

KENT CO. FOC NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2022



CONTACT FOC

FOC Lobby is **OPEN**
Monday—Friday
8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Call Us 616-632-6888
Monday—Friday
8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Email

FOC.Mail@kentcountymi.gov

2-way Online

Communication

www.michigan.gov/michildsupport

Schedule an Appointment

[Click here.](#)

24/7 Case Access

[Click here.](#)

Visit Our Website

<https://www.accesskent.com/Courts/FOC/default.htm>

Mail

Kent County FOC, PO
Box 351, Grand Rapids
MI 49501-0351.

Drop box and payment
box on 1st floor at 82
Ionia NW, Grand Rapids
49503.

CUSTODY LANGUAGE

If you have a custody issue pending with the Court or the Friend of the Court, you have likely come across several terms related to custody. Here are some terms you will encounter:

Legal custody refers to who has legal authority to make important decisions affecting a child's health, education, and welfare. If only one parent has this authority, then that parent has sole legal custody. If both parents have this authority, then the parents share joint legal custody.

Physical custody refers to with whom the child resides. A child can reside with either parent, or both parents.

Parenting time refers to a parent's specific time with the child.

How can you change custody or parenting time? If you already have an order for custody or parenting time, you can ask the Court to change your court order by:

- filing a motion with the Circuit Court asking for a modification; or
- reaching an agreement with the other parent. One way to do this is through [mediation](#).

Rights to custody and parenting time are described by court orders. If you don't have a court order, you can file a case with the Circuit Court to ask for a custody or parenting time order. Remember, asking for an order does not guarantee that the Court will order the custody or parenting time you desire. The Court will consider the child's best interest before making a decision.

HOW CAN I CHANGE MY CHILD SUPPORT ORDER?

You are eligible for an income review every three years, or if there has been a significant change in your financial circumstances, such as a job loss or significant change in income. **Your Options:**

- Submit a [written request](#) to FOC for an income review. If you have asked for a review in the past three years, be sure to provide proof of your significant change in circumstances.
- File a Motion to Change Child Support at the Circuit Court. Forms and instructions are available in our lobby or at: www.accesskent.com/foc.

Need help? Visit the Legal Assistance Center on the 5th floor of the Courthouse.