



## TUSCARAWAS COUNTY JOB & FAMILY SERVICES

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### Press Release

Tuscarawas County Job & Family Services recently received notice that it has been awarded an Efficiency and Innovation Grant from the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services.

This \$220,000 grant, which covers the period of January 1 to December 31 of 2015, will be used to create a position at the agency which will work with kinship families who have assumed the responsibility to care for children in the child protection system. It will be matched with existing Federal funding to bring the available resources to fund this program to over \$244,000. Kinship care providers are any family member or person with a connection to a child or family in the child protection system that agrees to maintain custody of a child on a short-term or more permanent basis.

In addition to funding the case worker position, other funds will be used to provide necessary services to kinship providers including respite care, daycare, counseling, and other basic needs. Placement of children in kinship care is best for children as it maintains family connections and minimizes the trauma of removal from their families of origin.

The agency was one of 51 proposals funded through the competitive grant process out of over 80 that were submitted. Anyone wishing to have more information on this program may contact Toni Anderson at (330) 339-7791, extension 240.