

Clermont Child Support Agency Recognized for Innovative Family Program



Immediate Release

December 22, 2010

Batavia, Ohio. The Ohio Child Support Directors' Association (OCDA) has named the Clermont County Department of Job and Family Services' Child Support Enforcement division a *Best Practices Award Winner* for the agency's *Access and Visitation* program. The *Best Practices Awards* recognize outstanding counties with innovative and effective programs. Clermont County was presented with the *Best Practice Award* during an OCDA meeting in Lebanon on December 17, 2010.

"The Beech Acres Parenting Center partnered with Clermont County to create a model *Access and Visitation Program* in Ohio. The program is focused on strengthening families and is supported entirely with grant funds," said Clermont Department of Job and Family Services Director Mike Pride. He said the *Access and Visitation Program* is also designed to help non-custodial parents obtain visitation with their children; these services have been effective in reducing administrative and judicial enforcement activity.

"The *Access and Visitation Program* provides parents involved in all divisions of the Court of Common Pleas, access to mediation and parenting education at no cost," said Brenda Gilreath, deputy director of the Clermont Department of Job and Family Services' Child Support Enforcement division. "The services are designed to help families resolve conflicts through mediation and by providing educational programs which help to ensure that they receive the skills, tools, and support to become financially, emotionally, and physically involved in raising their children."

Established in 1990, the Ohio CSEA Directors' Association (OCDA) is a statewide organization representing county child support enforcement agencies; OCDA is a professional association dedicated to strengthening Ohio's child support program.

Pictured above (from top left to right then bottom left to right) Chris Hall- Marketing Director for

Beech Acres Parenting Center (BAPC), Tayna Givens- Staff Accountant with BAPC, Theresa Ellison- Lead Attorney, Clermont Child Support Enforcement (CSE), Jill Huynh- Intake and Project Manager with BAPC, Sharon Richter James- Program Leader with BAPC, Pam McKie- Managing Business Director with BAPC, and Brenda Gilreath- Deputy Director of Clermont CSE

#

For additional information about this or other county news, contact Clermont County Communications Director Kathy Lehr at (513) 732-7597 or by e-mail, klehr@co.clermont.oh.us.