

JULY NEWSLETTER

BRIDGING THE GAP (The Newsletter for Students & Families in Transition)

RESOURCES

**STUDENT SUCCESS
SPOTLIGHT**

**UPDATES FOR FOSTER
PLACED, JUSTICE-
INVOLVED, & STUDENTS
EXPERIENCING HOUSING
INSTABILITY**



WELCOME & KEY UPDATES

Welcome to your Newsletter!

Our dedicated team is committed to supporting students who are facing a variety of challenges, including those who experience homelessness, are involved in the foster care and juvenile justice systems. We strive to provide comprehensive assistance that addresses both academic and non-academic barriers.

Our services are rooted in the principles established by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, ensuring we effectively meet the diverse needs of our students.

Yours truly,

Vunessa Allen-Martin, MSW

CCS-Supervisor, Students & Families in Transition / Editor

POLICY & LEGAL UPDATES

Federal

- **McKinney-Vento Act Funding Extension:** On December 20, 2024, Congress passed a Continuing Resolution extending funding for the McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) program at fiscal year 2024 levels through March 14, 2025.

State (Ohio)

- **Advance Ohio Higher Education Act:** Introduced in January 2025, this legislation mandates public universities to eliminate undergraduate programs averaging fewer than five degrees conferred annually over a three-year period, with possible exceptions upon appeal.

Local (Columbus)

- **2025 Summer Youth Program Funding:** The City of Columbus is accepting applications from nonprofit organizations for funding to support summer programs for youth aged 5-18 residing within city boundaries.
- **Columbus State Community College Initiatives:** In January 2025, Columbus State partnered with Ohio universities to explore debt-free education initiatives, addressing challenges such as student debt and academic performance.
- **Columbus City Schools Summer Experience 2025:** Scheduled from June 23 to July 18, 2025, this program offers immersive learning opportunities for Pre-K through 8th-grade students, with a family open house on June 18.



RESOURCES & SUPPORT

To support students experiencing homelessness, foster placed, or justice system involvement in Columbus, Ohio, here is a curated list of resources categorized for easy navigation.

Education

Free Tutoring Services:

- Columbus Metropolitan Library Homework Help Centers: Offers free after-school homework assistance at all branch locations.
- <https://www.khanacademy.org/>
- Asian American Community Services: Provides after-school and summer tutoring for grades K-12

FAFSA Assistance: Columbus State Community College Foster Youth Support: Offers guidance on FAFSA applications and financial aid for former foster youth and all CCS graduates.

College Grants: <https://www.collegegrants.org/>

Housing & Stability

Shelter Services:

- Huckleberry House: Provides a 24/7 crisis shelter for youth aged 12-17 facing homelessness or family conflict.
- Community Shelter Board: Operates a 24/7 hotline connecting individuals and families to emergency shelters.
- Rental Assistance:
- RENTFUL: [Rent Assistance Hub for Tenants + Landlords](#) - No one in Franklin County should lose their home to eviction.

Mental Health

Mental Health Resources from Columbus Public Health

- Worksheet: [Celebrate the differences in your life](#)
- Worksheet: [Empowering Yourself with Healthy Boundaries](#)

Teens Beware: [Sextortion Can Happen to Anyone: What to do if you're a victim](#)

St. Vincent Family Center: [Same-day access](#)

Employment

Job Training:

- Comprehensive Case Management and Employment Program (CCMEP): Provides employment assistance and tuition support for youth aged 14-24.

Apprenticeships:

- Ohio Apprenticeship Program: Offers opportunities to learn a trade while earning income
- Ohio Means Jobs Center: As a job seeker, you can get help finding a job.

FREE SUMMER MEALS AT COLUMBUS METROPOLITAN LIBRARY

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Free Summer Meals 2025

Free Summer Meals are offered at these locations and is supported by Children's Hunger Alliance. Service begins **June 2** and runs until school starts in each district. Ask staff for more information.

Barnett Branch | 3227 E. Livingston Ave. (temporary location)

BREAKFAST Monday-Saturday: 12-12:30 p.m.
LUNCH Monday-Saturday: 4-5 p.m.

Driving Park Branch **1422 E. Livingston Ave.**

BREAKFAST Monday-Saturday: 12:15-12:45 p.m.
DINNER Monday-Saturday: 4:15-4:45 p.m.

Franklinton Branch | 1061 W. Town St.

LUNCH Monday-Saturday: 12:30-1:15 p.m.

Hilltop Branch | 511 S. Hague Ave.

BREAKFAST Monday-Saturday: 11:15-11:45 a.m.
LUNCH* Monday-Saturday: 3:15-3:45 p.m.

Karl Road Branch | 5590 Karl Rd.

BREAKFAST Monday-Saturday: 10:30-11:15 a.m.
DINNER Monday-Saturday: 3:30-4:15 p.m.

Linden Branch | 1990 Jefferson Ave. (temporary location)

BREAKFAST Monday-Saturday: 12-12:30 p.m.
DINNER Monday-Saturday: 4-4:30 p.m.

Main Library | 96 S. Grant Ave.

LUNCH Monday-Friday: 12:45-1:15 p.m.

Marion-Franklin Branch **2740 Lockbourne Rd.**

LUNCH Monday-Friday: 4:30-5 p.m.

Martin Luther King Branch | 1467 E. Long St.

BREAKFAST Monday-Friday: 12-1 p.m.
LUNCH Monday-Saturday: 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Northern Lights Branch **4093 E. Cleveland Ave.**

BREAKFAST Monday-Saturday: 12:15-12:45 p.m.
LUNCH* Monday-Saturday: 3:30-4 p.m.

Northside Branch | 1423 N. High St.

BREAKFAST Monday-Saturday: 11:15-11:45 a.m.
LUNCH Monday-Saturday: 3:15-3:45 p.m.

Parsons Branch | 1113 Parsons Ave.

BREAKFAST Monday-Saturday: 12:15-12:45 p.m.
LUNCH Monday-Saturday: 4-4:45 p.m.

Reynoldsburg Branch | 1402 Brice Rd.

LUNCH Monday-Saturday: 4:15-4:45 p.m.

Shepard Branch | 850 N. Nelson Rd.

BREAKFAST Monday-Saturday: 11:15-11:45 a.m.
LUNCH Monday-Saturday: 3:15-3:45 p.m.

South High Branch | 3540 S. High St.

LUNCH Monday-Saturday: 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Southeast Branch | 3980 S. Hamilton Rd.

BREAKFAST Monday-Saturday: 12:15-12:45 p.m.
LUNCH Monday-Saturday: 4:15-4:45 p.m.

Whitehall Branch | 4445 E. Broad St.

BREAKFAST Monday-Thursday: 1-1:30 p.m.
LUNCH* Monday-Saturday 4-4:30 p.m.

*Cold meals served.

All meals are for ages 1-18. Depending on supply, meals served may not match menu. USDA regulations require that food provided during summer meals not leave the room in which it is served.

Thank you to Children's Hunger Alliance for serving meals to youth in the community.

Visit <https://www.fns.usda.gov/meals4kids> for a map of all food locations.





Let Us Help You

614-275-4663

info@hoth-cdc.org www.hoth-cdc.org
3659 Soldano Blvd., Columbus, OH 43228



Financial Coaching

Work one on one with one of our financial coaches to improve your financial health.

Whether you are young and just starting out or have been in the game a bit longer, your goals are more likely achieved with additional knowledge and a plan. Our counselors are here to help you do just that. We tailor your appointment to fit your personal needs. Utilizing your current credit report, expenses, debts, and any other information you may wish to provide, we work with you to clarify your financial goals and form a path to reach them.



Mortgage Trouble?

Avoid foreclosure scams, work with our trained HUD certified counselors FREE of charge. Our staff wants to help you stay in your home. Maintaining housing and getting answers to your questions in the midst of an unstable and stressful time is paramount. Let us help you better understand the situation and look for a solution.



Housing Counseling

Work with our HUD certified housing counselors, at no cost to you.

Financial Capability

Find out if you are in a good position to rent your first place or take the next step to homeownership.

Homebuyer Education

Whether you're a first time home buyer or not, up-to-date knowledge is the key to confidence when buying your own home. Learn about down payment assistance options, what to consider and account for financially and much more.



Affordable Housing Development

Homes on the Hill has been providing quality affordable housing for nearly 30 years. We've developed well over 100 single family homes and apartments in the greater Hilltop area. We continue strengthening neighborhoods each year, providing more quality homes for low-to-moderate income families and individuals

We sell Fully Renovated and Newly Built Homes.

Contact us today to learn more about purchasing one of our properties!

Find out what we have in the works and options available for obtaining affordable, rehabbed and newly built housing for purchase.

Be Empowered



Services

Credit Counseling

- ✓ Pull and read your credit report
- ✓ How to establish new credit
- ✓ How to improve your credit score
- ✓ Handling mistakes on your credit report

Financial Goal Counseling

- ✓ Establish financial goals
- ✓ Develop an action plan
- ✓ Setup a sustainable budget
- ✓ Establish a savings plan
- ✓ Follow-up accountability

Foreclosure and Eviction

- ✓ Assess your financial Situation
- ✓ Provide pertinent Information
- ✓ Offer recommendations
- ✓ Advocate when needed
- ✓ Make referrals when helpful
- ✓ Assist with applications if needed
- ✓ Direct financial assistance when available

Homebuyer Education Topics

- ✓ Applying for a mortgage loan
- ✓ Budgeting and Credit
- ✓ Role of a Realtor
- ✓ Homeowner's Insurance
- ✓ Home Inspections
- ✓ Down Payment Assistance

Financial Capability Discussions

- ✓ Budget, Credit & Loan Possibilities
- ✓ Financial Sustainability
- ✓ Unexpected Expenses Preparation
- ✓ Down Payment Assistance Options
- ✓ Development of an action plan





CLOTHE-A-CHILD PROGRAM

ACCESS CODE: GN2025
(you will need this for your application)
Click the link below

[Clothe-A-Child Program](#)

The Charity Newsies Clothe-A-Child program is designed for families in need of back-to-school clothing assistance. Qualifying families may submit one application per school year that must include all children receiving clothing.

- Applications are submitted online only. We do NOT accept in-person applications.
- Applicants will receive a confirmation email within 3 business days of submitting the application. The confirmation will include the date & time of pick-up, the application number to claim the clothing, and a list of the children on the application.
- Pick-up appointments are scheduled Monday-Thursday and selected before submitting the application. We do not have weekend pick-up. You may send someone else to pick up the clothing for you – make sure they have the confirmation email with the pickup date and time and the application number.
- Charity Newsies reserves the right to verify all information provided on the application. False or incomplete information can delay or deny the approval of your application.
- Applicants are responsible for picking up the clothing at our facilities located at 4300 Indianola Ave, Columbus, OH 43214. Unclaimed clothing will be returned to inventory after 1 week, and the application will be closed. Applicants who fail to pick up their clothing within 1 week of the scheduled pickup date will NOT be able to reapply until the following school year.
- Clothing will be provided based on the dress code of the school indicated and the clothing sizes selected on the application. Clothing CANNOT be returned or exchanged, so it is important to select the correct sizes.

[Clothing Pick-up Instructions](#)

COMMUNITY & EVENTS



To support students experiencing homelessness, foster placed, or justice system involvement in Columbus, Ohio, consider engaging with the following community events, advocacy efforts, and support opportunities:

Spotlight on Local Advocacy Efforts

Columbus City Schools' Students & Families in Transition Program

Overview: This program provides dedicated support to students involved in foster care, the juvenile justice system, or those experiencing homelessness, ensuring their educational right and offering necessary resources.

Learn more: [Students & Families in Transition](#)

Harmony Project

Overview: A community service organization that leverages volunteer efforts to serve neighbors in need including revitalizing recreation centers, planting community gardens, and providing meals.

Learn more: [Harmony Project Programs](#)

Treats 4 the Streets

Overview: The organization's mission seeks to provide restaurant-quality foods, fresh baked goods, and other basic human necessities to those experiencing financial crises and displacement.

Learn more: [Treats 4 the Streets Initiative](#)

HOUS FOUNDATION DREAM SCHOLARSHIPS

Do you have a student who would benefit from extracurricular activity or non-school activity but can't afford the costs of participation? The Hous Foundation is a non-profit that removes the financial barriers to participation in non-school activities, up to \$500. If you have questions, contact Hous Foundation Executive Director, Sonya Thesing at sthesing@housfoundataion.org or (614) 259-7329.

Interested in completing a quick survey? [Parent/Guardian Survey](#)





Health & Safety Family Resource Fair

PIZZA & REFRESHMENTS

INFANT SAFE SLEEP

CAR SEAT SAFETY

LEAD TESTING

WIC BENEFITS

PARENTING CLASSES

HOME VISITING PROGRAMS

BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT

BABY ITEM RAFFLE

FREE WEARABLE BABY BLANKETS

FREE DIAPERS *while supplies last*

FREE PACK 'N PLAYS* & CAR SEAT CHECKS

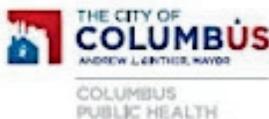
July 15
4-7 p.m.

Columbus Public Health
240 Parsons Ave. (Auditorium)

Join Columbus Public Health, CelebrateOne and partners at this free resource fair for pregnant, postpartum and parenting families with children up to age 2.

Community partners include: Y Cares; Buckeye Healthcare; Southeast Healthcare; and, Action for Children.

Space is limited. Scan the QR to register and secure your spot!



**Must meet eligibility requirements.*

Need a pack 'n play? Call 614-645-3111.

Questions? Email smrobinson@columbus.gov

\$50

incentive for each child who gets a vaccine.*

Back to School Student Health Fair

VACCINES TB
TESTING VISION AND
HEARING
SCREENINGS
ANNUAL PHYSICALS

JOIN US TO GET BACK TO SCHOOL READY

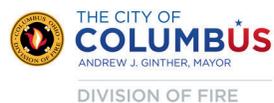
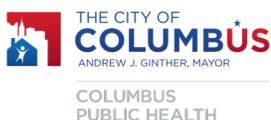
Saturday, August 2 • 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
Saturday, August 9 • 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
East High School • 1500 E. Broad St.

FREE PARKING

This free event is open to the public. **Registration is recommended** by scanning the QR code or visiting bit.ly/cbus-82925. Limited walk-ins will be available.

***One incentive per vaccinated child** while supplies last.

Questions? Call 614-645-6881 or email vaccinehelp@columbus.gov.



\$50

محفز لكل طفل يحصل
على لقاح.*

معرض الطلاب الطبي للعودة إلى المدرسة

اللقاحات

فحص السل

فحوصات النظر والسمع

فحوصات طبية سنوية

انضم إلينا لتستعد للعودة إلى المدرسة

السبت 2 أغسطس • 11 صباحًا - 3 ظهرًا.

السبت 9 أغسطس • 11 صباحًا - 3 ظهرًا.

ركن السيارات مجاني 1500 E. Broad St. • East High School



هذه الفعالية المجانية مفتوحة لحضور الجمهور.

يوصى بالتسجيل عبر مسح رمز الاستجابة السريعة أو زيارة الرابط bit.ly/cbus-82925.
هناك أيضًا فرص محدودة للحضور بدون موعد.

* محفز واحد لكل طفل ملقح حتى نفاذ الكمية.

هل لديك أسئلة؟ اتصل على 614-645-6881 أو ارسل
بريد إلكتروني عبر vaccinehelp@columbus.gov.



Prime de
\$50
pour chaque
enfant vacciné.*

Foire de santé pour les élèves de retour à l'école

VACCINS

TESTS DE TUBERCULOSE

DEPISTAGES AUDITIFS
ET VISUELS

EXAMENS PHYSIQUES
ANNUELS

REJOIGNEZ-NOUS POUR VOUS PRÉPARER POUR LA RENTRÉE SCOLAIRE

Le samedi 2 août • de 11 h à 15 h

Le samedi 9 août • de 11 h à 15 h

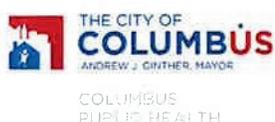
East High School • 1500 E. Broad St. *PARKING GRATUIT*

Cet événement gratuit est ouvert au public.

L'inscription est recommandée en scannant le code QR ou en consultant bit.ly/cbus-82925. Un nombre limité de visites sans rendez-vous seront également disponibles.

***Une prime par enfant vacciné** jusqu'à épuisement des stocks.

Questions ? Appelez le 614-645-6881 ou envoyez un email à vaccinehelp@columbus.gov.



PRIM ANKOURAJMAN
\$50 POU CHAK
TIMOUN KI PRAN
YON VAKSEN.*

Fwa Sante Elèv pou Rantre Lekòl

VAKSEN

TÈS TB

DEPISTAJ POU VIZYON
AK TÈS ODITIF

EGZAMEN FIZIK ANYÈL

REJWENN NOU POU PREPARE W POU RANTRE LEKÒL LA

Samdi 2 Out • 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Samdi 9 Out • 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

East High School • 1500 E. Broad St. *PAKIN GRATIS*

Evènman gratis sa a louvri pou piblik la.

Yo rekòmande enskripsyon lè w eskane kòd QR la oswa vizite bit.ly/cbus-82925. W ap kapab vini san randevou tou, yon fason limite.

*Yon prim ankourajman pou chak timoun ki pran vaksen jiskaske estòk la fini.

Ou gen kesyon? Rele 614-645-6881 oswa voye yon imèl bay vaccinehelp@columbus.gov.



\$50 oo
dhiirigelin ah oo
loogu talagalay
canug kasta oo
tallaalka qaato.*

Bandhigga Caafimaadka Ardayda ee Dib Ugu Laabashada Dugsiga

TALLAALO

BAARITAANKA QAAXADA

BAARITAANKA ARAGTIDA
IYO MAQALKA

BAARITAANKA JIREED EE
SANADLAHA AH

NAGALA QAYB QAADO ISU DIYAARINTA DIB UGU LAABASHADA DUGSIGA

Sabti, Ogoosto 2 • 11 subaxnimo - 3 galabnimo

Sabti, Ogoosto 9 • 11 subaxnimo - 3 galabnimo

East High School • 1500 E. Broad St. *BAARKIN BILAASH AH*

Munaasabaddan bilaashka ah waxay u furan tahay dadweynaha.

Is-diiwaangelinta ayaa lagula talinayaa adiga oo iskaan ka qaadayo QR koodhka ama booqanayo bit.ly/cbus-82925. Imaanshaha Ballan La'aanta ah ayaa sidoo kale la heli doonaa balse way kooban yihiin.

***Hal dhiirigelin ah oo la siinayo canug kasta oo la tallaalo** inta uu saadka dhammaanin.

Ma qabtaa su'aalo? Wac 614-645-6881 ama iimayl u dir vaccinehelp@columbus.gov.



Un incentivo de
\$50 por cada
menor que se
vacune.*

Feria de salud para estudiantes antes de regresar a la escuela

VACUNAS

PRUEBA DE TUBERCULOSIS

EXÁMENES DE LA VISTA Y
AUDICIÓN

EXÁMENES FÍSICOS ANUALES

PARTICIPE PARA ESTAR LISTO PARA REGRESAR A LA ESCUELA

Sábado 2 de agosto • De 11 a. m. a 3 p. m.

Sábado 9 de agosto • De 11 a. m. a 3 p. m.

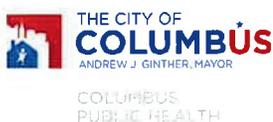
East High School • 1500 E. Broad St. *ESTACIONAMIENTO GRATUITO*

Este evento gratuito está abierto al público.

Se recomienda inscribirse escaneando el código QR o visitando bit.ly/cbus-82925. También habrá un cupo limitado para las personas que acudan sin cita previa.

***Un incentivo por menor vacunado**, hasta agotar existencias.

¿Tiene alguna pregunta? Llame al 614-645-6881 o envíe un mensaje por correo electrónico a vaccinehelp@columbus.gov.





2025 CCS Back to School Fair Family Registration Form

Come to one of the largest back-to-school events in Columbus.

Date: Saturday, August 16, 2025

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Location: Fort Hayes Campus

546 Jack Gibbs Blvd.

***Free Parking:** Columbus State Community College- 250 Cleveland Ave, Columbus, OH 43215

Shuttle bus pick-up at Columbus State Community College Mitchell Hall. [Click Here for parking map.](#)

See below

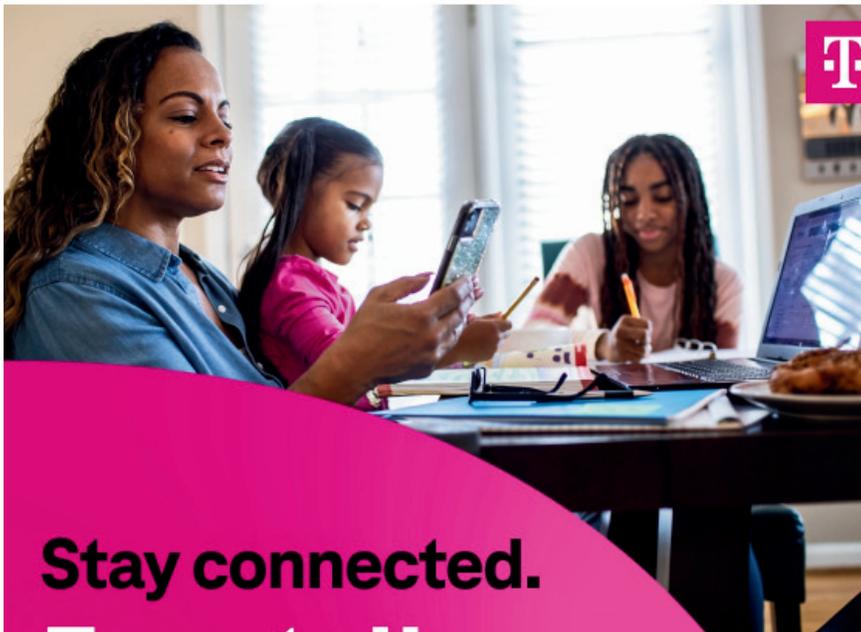
FREE backpacks, books, and school supplies. Over 100 CCS departments and community partners will be available to assist with back to school resources including health screenings, home safety, after school programs and social service information.

Enjoy the children's activities area with bouncy slides, obstacle course, and other activities provided by Columbus Recreation and Parks.

Sponsored by Western Governors University, Molina Healthcare, Fifth Third Bank, Ohio State Wexner Medical Center, Making a Difference Foundation, Nationwide Children's, and City of Columbus Recreation and Parks.

One backpack per student. Student must be present to receive backpack





Stay connected. Free talk, text and 4.5GB of data.

Great news!

As a **Project 10Million Subscriber**, you may qualify for free monthly talk, text and data from **Assurance Wireless**—you'll get free phone service and 4.5GB of monthly high-speed data. Use your current phone, or choose from one of our low-cost options.

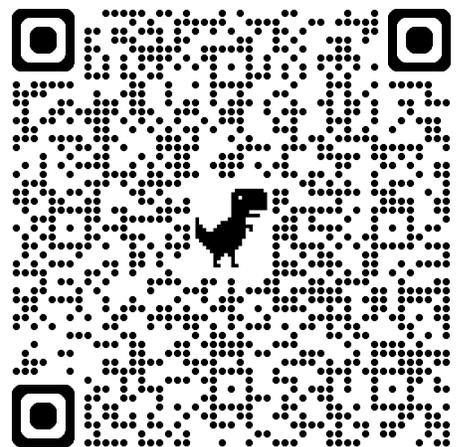
Because we know how important access and connection is for your family, and every family, see if you're eligible for free monthly talk, text and data, today.

Here's what you can get:

- ✔ Free unlimited texts and 3000 minutes each month
- ✔ Free 4.5GB high-speed data each month
- ✔ Bring your own phone or shop low-cost options

Data and Talk minutes may vary based on state. Enhanced offers apply in CA, KY, NE, TX, UT, WI. Check your eligibility above to see state-specific offers.

All on the T-Mobile network.



FREE ADULT CLASSES ENGLISH & GED®



Registration is open for **September Classes**

STEP 1

**REGISTER USING
THE QR CODE**



STEP 2

**ATTEND A 30-MINUTE
INFORMATION SESSION**

**ADDRESS:
2323 LEXINGTON AVE
COLUMBUS, OH 43211**

Monday	Tuesday
August 4, 2025 10:00 AM	August 5, 2025 10:00 AM
August 4, 2025 6:00 PM	August 5, 2025 6:00 PM

CONTACT ASPIRE

-  : (380) 997-7633
-  : CCSASPIRE@COLUMBUS.K12.OH.US
-  : [HTTPS://WWW.CCSOH.US/PAGE/2200](https://www.ccsOH.us/page/2200)



ASPIRE

Learn more. Earn more.

SUMMER PROGRAMS



Free summer program ideas for K-12 grade students in Franklin County

1. Columbus Recreation and Parks Department - They often offer free summer camps and programs for youth, including sports, arts, and educational activities.
2. YMCA Summer Day Camps - While some programs may have a fee, the YMCA often provides scholarships or free options for families in need, along with various activities. (<https://ymcacolumbus.org/>)
3. Franklin County Public Health - They occasionally host summer programs focusing on health, nutrition, and physical activity for children. (<https://www.franklincountyohio.gov/health/>)
4. Local Libraries - Many libraries in Franklin County, like the Columbus Metropolitan Library, provide summer reading programs and various educational workshops at no cost. (<https://www.columbuslibrary.org/>)
5. Community Centers- Various community centers may offer free summer programs that include sports, arts and crafts, and academic enrichment.
6. Non-Profit Organizations - Check local non-profits like Big Brothers Big Sisters or Urban League for any summer programs that provide mentorship and activities for youth.
 - Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Ohio (<https://www.bbbsohio.org/>)
 - Columbus Urban League (<https://www.cul.org>)

Summer Reading Challenge 2025

[Columbus Metropolitan Library's Summer Reading Challenge](#) is

held from May 31 - July 31. All ages are invited to participate.

Whether you're 1 month or 110 years, reading and listening to books supports your brain. Earn prizes, coupons & a free book just by reading!

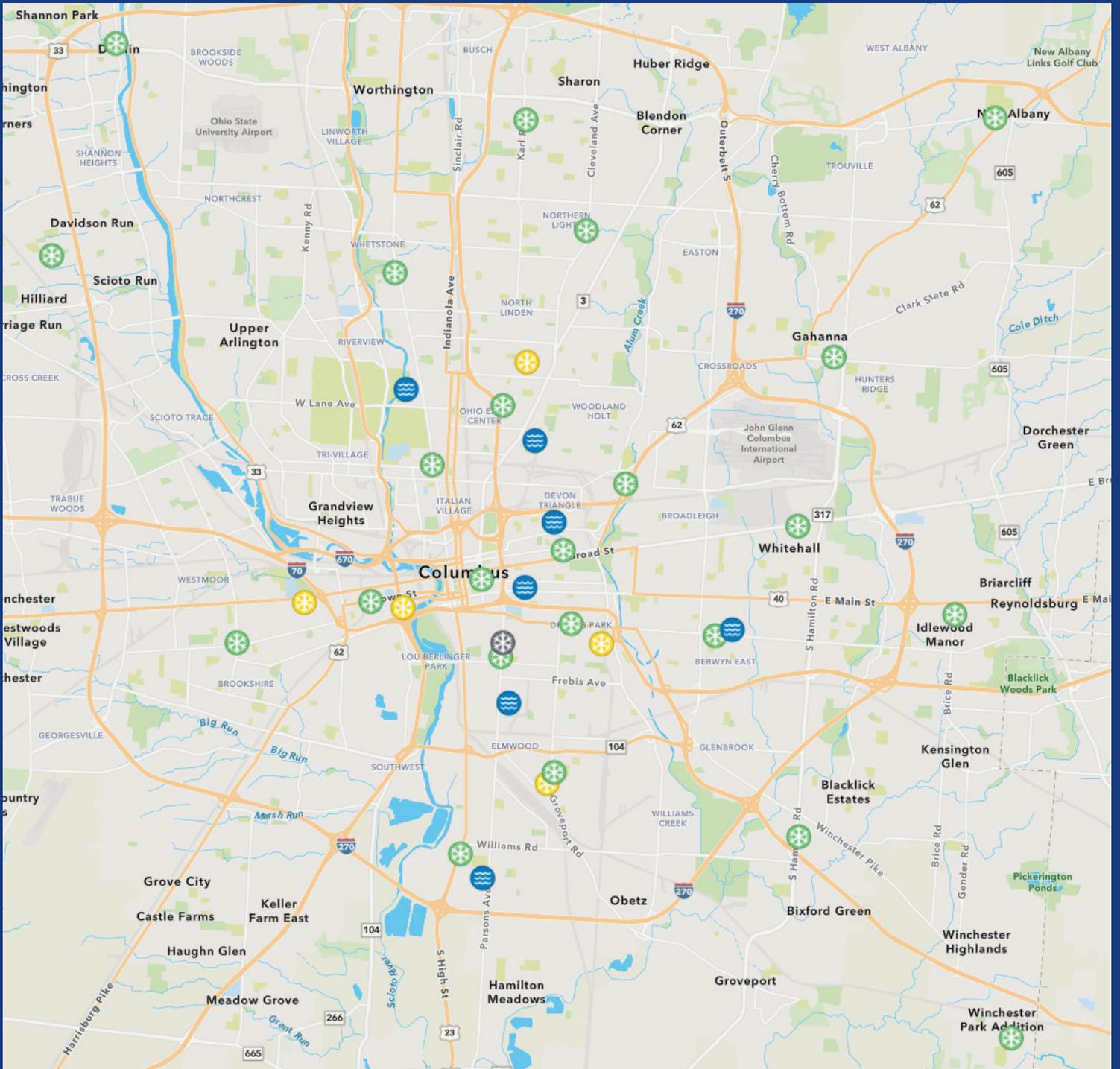


Join the Summer Reading Challenge [Kickoff Party](#) at the Main Library on Saturday, May 31 from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM for farm animals & face painting, music games, and hands-on activities to kick off your summer. There will be loads of family fun, plus sign up and read to earn prizes!

US Cooling Centers - June 2025

Cooling Centers

-  Community Center
-  Library
-  Pools and Spraygrounds
-  Other



BEAT THE HEAT FAN CAMPAIGN



29th Annual LifeCare Alliance Beat the Heat Fan Campaign



LifeCare Alliance

Fan Campaign » LifeCare Alliance

Fans are distributed at our 670 Harmon Avenue location on Tuesday's, (9:30-10:30am) and Thursday's (2-3pm).

Please call the fan hotline number at 614-437-2870 for up-to-date

 LifeCare Alliance /

DID YOU KNOW?

Tina Wallace, CCS Parent Mentor
Ph. 380-997-4927
twallace10110@columbus.k12.oh.us



✨ Parent Mentors: Your Free Guide Through Special Education ✨

Navigating the special education system can be overwhelming, but you don't have to do it alone! Ohio's Parent Mentor Program connects families with experienced parents who provide free support and guidance to help your child succeed.

What Can a Parent Mentor Do for You?

- ✓ Understand Special Education – Get help with IEPs, 504 plans, and school services.
- ✓ Share Valuable Resources – Learn about programs, rights, and services available for your child.
- ✓ Attend School Meetings – Need support during an IEP meeting? A Parent Mentor can join you.
- ✓ Bridge the Gap – They help connect families, schools, and communities for better student success.

Why Reach Out?

Parent Mentors have been in your shoes and are here to empower, support, and guide you—completely free of charge!

🔗 Find a Parent Mentor near you: parentmentor.osu.edu

Subject: Understanding Accommodations and Modifications

Dear Parents,

To support our district's inclusive learning environment, we want to clarify two key concepts: accommodations and modifications.

Accommodations are adjustments that help students access the curriculum without changing what they learn. For example, extended time on tests allows all students to demonstrate their knowledge fairly.

Modifications involve changing the curriculum or expectations based on individual needs. This may include simplifying assignments or adjusting educational goals to better align with a student's capabilities.

By understanding these differences, you can support your children's unique needs and ensure that they are thriving in school.

CREATIVE CORNER
CENTENNIAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

Empowering Amaris

