



# Increase Access to Care for Youth Across Systems

Multi-System Youth refers to a child or young person with a significant mental or emotional disorder, addiction, and/or developmental delay who is involved or at risk of being involved with two or more systems, including child protection, developmental disabilities, juvenile justice, and mental health and addiction services. State funding is needed to address the needs of Ohio's multi-system youth who are in crisis and unable to access appropriate levels of care.

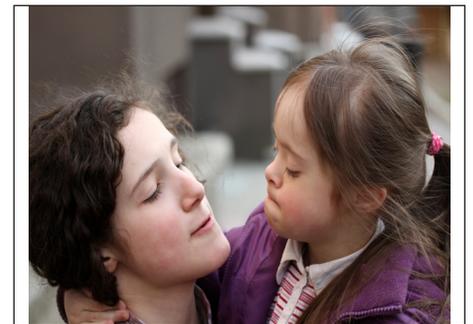
## Addressing the Needs of Ohio's Multi-System Youth



Children and youth served by multiple systems have severe, complex needs that cannot be met by a single system alone. One of the most pressing issues facing multi-system youth and their families is custody relinquishment. Local support and collaboration can help many children and their families, but sometimes a child's intensive needs exhaust the resources of both the family and the community. When this happens, parents face the difficult decision to relinquish custody to a children services agency to access needed services.

**Reduce the need for parents to relinquish custody to children services to access treatment for their children by implementing recommendations made by the Joint Legislative Committee on Multi-System Youth.**

- Establish a state-level youth and family crisis stabilization fund to prevent custody relinquishment and address the needs of youth and families in crisis and unable to access appropriate levels of care.
- Establish a unified strategy for data collection and sharing across child servicing systems to identify resource utilization, service utilization patterns and gaps, and monitor outcomes.



## Expand state resources to keep Ohio children at home.