

Children's Services

Children's Services is the division of Hamilton County Department of Job and Family Services (HCJFS) that is legally responsible for taking reports of child abuse and neglect and dependency (241-KIDS), investigating reports, and acting to protect child victims and children at risk of harm.

Children's Services:

- Operates 241-KIDS, Hamilton County's 24-hour telephone hotline for reporting suspected child abuse and neglect
- Investigates allegations and transfers cases to Family Services – Ongoing units when children are found to be at significant risk of serious harm
- Involves families and community partners in making decisions affecting children
- Provides services to help families that include drug abuse treatment, emergency housing, mental health counseling, and parent training
- Places children in temporary care of relatives, foster parents or institutional settings when they cannot be safe in their own homes
- Seeks protective, temporary or permanent custody of children through Juvenile Court
- Recruits and trains foster and adoptive families
- Prepares children for adoption and arranges for post-adoption services to families
- Provides training in independent living skills for older teens

Who is eligible?

241-KIDS / Children's Services

Anyone can make a report of suspected child abuse or neglect to 241-KIDS. Children's Services is available to families and children when there is an identified risk for child abuse or neglect.

Foster Parent

Hamilton County JFS works with a variety of private agencies to provide foster care services for children in agency care. If you are interested in becoming a foster parent, please visit our web site at www.hckids.org and click on "If You are Interested in Fostering" under Quick Links.

Adoptive Parent

HCJFS Adoption will assist any adult interested in adopting a waiting child or in becoming an adoptive parent. For more information call (513) 632-6366 or visit www.hckids.org.

How do I apply?

Children's Services

No application is necessary. Children's Services and 241-KIDS works with Hamilton County families and children on an as needed basis.

Adoption and Foster Care

To become a licensed foster or adoptive parent, you must first complete 36 hours of training and submit an application. Classes are held at the Southwest Ohio Regional Training Center in Loveland, OH on a quarterly basis.

Contact Information

- To report an allegation of child abuse or neglect: **(513) 241-KIDS (241-5437)**
- To reach a Children's Services caseworker: **(513) 946-1000**
- To get information about foster or adoptive parenting: **(513) 632-6366**
- Online information about becoming an adoptive parent in Hamilton County: www.hckids.org
- Children available for adoption in Hamilton County: www.hckids.org