



January 2016

Goals to Achieve in 2016

Welcome to 2016, staff, family members, and other stakeholders! We have big opportunities in front of us this year, and we're beginning the year with renewed energy and direction for serving Ohio's youth, families, and communities.

In 2015, DHS was called a national model for juvenile justice, yet we know that we still have more work to do. Each site, division, and office at the agency has been involved in the strategic planning process for 2016. Through this process, we have determined our course, set goals, and prioritized activities.

2016 Agency Goals

- To increase preventative measures, enhance meaningful activities for youth, and reduce acts of violence on youth and staff
- To ensure youth complete their education, secure employment, and reintegrate successfully back in the communities
- To increase the number of opportunities for cross-collaboration between facility, parole, Release Authority, and the community
- To invest in our employees by providing opportunities for training and skill development needed for retaining staff and for advancing careers
- To empower families by increasing accessibility to their youth through Department initiatives
- To support juvenile detention reform by collaborating with courts and detention centers

Our strategic plan includes objectives for each goal that we have set. To read our strategic plan in its entirety, please click [here](#).



I have every confidence that we can meet these goals. We will need the creative thinking and diligent effort of every employee. Helen Keller said, "I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish small tasks as if they were great and noble." Remember that your work, seemingly small or large in scope, is important. Our efforts are for youth, helping them change their lives and in the end, keeping Ohioans safe.