



The Buckeye Ranch Bolsters Services in Cincinnati with New Office Expansion, Providing Additional Options for Mental Health, Child Welfare, and Kinship Caregivers

CINCINNATI, OH (FEBRUARY 24, 2026) – [The Buckeye Ranch](#), an Ohio nonprofit dedicated to providing healing for children and families through mental health, behavioral health, and child welfare services, today celebrated the grand opening of its newly expanded offices in Cincinnati, marking a significant milestone in the organization’s continued commitment to support children, youth, and families across Southwestern Ohio. This new and larger location will allow The Buckeye Ranch to broaden access to critical services, including [Foster Care](#), Kinship Caregivers, [Multi-Systemic Therapy \(MST\)](#), and its [Intensive Family Support Program \(IFSP\)](#).

For more than 20 years, The Buckeye Ranch has provided foster care services to children and families in the Cincinnati area. During this time, the organization observed the prevalence of mental health and a continued need for access to care. According to a 2024 report from the Health Policy Institute of Ohio, a fifth (20%) of middle school students and a third (33%) of high school students in Ohio reported that their mental health was not good most or all of the time.¹

“In Hamilton County, there has been a gap in evidence-based treatment options for adolescents with serious behavioral issues, who require on-call support, and the ability for a clinician to quickly address youth functioning in multiple systems,” said Maureen Kishna, LISW-S, MST Network Partner Director of Ohio at Case Western Reserve University. “We are thrilled that The Buckeye Ranch is bringing its 19 years of MST implementation in Columbus to the Cincinnati area, where MST was previously not available. Additionally, with the launch of IFSP, there will be access to an evidence-supported family treatment model. This will strengthen the continuum of care to address a wide range of needs for youth and their families in the community, building on the organization’s history of being a foster care leader in the area.”

The new Cincinnati office is designed to support integrated, family-centered services, bringing together clinical expertise, case management, and community-based support under one roof. The Buckeye Ranch is committed to expanding and enhancing services for foster families and kinship caregivers, providing the necessary training so that these families can be there for children during their time of need. By increasing capacity and adding mental health services, The Buckeye Ranch aims to improve outcomes for youth, strengthen families, and reduce the need for out-of-home placements whenever possible.

“At the heart of this expansion are the children and families we serve,” said Vickie Thompson-Sandy, President and CEO of The Buckeye Ranch. “We recognized that when we were returning a child home from treatment in our Central Ohio campus, that there was an unmet need in the community, and the full continuum of care for mental and behavioral health was not available for many youth and families. By growing our presence in Cincinnati, we’re making it easier for young

people and caregivers to access consistent, compassionate support that helps them feel safe, understood, and supported as they work toward healing.”

The Buckeye Ranch provides a continuum of evidence-based services designed to support youth and families at every stage of need, including Foster Care, Kinship Caregivers, MST, and IFSP. MST is an intensive, family-focused treatment for youth ages 12–17 who are at risk of out-of-home placement, school disruption, or court involvement, while IFSP delivers in-home mental health support for youth ages 5–18 to stabilize families and promote healthy development.

The Buckeye Ranch’s Foster Care program offers a statewide network of trauma-informed treatment foster homes, including Healing Alternatives for Youth (HAY), a specialized program developed by the organization to support foster youth with high-acuity mental health needs and prevent placement disruptions. Full details of The Buckeye Ranch’s services can be found at www.buckeyeranch.org/ourservices/.

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About The Buckeye Ranch

The Buckeye Ranch is a private, nonprofit provider that has been serving children and families in Ohio for over 64 years. Opening in 1961 as a treatment center for 10 young men, it has now transitioned into a leading provider of behavioral health, mental health, education, and child welfare services for children and families. Each day, thousands of youth are in The Buckeye Ranch’s care, receiving services designed to help them become successful within their families, schools and communities. With six locations and nearly 700 dedicated team members, our four service lines - Child Welfare Services, Community and Education-Based Mental Health Services, Residential Treatment Services, and Integrated Care Services - operate 17 programs for youth and families across the state of Ohio. Since the beginning, The Buckeye Ranch’s mission has been to restore hope and provide healing for children and families. To learn more, visit www.BuckeyeRanch.org.

¹ Healthy Policy Institute of Ohio. Ohio Child Mental Health Project Mental health conditions among Ohio children and youth. Published December 2024.