

## Resources to Educate Youth, Families, Child Welfare Staff, and Providers about Psychotropic Medications

To improve the appropriate use of psychotropic medications among children and youth in foster care, families, children/youth themselves, child welfare caseworkers, and providers must have an understanding of what these medications are for, how they are used, and what their impacts may be. The Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS) developed this educational resource matrix at the request of the states participating in [Improving the Use of Psychotropic Medication among Children and Youth in Foster Care: A Quality Improvement Collaborative](#). It highlights key educational materials and trainings available to the public for parents, foster parents, providers, and youth who are prescribed psychotropic medications. For additional resources, interested parties should contact their state’s child welfare agency for other materials that may be available.

Target Population	Organization and Resource
Parents/Caregivers Providers Youth	<a href="#">Ohio Minds Matter</a> Ohio Psychotropic Medication Quality Improvement Collaborative
Parents/Caregivers	<a href="#">A Parent’s Guide: Understanding Psychotropic Medications</a> Family Support Services of North Florida
Parents/Caregivers	<a href="#">Facts for Families: Psychiatric Medication for Children and Adolescents Part I – How Medications Are Used</a> <a href="#">Facts for Families: Psychiatric Medication for Children and Adolescents Part II – Types Of Medications</a> <a href="#">Facts for Families: Psychiatric Medication for Children and Adolescents Part III – Questions to Ask</a> American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
Parents/Caregivers	<a href="#">Helping Foster and Adoptive Families Cope with Trauma</a> American Academy of Pediatrics
Parents/Caregivers	<a href="#">Medications Used for Behavioral and Emotional Disorders: A Guide for Parents, Foster Parents, Families, Youth, Caregivers, Guardians and Social Workers</a> Connecticut Department of Children and Families
Child Welfare Staff	<a href="#">Mental Health Practices in Child Welfare Guidelines Toolkit</a> Casey Family Programs, The REACH Institute, and The Annie E. Casey Foundation
Child Welfare Staff Parents/Caregivers Providers	<a href="#">Psychotropic Medication for Children in Texas Foster Care: Training for Child Protective Services Staff, Foster Parents and Residential Providers</a> Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
Providers	<a href="#">A Guide for Community Child Serving Agencies on Psychotropic Medications for Children and Adolescents</a> American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
Providers	<a href="#">Five Things Physicians and Patients Should Question</a> Choosing Wisely: American Psychiatric Association
Attorneys Providers Social Workers	<a href="#">The Critical Curriculum on Psychotropic Medications</a> CriticalThinkRx
Youth	<a href="#">Making Healthy Choices: A Guide on Psychotropic Medications for Youth in Foster Care</a> Children’s Bureau

## About the Center for Health Care Strategies

The Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS) is a nonprofit health policy resource center dedicated to improving health care access and quality for low-income Americans. In collaboration with state and federal agencies, health plans, providers, and consumer groups, CHCS pursues innovative and cost-effective strategies to better serve Medicaid beneficiaries.

This resource is a product of CHCS' [\*Improving the Use of Psychotropic Medication among Children and Youth in Foster Care: A Quality Improvement Collaborative\*](#), made possible by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, which is working with behavioral health, child welfare, and Medicaid leaders from six states to improve the oversight and monitoring of psychotropic medication use among children in foster care.