

# MISSION AND ROLE OF THE OCO



The mission of the Office of the Children's Ombudsman is to help improve Michigan's child welfare system through:

1. Awareness, Advocacy, Public Education, Ensure Compliance, Review and Recommendation.



The role is to advocate for children and identify areas for improvement in the child welfare system.

# THE CHILDREN'S OMBUDSMAN ACT

## Powers

- Advocacy
- Public Education
- Investigate/Review
  - *Ensuring Compliance*
- Findings & Recommendations
  - *Effecting changes in policy, procedure, legislation*
  - *Not a regulatory body*

## Responsibility

- Annual Report
  - *Make recommendations to the Governor, MDHHS, & Legislature*
- Child death case review

## **CONFIDENTIALITY AND THE OCO**

**The OCO is exempt from  
FOIA**

**All records are  
confidential**

**Complainants & Witnesses  
are confidential**