



## **H.O.M.E. for the Future**

**September 24-25, 2025**

**YouTube Recording Links**

Young people under the age of 18 are 15-20% of our American population, but they are 100% of our future. Why would we not invest in them?

– ODYS Deputy Director Michael Garrett

### ***Welcome Opening and What Works in Research***

<https://youtu.be/dA9x01lrTx8>

ODRC Deputy Director Roni Burkes-Trowsdell and ODYS Deputy Director Michael Garrett welcome us to the Community Experience and challenge us to see our young adult justice-involved neighbors. Then, Dr. Chris D'Amato from the UCCI and Yolonda Frierson from ODYS outline the research-based facts about factors for system involvement and what works in successful reintegration for 16-25 year old young people.

### ***Putting Research Into Practice***

[https://youtu.be/am2daXqDV\\_w](https://youtu.be/am2daXqDV_w)

Brooke Burns, Office of Ohio Public Defenders, Youth Defense Division; Ruth Simera, NEOMED Coordinating Centers of Excellence, Dept of Psychiatry; Brittini Long, Department of Youth Services, and Jennifer Nail, ODRC explore policies, practices, and practical needs, interventions, and necessary supports and services from both the adult and juvenile justice systems. These practitioners and community researchers highlight similarities and differences in the systems and identify the gaps in services that the community needs to provide.

## ***Lunch & Learn***

<https://youtu.be/nzC2dl87E6M>

Hearing from the most directly impacted is necessary. This panel features individuals who experienced juvenile justice system involvement and subsequent adult incarceration, Stanley Ross, Dante Ingram, and Terrence White with the Positive Influence Team and Pastor Toriano Henry share their experiences and guide us into better ways to serve and support other young adults returning. We take a deep dive into what builds hope in young men and how mentoring is different from coaching and advocating with young justice-involved persons.

## ***What Works Where We Are?***

<https://youtu.be/A9aXW2nRLCw>

This session starts with an overview of an innovative approach to create an employment pipeline for young adults returning. Our collaborative panel featuring Larry Simpson and Jody Slagle from the ODYS and Allison Steele from The Trades Institute will address the differences between working with young persons and older adults in “doing life” along with developing the mindset necessary for developing innovative partnerships between a state agency, a county initiative, and a local community service provider.

## ***Connecting & Co-laboring in Community Context***

<https://youtu.be/9JLhHkYZgWo>

In this final session for the day, participants explore an effective model for multi-system coordination. The Ohio Family and Children’s First Council (OFCFC) has successfully used this model for the last 15 years in their county-based work. OFCFC Executive Director Colleen Tucker and OFCFC Regional Coordinator Aimee Matusik present the model, and then, facilitators will guide small group discussions based on their community context. This session features rural community coordination. Groups identify the cross over of services between adults and youth, necessary differences in systems and services, and gaps that community services can fill through coordination of services for young adults ages 18-25. We wrap up with facilitated reporting from small groups to the larger context group on three things they identified in crossover services, gaps, and coordinated services opportunities.. The session will end with a final open discussion on: “What is the first step you are going to take toward the long-term goal of serving and supporting young adults returning home?”

## ***Columbus Community Recap***

<https://youtu.be/4YTGF-fe2-c?si=JMMaUtDwMMpx4cJG>

This short video highlights one of our seven regional sites for the 2025 Community Experience. Experience the sites, sounds, and synergy when people connect, collaborate and co-labor to create co-opportunities with and for justice-impacted young adults.