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Report urges funding for Ohio grandparents

Beacon Journal staff report

COLUMBUS - The federal government subsidizes the care of Ohio's foster children placed with their relatives, but the money only flows if the state has custody.

Ohio lawmakers and child advocates who want to change that released a national report Wednesday that called for greater flexibility in spending federal dollars to help grandparents get custody and keep their subsidy.

About 3,000 Ohio children are in long-term stable placements with relatives and could benefit from such a program, at a cost of \$250 per month per child, said Crystal Ward Allen, executive director of Public Children Services Association of Ohio. The report by Fostering Results is at www.fosteringresults.org