



LEADERSHIP AND LIFE SKILLS SUMMIT

Welcome to the 2026 Leadership and Life Skills Summit. We are happy you are here!

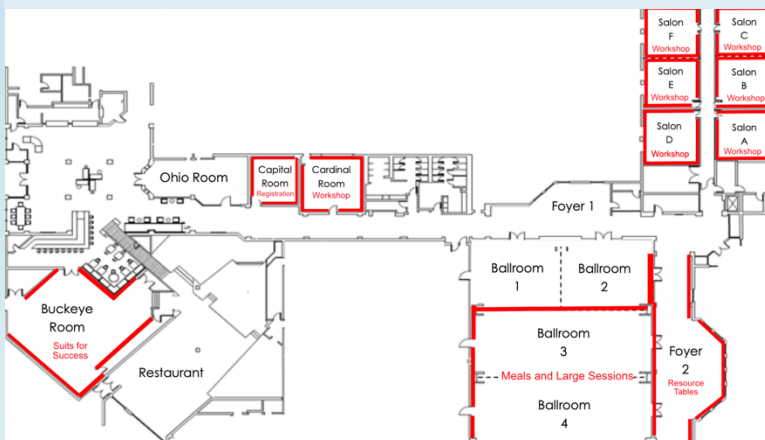
To reflect the value of lived experience, each workshop has incorporated the voices and input of current and/or former foster youth. This includes inviting Ohio foster care youth and alumni to serve as Workshop Presenters.

Many thanks to the Department of Children and Youth, the Ohio Children's Alliance and to each of our Summit presenters, registration support, and those manning resource tables. We appreciate those who supported the gathering, transport and distribution of Suits for Success, Buckeye Ranch for storing these items.

Speaking of Suits for Success, young people in and from foster care are invited to come to the Buckeye Room, try on professional clothing items and keep those they choose.

There is also a Wellness Area in the Cardinal Room. This is a safe space for young people to relax, create holistic jewelry, learn some yoga, decorate a washcloth, and breathe.

Below is a small map of the venue. Please don't hesitate to go to the Capital Room and ask for directions as needed. We hope you have an empowering and helpful experience today.



9:00 am

Arrival and Check In
Visit Resource Tables

9:30 am

Welcome and Purpose of Event
Ballrooms 3 & 4

Emcee Alexys Rose
Remarks from Deputy Director Van Deusen

10:00 am

Break Out Session A

11:00 am

Break Out Session B

Noon

Lunch
Ballrooms 3 & 4

1:00 pm

Break Out Session C

2:00 pm

Break Out Session D

3:00 pm

Youth Raffle, facilitated by The Ohana Project
Ballrooms 3 & 4

4:00 pm

Departure



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Youth and Young Adult Workshop Options

Break Out Session Options at 10 am and 11 am

- **BUCKEYE ROOM:** Suits for Success ~ *free professional clothing gathered by ACTION Ohio*
- **CARDINAL ROOM:** Wellness Area: Exhale ~ *Holly Jones, Angela Curtis and Shaneece Greene*
- **SALON A:** OHIO YAB Workshop on Youth Leadership ~ *Talia Holmes, OHIO YAB alumni supporter*
- **SALON B:** Your Money, Your Move ~ *Deanna Jones, foster care alumna and consultant*
- **SALON C:** Healthy Relationships ~ *Jaye Turner, foster care alumna and nonprofit founder*
- **SALON D:** Ohio Educational Training Vouchers ~ *Amanda Davis, Shy Halbert and Lauren Malone*

Break Out Session Options at 1 pm and 2 pm

- **BUCKEYE ROOM:** Suits for Success ~ *free professional clothing gathered by ACTION Ohio and DCY*
- **CARDINAL ROOM:** Wellness Area: Exhale ~ *Holly Jones, Angela Curtis and Addison Torrence*
- **SALON A:** Strategic Sharing ~ *Jaleshia Brown, foster care alumna and consultant*
- **SALON B:** Transportation ~ *Stacia Burlingame, Lisa Carlin and youth leaders*
- **SALON C:** Hidden Rules of Employment ~ *Eunique Averly, foster care alumna and Doctoral student*
- **SALON D:** College Resources ~ *Lucy Flowers of Ohio Reach and foster care alumna Gabriella Craft*

All Day Resource Tables:

- **FOYER 2:** Bridges, CCMEP, DCY, El'lesun, Emerge, ESSA, ETV, FosterHub, Fostering Achievement Network, Fostering Further (Hope Landing) Hope Bridge, I Am Boundless, Moab House, Nationwide Children's Hospital, The Ohana Project, Ohio Reach, and the Youth Ombudsman.

Adult Workshop Options

Break Out Session Options at 10 am and 11 am

- **SALON E:** Crucial Conversations in Child Welfare ~ *John Collins, foster care alumni & Franklin County CASA*
- **SALON F:** Independent Living Best Practices ~ *OHILA and DCY facilitated discussion (2x)*

Break Out Session Options at 1 pm and 2 pm

- **SALON E and F:** Resource Panel ~ *moderated by Kim Eckhart*

Afternoon Resource Panelists:

- **FosterHub:** *Michelle Mays*
- **Hope Bridge:** *Melanie Montgomery*
- **Hope Landing:** *Erin Miller*
- **Moab House:** *Marcie Consiglio and/or Lori Manteghi*