



Department of
Developmental Disabilities

Division of Legislative Affairs & Communications

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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

State Agency Accepts CSO40 Magazine Award

DODD IT department recognized for its innovative work in consumer security

Columbus –April 2, The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) Information Technology Division accepted one of 40 CSO40 Magazine Awards. The annual award program recognizes security projects and initiatives that have delivered groundbreaking business value through the innovative application of risk and security concepts and technologies.

DODD has oversight for a state-wide system serving more than 90,000 individuals with developmental disabilities whose personal information is contained in 40 Internet-based applications supporting more than 10,000 users and \$2 billion in annual Medicaid claims. These applications are accessed by DODD staff, county board staff and providers across the state.

"As a Medicaid agency housing a lot of sensitive data, security is at the forefront when delivering our services," said Bryant Young, Chief Information Officer for DODD. "We need to ensure the security of individuals' information and also develop systems that are easy to use and facilitate the work of the agency, counties and providers."

To improve efficiency while maintaining security, DODD developed the Secure Entitlements Management System (SEMS). SEMS introduced new system functionality, including the automated review of security to ensure system users have access only to the information they need; previously, access was removed only when a request was submitted, leading to users accumulating unnecessary access as their roles changed over time. Users request security access online rather than submitting a paper form, simplifying and speeding up the process. Users also now are able to quickly reset their password online rather than calling the help desk.

"While the changes seem small, they have a large impact when you consider we serve 10,000 users in different roles across the state," Young said. "Anything we can do to make it easier for county boards and providers to do their job helps them place more focus on providing service to individuals with developmental disabilities."

DODD adds the CSO Award to a growing list of accolades acquired from entities such as TechColumbus and ComputerWorld. Most recently, DODD accepted the Convergence 2014 Microsoft Customer Excellence Award in the Public Sector category.

"The CSO award is special because it recognizes not only the team's technical accomplishments, but also the business value that IT was able to bring," said Young. "Security is the backbone to achieving DODD's vision of providing unsurpassed customer experience for the individuals we serve and the users of our IT systems."

About the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) provides leadership, oversight and funding for a statewide system of supports and services for approximately 90,000 people with developmental disabilities. The agency's mission is continuous improvement of the quality of life for Ohio's citizens with developmental disabilities and their families. The state's system offers services that ensure individuals' health and safety,

provide residential services and supports, increase opportunities for meaningful employment, and foster full community inclusion and active participation. DODD partners with many organizations and agencies to develop and lead these services, which are implemented by Ohio's 88 County Boards of Developmental Disabilities. The County Boards also partner with thousands of independent service providers to deliver the broad range of services.

To learn more about DODD, visit dodd.ohio.gov. Follow DODD on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).