

## NEW SERVICES AVAILABLE FOR KINSHIP FAMILIES THROUGH LICKING COUNTY JOB & FAMILY SERVICES

Licking County Job & Family Services (LCJFS) is pleased to announce additional assistance is now available for many Licking County kinship families through the agency's PRC plan. Kinship PRC Services are designed to provide support and assistance to relatives, legal guardians or caregivers of minor children who are not able to be cared for by their biological parents or stepparents.

LCJFS recognizes that when a child cannot be cared for in the parents' home, living with a relative is the best alternative for the child and the entire family. This arrangement allows families to ensure children in their care are safe and have a sense of belonging that maintains important family connections. The downside is that it can place an unexpected financial burden on family taking custody of the child, due to costs associated with caring for an additional person. LCJFS is pleased to be able to offer help and support in these situations.

Some of the services available include short-term assistance with rent, utilities, security deposits, transportation expenses, household items, family building activities, and youth educational activities.

In general to be eligible for PRC Kinship Services, an adult family member must have custody of a minor child living in their home and with their income falling at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guideline. Additional family composition, custody status, income, and other guidelines may be applicable.

To be considered for PRC, an application must be submitted to LCJFS. For more information about eligibility or to apply for PRC Kinship Services, please visit LCJFS at 74 South Second Street, Newark, or call Sandy Williams at 740.670.8735 or Eric Shaw at 740.670.8833.

PRC is a county administered program that provides assistance to eligible, low-income families in need through federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Family (TANF) funds. TANF is designed to reduce the dependence of needy families on public assistance, provide an environment in which children can be taken care of in their own homes or in the homes of relatives, to prevent out-of-wedlock pregnancy, and to promote the formation and maintenance of two parent families.