



Summary & Purpose

- Learn how urban sociology themes function in practice through “community studies” and intentional community engagement
- Explore how urban sprawl, political fragmentation, race and class segregation, housing, and community changes relate to household and family dynamics
- Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley (CSSMV): offers programming to strengthen individuals, families, and communities through refugee resettlement, poverty alleviation services, pregnancy and parenting support, and **supervised visitation**.

Erma’s House

- From website: *“Erma’s House family visitation center provides a safe, homelike environment where children can spend time with their nonresidential parents, with an impartial, trained monitor keeping a record of the visit.”*
- Monitors are expected to know the court decisions, past actions, and potential dangers for each high-risk case.
- Visits can occur weekly, bi-weekly, or as often as the court and family decides.
- As a monitor, I document all exchanges, conversations, activities, and behaviors between the child(ren), visiting parent (VP), and custodial parent (CP).

Reflection

- UD Commitment to Community
- Community engagement during COVID-19
- Erma’s House has allowed me to explore how Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) impact individuals, families, and communities
- Long-term benefits of allowing the child(ren) to interact and develop a safe relationship with the VP
- “It allows the children to maintain a relationship with both of their parents, something that is generally found to be an important factor in the positive adjustment to family dissolution.”