

**FRANKLIN COUNTY CSEA ANNOUNCES  
PATHFINDER SERVICES DEMONSTRATION GRANT**

The CSEA is proud to announce that the agency has been awarded a grant through the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement. The CSEA will receive \$50,000 of federally matched funding per year through May 2012 for a demonstration project to assist formerly incarcerated parents who have child support cases.

The project's name is Pathfinder Services, and the project's goal is to remove barriers that prevent formerly incarcerated parents from paying child support and to enhance their ability to interact effectively with their families to provide emotional as well as financial support for their children. The Pathfinder project will help qualifying parents find sustainable employment so they can make regular payments, help them with referrals to meet their housing, transportation and health needs, and provide assistance in navigating the child support and court systems.

Pathfinder will conduct pre-release presentations for parents, conduct outreach presentations and develop educational materials produced with statewide use and replication in mind. It is expected that at least 80 parents returning to Franklin County will be assisted with intensive case management services during the first year of the project.

Attached is a press release issued on October 13, 2009 by the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services, announcing approval of the grant. Additional information about the Pathfinder Services project can be obtained by contacting project manager William Pelts at [peltcw@odjfs.state.oh.us](mailto:peltcw@odjfs.state.oh.us) .