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Parents and Child Welfare Professionals to Improve Teamwork for More Successful Children

Cincinnati (April 7, 2010) Southwest Ohio foster and adoptive parents, along with child welfare workers, will learn the importance of operating as a cohesive unit to ensure the most positive outcomes for children at the Southwest Ohio Regional Training Center's 7th Annual Training Conference on April 16 and 17.

The conference will feature 28 different workshops for foster and adoptive parents. While the focus will be on serving children as a cohesive team, parents can benefit from workshops as diverse as "Extra Ordinary Parenting," "Overcoming Trauma: The Process of Recovery" and "Dealing with the Explosive Child."

Foster parents from Hamilton County who are transitioning their licenses to a private agency can attend the conference. Private agency foster parents can attend – after checking with their agency liaison -- if space is available. To register, visit www.ocwtp.com/swortc.htm. Registration closes Friday, April 9.

The conference will be held at the Holiday Inn Eastgate, 4501 Eastgate Boulevard. The workshops will all count toward the mandated training a foster parent must take for licensing. The conference's keynote address will be delivered by Bonnie Bazill Davis, who specializes in speaking about child abuse prevention.

The conference comes at a crucial time, with child welfare agencies throughout Ohio struggling to find adoptive and foster parents. Hamilton County has more than 200 children available for adoption, including many older youth. For more information about becoming an adoptive parent, visit www.hckids.org or call (513) 946-1000 and choose option 5.

About Hamilton County's Department of Job and Family Services

The Department of Job and Family Services administers federal, state and local programs for those in need. The Department helps with local child protection, elderly protection, child care, child support enforcement, workforce development, cash assistance, food assistance and Medicaid disbursement. Servicing Hamilton County since 1947, the Department helps hundreds of thousands each year and is accredited by the Council on Accreditation, an international, independent, not-for-profit child and family service accrediting organization.