousing.org

Lake County Legal Resources

Lake County Probate Court

The Lake County Probate Court hears and oversees cases such as guardianship, adoption, and name changes for Lake County. Court forms are available on the website:

www2.lakecountyohio.org/probate

Lake County Court of Common Pleas, Probate Division

25 North Park Place

Painesville, OH 44077

(440) 350-2626



Lake County Juvenile Court

The Lake County Juvenile Court oversees cases concerning any person under eighteen years old who is alleged to be a juvenile traffic offender, delinquent, unruly, abused, neglected, or dependent in Lake County. Juvenile Court also has jurisdiction in adult cases involving paternity, child abuse, non-support, contributing to the delinquency of minors, and failure to send children to school.

53 E. Erie Street

Painesville, OH 44077

(440) 350-3000

www.lakecountyohio.gov/juvenile

Lake-Geauga Legal Aid

Lake-Geauga Legal Aid is a non-profit agency providing free legal assistance to low income residents of Lake and Geauga counties. Lake-Geauga Legal Aid is part of The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland.

Key Bank Building

8 North State St., Room #300

Painesville, OH 44077

(440) 352-6200

Toll Free: 1-888-808-2800

www.lasclev.org

Fair Housing Resource Center

The Fair Housing Resource Center (FHRC), Inc. offers housing programs for residents of Lake County. The mission of Fair Housing Resource Center is to promote equal housing opportunities for all persons and to advocate for fair housing and diversity in Lake and surrounding counties through the education and involvement of the public, the governments, and the business community. FHRC operates a Landlord/Tenant hotline service to county residents to assist them with their housing rights. FHRC also operates a fair housing intake complaint service for victims of housing discrimination. FHRC is a Housing Counseling agency certified by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and provides homeowner counseling such as foreclosure prevention, predatory lending, home financing and repairs.



70 West Erie Street, Suite 260
Painesville, OH 44077
Phone (440) 392-0147
Toll Free (866) 411-3472
TTY Line (440) 392-0148
www.fairhousingresourcecenter.org/

Additional Support for Kinship Caregivers

GrandsPlace

GrandsPlace offers grandparents and other caregivers an opportunity to reach out to others for support in a safe and accepting environment. GrandsPlace is not a legal service and cannot offer legal advice; however, they can offer knowledge, advice and a sympathetic ear because they have been where you are.

www.grandsplace.org

Ohio Resource Guide for Relatives Caring for Children

The Ohio Resource Guide provides kinship caregivers with information on finding help with expenses, medical services for the caregiver as well as their children, education and legal services for the state.

<http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/forms/inter.asp> Click form number and enter 8146 in search box.

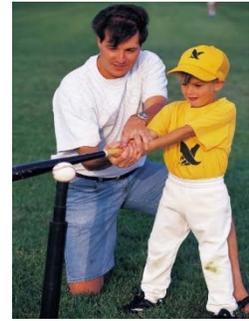
Lake County Council on Aging

The Lake County Council on Aging services those who are 60 years of age and older. They provide support, information and referral, and a variety of other services such as nutrition and safety education as well as computer training.

8520 East Avenue
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 205-8111
www.lcco.org/index

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Big Brothers Big Sisters offers an array of programs including a community and school based programs where children are specifically matched with an adult volunteer mentor. The community based program accepts children ages 6-15 and the school based program offers after school and Lunch Buddy programs to children in grades 3-5. Programs are available at no cost to families.



Painesville Administrative Office
8 North State Street
Suite 360
Painesville, OH 44077
440-352-2526
www.bbbsneo.org

Medical Services and Wellness

Lake County General Health District



The Health District offers a variety of low cost medical services for children including physical examinations, immunizations, developmental screenings, hearing and speech screenings, and nutritional counselling.

33 Mill St.
Painesville, OH 44077
(440) 350-2554

Lake Health Systems

Lake Health Systems mission is "to provide comprehensive health care services to the residents of Lake County and neighboring communities in partnership with those who share a commitment to local access, healing with compassion and superior quality.

Lake West Medical Center

36000 Euclid Avenue
Willoughby, Ohio 44094
(440) 953-9600

Mentor Campus

9485 Mentor Avenue
Mentor, Ohio 44060-4554
(440) 974-6800

Chardon Campus

510 Fifth Avenue
Chardon, Ohio 44024
(440) 286-8908

Tri Point Hospital

7590 Auburn Rd.
Concord, Ohio 44077
(440) 375-8100

Madison Campus

6270 North Ridge Road
Madison, Ohio 44057-2581
(440) 428-6800

Willowick Campus

29804 Lakeshore Blvd.
Willowick, Ohio 44095-4623
(440) 585-3322

Tyler Urgent Care
7956 Tyler Blvd.
Mentor, Ohio 44060-4995
(440) 255-6400

Perry Walk-In Center
Two Success Blvd.
Perry, OH 44081
(440) 375-8590

Rehabilitation & Wellness
6000 Heisley Road
Mentor, Ohio 44060-1836
(440) 352-1200

Painesville Quick Care Center
74 South Park Place
Painesville, OH 44077
440-354-3887

Return-to-work
Occupational Rehab
(440) 639-4369

Mental Health Agencies

Oftentimes, children and their caregivers encounter extraordinary circumstances which may require additional services for support, counseling, and behavior management. Below is a list of local counseling agencies in the community which can provide services to children and their caregivers.

Catholic Charities Services

Mental Health counseling services are available to address relationship issues, challenges and stressors. Hispanic services are available including community outreach, leadership development, juvenile court intervention and community networking. www.clevelandcatholiccharities.org/cccs/lake.htm

8 North State Street Suite #455
Painesville, Ohio 44077
(440) 352-6191 or (440) 946-7264

Crossroads

Crossroads provides early childhood programs, school-based interventions, community support and home-based services, individual and family counseling services, a therapeutic alternative school, therapeutic foster and respite care, and child psychiatry to children and adolescents.

www.crossroads-lake.org

Main office:

8445 Munson Road
Mentor, Ohio 44060
(440) 255-1700
(440) 205-2444 (Spanish line)
(440) 205-6580 (TTY)

Crossroads Early Childhood Services office:

The early childhood office offers support, parent/caregiver education, and treatment for children from birth to five years of age and their caregivers. Services can be provided in the home as well as in the community.

1083 Mentor Ave.
Painesville, Ohio 44077
(440) 358-7370

Signature Health



Signature Health is a community-based agency who provides services to adults, children, adolescents and their families with mental health and/or substance abuse problems. Services include diagnostic assessments, outpatient/inpatient counseling and case management among others. Signature Health services are available through Lake, Ashtabula and Cuyahoga County. www.signaturehealthinc.com

Lake County

38879 Mentor Ave., Suite
C
Willoughby, OH 44094
(440) 953-9999

Cuyahoga County

15105 Broadway Ave.
Maple Hts., OH 44137
(216) 663-6100

Ashtabula County

4200 Park Ave., 2nd Floor
Ashtabula, OH 44004
(440) 992-8552

Western Reserve Counseling

Western Reserve Counseling serves those living in Lake, Ashtabula and Geauga Counties. They provide a vast array of services to children, adolescents and adults including individual, premarital/marital, family and anger management counseling as well as parent education and group counseling. Family counseling is also offered.

Victoria Place on the Park
One Victoria Square, Suite 105
Painesville, OH 44077
(440) 352-8954

Educational and Early Intervention Services

Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities Broadmoor School

The Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities provides a broad range of services to individuals in the community with mental retardation and/or developmental disabilities including employment and vocational services as well as educational services. Broadmoor School serves children from birth to 3 years of age through the Help Me Grow program, children 3 to 5 years old through the integrated pre-school program, and children 6 through 22 years of age in the school age program.

www.lakemrdd.org/

Administrative Offices:
8121 Deepwood Blvd.
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 350-5100

Broadmoor School:
8090 Broadmoor Rd.
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 602-1000

Help Me Grow



Help Me Grow supports the well being of young children and their caregivers through home based specialized service, parent/caregiver education, and linkage to other community services. Services offered include: child developmental screenings including vision, hearing and nutrition; home visitation services for case management and parent/caregiver education; referrals to community services; and full comprehensive developmental evaluations for children with medical diagnosis or suspected developmental delays. Services are free to qualifying families.

*Early Intervention services are offered in partnership with the Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

Central Intake: (440) 350-2433

<http://www.lcghd.org/FormattedText.asp?IncludedPageID=4403>

Lake-Geauga United Head Start

Head Start is a preschool program for children ages 3 to 5 years old with an emphasis on preparing children for kindergarten. Children are individually assessed by trained early education staff to determine their developmental and educational needs. Additional services are available to meet the needs of children with disabilities such as speech and occupational therapies as well as vision and hearing accommodations. Services are also available to children and their caregivers in the home to address developmental, emotional, and/or behavioral needs. There are three sites in Lake County and one site in Geauga County.



Head Start Central Office/Painesville Center

350 Cedarbrook Drive
Painesville, Ohio 44077
(440) 392-5636
(866) 407-3452 (Toll free)
www.lguhs.org

Lake County Libraries

A variety of free and low cost services and programs are available to children and their caregivers in addition to no-cost library memberships. Check with your local library for more details.



Eastlake Public Library

36706 Stevens Blvd.
Eastlake, OH 44095
(440) 942-7880
we247.org/

Fairport Public Library

335 Vine Street
Fairport Harbor, OH 44077
(440) 354-8191
www.fairport.lib.oh.us/

Kirtland Family History Center Library

7866 Kirtland Chardon Road
Kirtland, OH 44094
(440) 256-1257
www.familysearch.org

Kirtland Public Library

9267 Chillicothe Road
Kirtland, OH 44094
(440) 256-7323
www.kirtland.lib.oh.us/

Madison Public Library

6111 Middle Ridge Road
Madison, OH 44057
(440) 428-2189
www.madison.lib.oh.us

Mentor Public Library

8215 Mentor Avenue
Mentor, OH 44060
(44) 255-8811
www.mentor.lib.oh.us/

Morley Library

184 Phelps Street
Painesville, OH 44077
(440) 352-3383
www.morleylibrary.org

Perry Public Library

3753 Main Street
Perry, OH 44081
(440) 259-3300
www.perrypubliclibrary.org/

Wickliffe Public Library

1713 Lincoln Road
Wickliffe, OH 44092
(440) 944-6010
www.wickliffe.lib.oh.us

Willoughby Public Library

30 Public Square
Willoughby, OH 44094
(440) 942-3200
we247.org/

Willoughby Hills Public Library

35400 Chardon Road
Willoughby Hills, OH 44092
(440) 942-3362
we247.org/

Willowick Public Library

263 E. 305 St.
Willowick, OH 44095
(440) 943-4151
we247.org/

Recreational Services

YMCA of Lake County

Lake County YMCA offers a wide range of activities for infants to older adults. The YMCA centers are conveniently located in Painesville, Willoughby, Madison, and Perry. Membership assistance may be available to individuals and families who qualify based on income. Individuals and families in need of assistance with a membership can access an application online or request a membership assistance application at their local YMCA.



The Lake County YMCA sites offer summer day camp each summer for children 4 years of age through 8th grade. Camperships (scholarships) may be available to those families who qualify and can be applied for at your local YMCA branch. A resident (overnight) camp is also available for children in grades 3 through 9 at Camp Fitch. Camp Fitch scholarship applications are available for YMCA members and can be obtained online or at your local YMCA branch.

www.lakecountnymca.org

Community Recreational Centers

Many communities have local recreation departments offering sports, memberships to local swimming pools, summer day camps, and other recreational activities to residents. Assistance may be available for some of these programs based upon financial need. Check with your local recreation department for more details.

Willoughby Fine Arts Association:

38860 Mentor Ave.
Willoughby, OH 44094
(440) 951-7500

www.fineartsassociation.org



The Fine Arts Association is a gathering place for individuals to learn, create, enjoy and appreciate the arts. From ballet and portrait painting classes to piano lessons and theatre classes, The Fine Arts Association educates thousands of students in the arts each year. The Fine Arts Association also presents a full season of live performances and concerts at very reasonable prices. Financial need scholarships for programs may be available to those who qualify.

Recreational Services outside of Lake County

Children's Museum in Cleveland

The Children's Museum is the only institution in Cleveland completely dedicated to the overall development of children, ages birth to eight years, through family learning. The museum provides exhibits and programs that enhance child development by providing a place where tens of thousands of young children annually.

10730 Euclid Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44106
(216) 791-7114

www.clevelandchildrensmuseum.org

Great Lakes Science Center

The Great Lakes Science Center offers a wide range of hands-on experiences for children and their families. The center has over 400 exhibits, camps, field trips as well as great food and shopping.

601 Erieside Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44114
(216) 694-2000

www.glsc.org

Cleveland Metroparks Zoo

The Cleveland Metroparks Zoo offers children and their families a variety of educational opportunities to learn about wildlife.

3900 Wildlife Way
Cleveland, OH 44109
(216) 661-6500

www.clemet zoo.com

