

Working for Kentucky's Future - Our Children

How to Volunteer

Advocating for the dependent, neglected and abused children is an important and meaningful way to invest time and energy. To inquire about volunteering, contact the Division of Family Services at <u>CFCRB@kycourts.net</u>. You may also complete an application at the <u>Citizen Foster Care Review Board Homepage</u>.

Thousands of Kentucky children enter foster care each year due to dependency, neglect and abuse. Citizen Foster Care Review Board volunteers play an important role in protecting these children by reviewing the cases of each child in the custody of the <u>Department for Community Based Services</u> in the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

These cases include young people whose commitments have been extended, children placed for adoptions that have not been finalized, children who have been returned home but remain committed and young adults whose out-of-home commitments have been extended.

CFCRB volunteers provide recommendations to judges who make decisions about placing children in safe, permanent homes. Volunteers help ensure that permanency for at-risk children remains the central objective of the courts and the cabinet.

The <u>Kentucky General Assembly created the CFCRB in 1982</u> as a way to decrease the time children spend in foster care. The AOC's Division of Family Services oversees the program by providing support and education to CFCRB volunteers. The division is dedicated to eliminating racial inequities and injustices for the children and families served by the CFCRB.

There are review boards in all 120 counties and more than 750 dedicated volunteers statewide. Volunteers come from a variety of educational and professional backgrounds, but they all share a sincere concern for the welfare of children. The average length of service is six years, which demonstrates a long-term commitment to the children they serve.