

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P.O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

October 16, 2014

MEMORANDUM**What's Inside:**

October 2014  
Edition of In Focus  
the CQI Newsletter

TO: REGIONAL EXECUTIVE STAFF, CIRCUIT MANAGERS AND  
ALL CHILDREN'S DIVISION STAFF

FROM: TIM DECKER, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: OCTOBER 2014 QUARTERLY CQI NEWSLETTER, [IN FOCUS](#)  
*THE PATHWAY TO PERMANENCY FOR OLDER YOUTH*

Find attached the quarterly Continuous Quality Improvement newsletter, *In Focus*. This 2014 October edition of In Focus addresses efforts to support and assist older youth transitioning out of foster care. The feature article highlights Youth Summits, a series of older youth conferences held across the state in response to recommendations from the 2013 Blue Ribbon Panel Task Force on Aging Out's. These summits were implemented through the *Youth Independence Interdepartmental Initiative* and focus is on education, employment, cross systems collaboration, health and mental health, permanency and life-long connections.

This quarter's *Just Ask...Voices of Older Youth* segment, features Lacy L, a 2014 FosterClub All-Stars Recipient and sophomore at Northwest University, majoring in Public Relations. Lacy shares her experiences over the summer as a FosterClub All-Star.

*Community Conversations* and *Rich Hill* screening, describes a project hosted by the Full Frame Initiative, to engage community members in the discussion centered on the idea: "*what would be possible if we saw families in the "full frame" of their lives*". Community Conversations are being held in seven communities around the state. Each conversation begins with an introduction of the *Five Domains of Well-being Framework* followed by a screening of the 2014 Sundance Film Festival Grand Jury Prize documentary, *Rich Hill* and concludes with a discussion between members of the community.

During CQI meetings each quarter, discuss your circuit's data related to the specific SEE items featured in the newsletter, then share information, through CQI channels, regarding local practices which produce strong scores and/or suggested strategies for improvement.

If you have any information or success stories you would like to share in next quarter's newsletter, please contact Randy McDermit, Program Development Specialist, through Microsoft Outlook or by phone at (573)751-8932, or your regional Quality Improvement Specialist. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the children and families served by the Division.

**Necessary Action:**

1. Review this memorandum with all Children's Division Staff.
2. Review the In Focus newsletter during CQI Meetings.
3. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels.

[attachment](#)