

FOSTER CARE INITIATIVE - ALPHA DELTA STATE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 20, 2018 - DEBBY CANTER

- Alpha Mu invited the director of Jefferson County Department of Job and Family Services to present a program on the Foster Care Program in our county. We then stuffed 10 book bags with towels, personal care items, a journal, a stuffed animal, and school supplies. These were then delivered to the program to be used when a child is taken out of a home with nothing. Our group voted to expand this project to Carroll County in 2019.
- Pi Chapter - donations to the Children's Services' Foster Visitation Center.
- Kappa Chapter has heard from CASA Director, Kara Schoen from Wyandot County. We will provide book bags and supplies for her and foster kids.
- Delta Chapter - foster care speaker for a chapter meeting to ascertain how we can help them.
- Alpha Omega - Our Co-Presidents met with members of the Foster Care Assoc. to assess their needs. They wanted gift cards to Wal Mart or Target. At our November meeting, reps from foster care will speak to us and get gift cards.
- Delta Phi Chapter is having a program with "Bridges to Success" speaker and plan to help however needed.
- Tau Chapter - we support an elementary school with school supplies and monetary donations for uniforms in September and December. We collected school supplies, duffle bags and \$135 for foster children. At Christmas, all of our donations are for foster children.
- "Birthday Basket" personalized with items the child requested.
- "Nite Nite" bags for ages 0-12 with a book, a blanket, and a stuffed toy.
- Ordering from a website some colorful laundry bags (drawstring) for children to use for their personal items.
- We are going to have a program on foster care lead by someone from OJFS. We are going to collect items for personal pack - PJs, a book, a stuffed animal, and underwear.
- Instead of a mini gift exchange for December meeting, we are bringing in socks and underwear for "transfer bags" for children when they are being moved from home to foster care.
- Area churches have a Foster Care Initiative. We are having a brunch featuring the head of the committee to give us info on how to help.
- Foster Care Kits - clothes, pajamas, blankets, etc.
- We hope to meet with a rep from Cincinnati Jobs and Children's Services to see what we can do.
- Provide a homeless shelter with new books for children to keep as they enter with their parent.
- Pajama Program.org - provide PJs and a book for children (homeless or foster)
- Program at library and collected books to give to foster children
- Bring PJs and underwear to school then principal allows "jean day" on Fridays for the month
- 1. Have 1 or 2 members meet with a person from local Children's Services to understand needs in your specific geographic area. 2. Have a speaker come. 3. Gather donations.
- Talk about parent surrogates for special education students in foster care.
- Contributing to Hope Closet - supplying clothing and school supplies to foster children.

- Donated “cozy” items such as handmade blankets (fleece tie and others), stuffed animals, baby dolls, coloring books and crayons.
- Foster mother who has fostered 12 children and two sibling families shared experiences with us. Then we visited Children’s Home of Ohio in Wooster and learned of foster care program.
- A Children’s Services rep is coming to our November meeting to speak. Our members were given a list of needs and will bring items to that meeting. We will also have a foster mom talk to us about her experiences.
- Making blankets to give to children in foster care and filling back packs for children entering foster care.
- Blankets for foster care children
- Speaker from foster care
- Working with Job and Family Services
- Donated colorful laundry bags and discounted duffle bags. Held a program on “Voices for Children” Adult Advocate for court issues between parent and the court to represent the child.