

John R. Kasich, Governor

John L. Martin, Director

Pipeline is published at least twice monthly. All issues are archived at <http://dodd.ohio.gov/pipeline>
Share your thoughts with us at feedback@list.dodd.ohio.gov; Visit us at www.dodd.ohio.gov
[Click here for Pipeline, Audio Version](#)

[See Our Online Service System Guide](#)

March 5, 2014
Volume 8, Issue 5

In This Issue ...

- 1. We Saw Ability at Work on DD Awareness & Advocacy Day, March 4
- 2. Medina County Rolls Out the Red Carpet for the State of the State Address
- 3. Awareness & Advocacy Celebrated Around the State
- 4. Service & Support Administration Training Rules!
- 5. Ohio-Based Diversity and Inclusion Employment Initiative
- 6. Updated Waiver Handbooks Describe Services

Reminder: Forum on New CMS Rule March 11

Pipeline PostScripts: Many New Updates for Your Calendar



March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

We invite you to share information and a photo of your local activities!

Please send information to sherry.steinman@dodd.ohio.gov for possible inclusion in the March 27 Pipeline.

1. We Saw Ability at Work on DD Awareness & Advocacy Day

“Business ownership runs in my family. As a person with a disability myself, I consider ‘paying forward’ my biggest achievement. I have now hired people with disabilities to work for my company, and that makes me feel better than anything.”

–Self advocate Angie Bevington, owner of AngieShred in Miami County

Developmental Disabilities Awareness & Advocacy Day March 4th at the Ohio Statehouse celebrated a partnership blending the traditional annual *March Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month Kickoff* and statewide *Legislative Advocacy Day* activities. Now in its second year as a unified program, approximately 400 people packed the ‘*The People’s House*,’ with

awareness and advocacy venues overflowing the Atrium and across High Street to the Vern Riffe Center, for appointments with legislators.

The event theme was *“What are you waiting for?”* It refers to a recent study funded by the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council (DD Council) that evaluated the state’s waiting list for Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waivers. The theme also encourages participants to take action toward their goals.

Speakers yesterday shared achievements in advocacy, education, self-determination, and employment. Among the speakers was DODD Director John Martin, as well as several self-advocates from around the state. Director Martin observed ...

“I am pleased to see so many of Ohio’s self advocates taking the podium here before me today. We are in the process of learning more about what you are waiting for – either on a waiting list for services or in your lives in general – and then how we can help you to get whatever that is.”

Following the speakers, participants met with their state legislators to discuss key advocacy topics for 2014, including accessible parking, [visitability](#), what the Waiting List means for people with disabilities, and related legislation on the subject of increasing the Medicaid asset limit for people with developmental disabilities.

Here are a few glimpses and some words of wisdom from a day of Awareness and Advocacy:



Look Out When This Dynamic Duo Teams Up at the Statehouse!

Christine Brown (left) and Shari Cooper have the high-wattage smiles to match their enthusiasm for DD Awareness and Advocacy Day. Christine is well-known as a state leader on legislative advocacy issues, and let it be known that “Speaking up about what is important to you is what we need to be doing here today!”

Shari Cooper, MC for the event, kept the program moving along. She will now be even more well-known for her ready wit and grace under pressure. She encouraged each speaker and made it clear that, “We self advocates stick together.”



Director Martin gets some presentation pointers from Adam Moss (left).

Adam's presentation on the subject of his attendance at The Ohio State University was expertly prepared on an electronic reader, and delivered with ease. He is a second-year student in the Transitions Options Postsecondary Settings (TOPS) Program at OSU, and works as a student employee at the Woody Hayes Athletic complex. Adam noted,

“I have been blessed to have parents with high expectations... and I am carrying on a family tradition at OSU – I love being a Buckeye!”



JJ House Needs No Podium!

JJ House headed up to the podium in his 'rolling chariot' with the help of Sadie Hunter (People First) and promptly stole the hearts of just about everyone in the Statehouse Atrium.

**“I have seen a dream come true – to produce my own play –
“How I Became a Pirate.”
People ask me, how do you, a young boy, make a dream come true, and I say, “Just keep having faith that it will happen!”**

More about JJ House at

<http://www.thejjproject.org/index.php/about/whoisjj>



Jeanne Stuntz captures the moment.

Jeanne (standing), a staunch supporter of the Ohio Self Determination Association takes a few frames of self advocates in action during the March 4 program. The Atrium was filled to capacity with participants from across the state – many of whom met with their local legislators to discuss issues of interest and concern to them.



Chair of Ohio DD Council Renee Wood is pensive as she waits to be introduced at the outset of the program.

Renee has taken the reins of the organization with the sure grip of a strong self advocate who has set her goals high, and helped others to do so by following her example.

Sponsors for this year’s statewide kickoff event for Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month included many partners in Ohio’s developmental disabilities community: DODD; Ohio DD Council; Ohio Special Initiatives for Brothers and Sisters (SIBS); The Arc of Ohio; Ohio Association of County Boards (OACB); Ohio Provider Resource Association OPRA); Ohio Self Determination Association (OSDA); People First of Ohio; the Nisonger Center at The Ohio State University; Disability Rights Ohio; and, the University of Cincinnati Children’s Hospital.

For more information and to view more photos, ‘like’ the event’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/OhioDDAwareness and on the *DODD Facebook Page*.

[Return to Top](#)

2. Medina Rolls Out the Red Carpet for ‘State of the State’

Governor John Kasich’s *State of the State* address presented in Medina this year, underscored major plans for Ohio and offered a glimpse of initiatives contained in the budget that will carry Ohio through 2014. He urged members of the General Assembly to embrace initiatives spurring education and job development to keep propelling the state forward to a more prosperous future. In developing the state budget and its foundational elements, including more proposed tax cuts, Governor Kasich noted,

"The nation and the world have their eyes on Ohio. They see we're coming back, and they want to know how we're doing it. We're not done, but we've made good progress ... I hope you'll stay with me on the path as we go higher. I hope you'll keep up the teamwork, keep taking on the impossible tasks, keep tossing aside the status quo, and keep shaking things up."

He also emphasized initiatives aimed at helping people with disabilities and mental health issues to have more community-based options, as well as supporting other far-reaching health and safety concerns. The administration currently is finalizing the proposals that will comprise the Mid-Biennium Review (MBR) budget. See the address at: <http://www.ohiochannel.org/index.asp>

Medina Rolls Out the Red (White, and Blue) Carpet

The City of Medina hosted hundreds of state agency dignitaries and related staff in town for the day prior to the 7 p.m. State of the State address. Director Martin and staff representing DODD, and Director Kevin Miller and staff representing Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) drove up early in the day to participate in a wide range of activities organized by the Medina County Board of DD and their service partners. The series of events focused on the many local efforts supporting the [Employment First](#) initiative.

Events under the umbrella of the 2014 theme for Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month included an “*Ability @ Work*” Summit that brought together government, business, and community leaders from Medina County to discuss workforce successes and challenges for people with disabilities, and spotlight how state-supported initiatives are making a difference.



Talk About Ability!

Self-advocate Courtney Jordan shared her thoughts and her enthusiasm for work at the Ability@Work Summit in Medina.

She observed,

“I would like to live in a world where I see people with disabilities come home from a job every day.”

Courtney was the first person in Medina County to sign-up for Medicaid Buy-In, a program that allows Ohioans with disabilities to work and not lose certain Medicaid benefits.

Tours of local businesses provided an inside look at employment opportunities, and highlighted their collaborative efforts to create meaningful jobs for people with disabilities in Medina

County. Directors Martin and Miller presented the businesses, including Sandridge Corp. and Buehler's Market, with awards of recognition for this important work.

Check out the [DODD Facebook page](#) for more photos and information about the day in Medina.

[Return to Top](#)

3. Awareness & Advocacy Celebrated Around the State

A potpourri of DD Awareness Month activities and events around the state -- thanks to all who have shared information. Contact sherry.steinman@dodd.ohio.gov to submit ideas for the March 19 Pipeline.

Sarah's Awesome Self Advocacy

Advocacy & Protective Services (APSI) Shares this Success Story ...

Sarah is a woman who knows her own mind. She has always wanted to be as independent as possible and make her own decisions. But Sarah will tell you that when APSI first became her guardian in 2006 she was not making the best decisions, especially about her health. She will also tell you that a lot has changed since 2006!

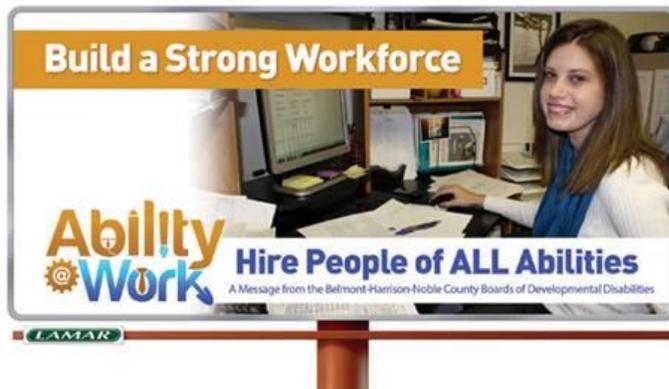
With the help of her service provider On the Mark, her spouse, and her APSI representative, Sarah began to make many positive changes in her life. She continued to work closely with her support people, and in late 2013 she asked the Probate Court for permission to be her own guardian. A court hearing was set for December and the judge who heard Sarah's case approved her request immediately.

Now Sarah is making her own decisions, and staying on track with the help of her service providers. She is active in the Ohio Self Determination Association (OSDA) and Project STIR, and is planning to pursue community employment. Sarah's independence means the world to her, and her support team at APSI is glad to have been part of her journey!



Sarah, and her former APSI representative, Ron Spencer.

Take two minutes to see Sarah speak out on YouTube:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nVx7ZgJKGIY&feature=youtube_gdata



The Belmont-Harrison-Noble (County) Alliance has taken the 2014 Awareness theme to area Roadways

According to BHN spokesperson Pamela McCort, "Our March/April awareness efforts are centered around employment, so the 2014 theme *Ability@Work* is perfect for us." On this billboard, displaying her Ability at Work is local resident, Staci, on-the-job at Paramount Support Services in St. Clairsville.

Morgan County Promotes Ability@Work Poster Contest

The Morgan County Board of Developmental Disabilities will be celebrating DD Awareness Month with several planned activities, including a poster contest reflecting the 2014 Awareness theme, "*Ability at Work*." MCBDD opened an Employment First office in 2012, offering services and supports to people with developmental disabilities and employers to create and maintain meaningful community-based jobs. The Employment First office's county-wide poster contest encourages children ages 5-18 to participate. Posters will be displayed throughout the community to increase awareness, and to foster support and inspiration. *For more information contact Amber Wallace at (740) 962-9906.*

Preble County Celebrates Athletically

PCBDD kicked off its recognition of March as DD Awareness Month with a celebrity basketball game between PCBDD's Special Olympics basketball team -- the Cougars -- and the Preble County Generals, a team of local celebrities. It's the agency's second annual benefit game for Special Olympics, and the local celebrities included local police officers, as well as business, education, and government leaders. Service participant Mara Lovely, began the event by singing the National Anthem. Later in March, Preble County volunteers will be gathering to complete the area's only accessible playground, as Phase II of the ASK Playground ramps up.



Cougar Power!

Chris Moore celebrates after being named the game's MVP in 2013.

More about the game, and the accessible playground at: <http://preblemrdd.org/index2.html>

[Return to Top](#)

4. Service & Support Administration Training Rules!

Training Emphasizes Person-Centered Planning and Involvement of People Served

Training for the new [Service & Support Administration \(SSA\) Rule \(5123:2-1-11\)](#), created to address concerns about language used previously in describing the service and support administration function, has been well-attended and well-received throughout the past month. The rule will be effective March 17, and the roll-out efforts have been targeted specifically for SSAs to discuss what is new in the rule, provide information and examples of person-centered planning, and offer tools to support those efforts. DODD also is hosting a webinar today for families and individuals to talk about the new rule and discuss what they might expect.

[The new rule more specifically describes and encourages the participation of people with developmental disabilities in the content and development of their Individual Service Plans \(ISPs\), and in the selection of people they choose to help in this process, and achieve desired outcomes.](#)

Training opportunities are continuing into March at the Xenos complex in Columbus. Because the Department is committed to taking a holistic approach to implementation of the rule and understanding its effect on Ohio's service system, several DODD Central Office and Developmental Center staff also participated in training last week, and learned more about the concept of person-centered planning.

Led by Kelly Mosley-Miller, DODD Office of Provider Standards & Review, and Jean Tuller, a nationally-recognized expert in the area of systems transformation through state Medicaid reform, all of the training is provided by DODD in collaboration with the Ohio Association of County Boards of DD (OACBDD), and the Ohio Provider Resource Association (OPRA). Mosley-Miller observed,

“One of the reasons we think this discussion is important for all of us, is that when we look at Individual Service Plans, we know they can be improved. They can more specifically spell-out desired outcomes, rather than just satisfying a general goal.

It's the difference between just checking a box, or really finding out what a person wants.”

Tuller further explained, “Coming from a national perspective, when I look at the service system in Ohio, it is possibly the most complex state in the nation in terms of service delivery. The 88 County Boards and the funding they bring to the system are unique to Ohio. With this new rule, you are positioned to move forward more fully grounded in person-centered planning. This will be the key to better working relationships in terms of discussions with the people you serve and their families -- especially regarding decision-making responsibilities.”



“This ISP is going to make more sense now.”

At the Xenos complex in Columbus, Service and Support Administrators and other staff within Ohio's DD system actively participated in discussion groups and conversations about how the support positions will change to most effectively coordinate services for each person served.



“I'm glad people feel they can say anything at this training!”

Jean Tuller (left) and Kelly Mosely-Miller enjoy the fact that training participants are asking lots of questions, and offering realistic examples of working with the new SSA rule in the field. Mosely-Miller said, “We need to figure out better ways to support the people who support the people we serve.” She added,

“This will change the work we do!”

Reiterating a statement made last month (see [Pipeline, February 5, 2014](#), “Service & Support Administration Rule Moves Forward,”) DODD Deputy Director Kate Haller noted at the February 25 training, “Introducing this new rule has been a very positive collaborative effort within our DD stakeholder community, including preparing a new handbook for Service & Support Administration (see link at [Publications & Handbooks](#)). The team effort assures a smoother road forward in the implementation process.” She later added that a DODD publication titled, "[Service Provider Interview Guide](#)" also will be helpful in conjunction with more focused person-centered planning.

[Return to Top](#)

5. Ohio-based Diversity and Inclusion Employment Initiative Connects OOD and ViaQuest with OfficeMax

Pairs hands-on training and related support to empower people with disabilities and veterans for successful employment in OfficeMax locations throughout the state.

A new work training partnership aims to increase employment for people with disabilities and veterans, while providing OfficeMax stores with a model to further diversify its Ohio workforce. The program will launch in summer 2014, and is part of the OfficeMax ‘Maxing out Diversity’ effort, which has been initiated in Alabama, Illinois, and Nevada.

[Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities](#) (OOD) and Dublin-based service provider [ViaQuest, Inc.](#) have connected with OfficeMax to identify potential participants for the OfficeMax training program. As an agency providing services to more than 2500 Ohioans with disabilities in the Central Ohio area, and more than 18,000 throughout Ohio, OOD is well-positioned to assist this effort. By partnering with OOD in identifying work-ready participants, ViaQuest representatives note that the new venture with OfficeMax will help to create unique employment opportunities in line with Governor John Kasich’s [Employment First](#) initiative.

ViaQuest is developing a work-training facility and direct employment program to prepare people with disabilities and veterans for the Ohio-based OfficeMax job opportunities. The organization will offer a ‘real-world’ work environment and specific curriculum to train people for meaningful careers within OfficeMax distribution and retail centers. The skills to be learned are transferable to enable successful employment at other businesses, as well.

Larry Worth, Executive Director of ViaQuest Employment Services, explained, “We’re not only preparing people for work within the OfficeMax setting, we’re also instilling skills that will empower them for success in a range of work environments. Participants will be prepared to succeed as highly motivated, dependable, and qualified employees.”

The training program will be launched in stages, with the initial focus on creating a retail and distribution training facility to serve metropolitan Columbus. The facility will feature products, shelving, inventory systems, and employee training techniques that mirror those encountered in OfficeMax facilities. As the program expands, ViaQuest will develop similar training programs around the state to serve a broader range of OfficeMax locations in Ohio.

In learning of the upcoming launch of this new employment and training partnership, DODD lead person for the Employment First initiative Kristen Helling stated,

“Businesses like OfficeMax recognize the benefits of hiring people with disabilities. This opportunity provides a win-win for all involved.”

DODD supports and encourages partnerships such as this that blend private sector perspectives on employment needs with public sector resources that serve individuals with developmental disabilities in their communities.

[Return to Top](#)

6. Updated Waiver Handbooks Describe Services, Budgets

DODD has electronically released revised handbooks describing the [Individual Options \(I.O.\) waiver](#) and the [Level One waiver](#). Now on the [DODD website](#) (click on [Publications](#)) along with the newly-released [Service & Support Administration rule handbook](#), the updated publications each include the many new service options under each of the Medicaid waivers, and offer answers to questions frequently asked by individuals and families served, as well as by support staff in the statewide DD services community. DODD is most appreciative of the stakeholder input received in the collaborative process of preparing the new handbooks, which has helped to guide and simplify the new and updated publications.

[Return to Top](#)



NOTICE: Strategic Leadership Group to Host Forum on CMS Rule Registration Is Closed for the Informational Forum

March 11 Event Will be Videotaped and Posted Online

Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Issues Final Rule on Home and Community-Based Services

Registration is now closed for the DODD-sponsored open forum and presentation on Tuesday, March 11, at the Ohio Department of Commerce Ohio Fire Academy in Reynoldsburg, regarding recent changes to the CMS rule ([CMS-2296-F](#)) that governs how states may use federal Medicaid funds to pay for home- and community-based services (HCBS). Response to the upcoming event has been excellent, and the maximum number of slots has been filled. The event will be videotaped and posted online at www.dodd.ohio.gov. For earlier information announcing the event, see the lead article titled, “Strategic Leadership Group to Host Forum on CMS Rule” in [Pipeline](#), February 19, 2014 .

PostScripts



People First Conference, March 13-15

Ohio’s 2014 *People First Conference* is March 13-15, at Roberts Convention Center, Wilmington, Ohio. This year’s conference theme is, “*Advocacy, the Time to Change is Now!*” The agenda this year includes self advocates’ discussions of Employment First, Transition Services, and many other exciting topics of interest to self advocates, their families, friends, and staff.

Look for registration and program information online at www.peoplefirstohio.org

People First of Ohio will be celebrating their 15-year Anniversary at the three-day conference, and there will be many surprise guests and unique activities. For example, many organizations in attendance will decorate a chair representing their mission, and illustrating ‘Why they want to be at the *People First* table.’ Opening ceremonies begin at 9:15 a.m. on the 14th. More information at www.peoplefirstohio.org.

 **OACB Hosts Appreciative Inquiry Training, March 18, 19 & 28**
Registration deadline is March 7. To register [CLICK HERE.](#)

The Ohio Association of County Boards (OACB) is sponsoring a three-day training session to learn and experience how Appreciative Inquiry (AI) can change the way you live and work. Appreciative Inquiry is the cooperative search for the best in people, their organizations, and the world around them and involves asking questions that strengthen a system's capacity to heighten positive potential. Featured speaker is Dr. Joan Colleran Hoxsey, an international speaker and presenter on this topic, well-versed in the dynamics of change management. For more information contact Ann Neu (614) 431-0616; aneu@oacbdd.org

 **PAR Regional Trainings Set for March, April, and May**

Several PAR (**Professionals, Advocates, Resources**) regional trainings are set for March, April, and May. They include: *Trauma Informed Care: Facilitating Healing, Resiliency and Hope* on March 26 at the Delaware County Board of DD, and March 27 at the ESC, Valley View (Cleveland area). Presenters for this training are *Mary Vacario* and *Carol Hudgins-Mitchell*, Certified Trauma Specialists; *Transition: Life Beyond School* on April 3 at the Delaware County Board of DD and on April 17 at ESC, Valley View. Presenters for this training are *Connie Morris*, Creative Life and Work Services, *David Zwyer*, Community Fund Management Foundation, *Chris Filler*, Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence (OCALI), and *Suzanne Beck*, Independent Consultant. Lastly, *Principles of Anger Management: Learning from our Clients* training will be April 29 at ESC, Valley View, and on May 13 at the Delaware County Board of DD. Presenter is *Randy Shively*, Vice President/Clinical Services, Alvis House.

For registration, visit www.par-ohio.org. More info at <http://www.par-ohio.org/index.php?src=events>

 **2014 Statewide DD Awareness Month Theme is 'Ability@Work.'**

Each year *Ohio Public Images* creates a statewide theme for the March celebration of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, and theme-related efforts throughout the year. OPI prepares posters and other materials to standardize artwork and yet allow for local customization. Artwork is available free, online at www.publicimagesnetwork.org. OPI encourages a year-long DD awareness effort, and provides sample ideas and information both online, and at events to be scheduled in 2014.



 **Goodwill Columbus: Building an Independent Life, March 8**

On March 8th, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Goodwill Columbus will host a "Life After School and Beyond" workshop at 1331 Edgehill Road in Columbus. Families & Friends Network (FFN) of Goodwill Columbus is presenting their annual spring workshop for family members of individuals with developmental disabilities. Sessions include:

- Jobs and Employment with presenters Meg Griffing of COVA, and Lutrell Jolly of Goodwill
- Financial: Government/County Funding with presenter Anne Russell of FCBDD
- Future Planning & Employment with presenter David Zwyer, Esq. of Community Fund Management Foundation
- Defining Strengths & Safety Nets with Marilyn Messina, LISW

Cost for up to two family members is \$10 for FFN members, \$20 non-members (portion of fee waiver available). To register contact Pat Karshner, pkarshner@columbus.rr.com, (614)885-2291.



Ohio Waiver Network to Host Training in March & April

The Ohio Waiver Network (OWN) will host several training events in March and April. These training opportunities are on the subjects of *Employment First*, and the *new Service & Support Administration rule*, and are at different locations around the state. For more information and to register, see the Ohio Waiver Network website at www.ohiowaivernetwork.com. Also online are the upcoming OWN Regional Meetings and Information Sessions for March and April.



'The Fatal Five' Training – March 20

The Healthcare Advisory Committee is offering a one-day conference with two topics that may be of interest to nurses, SSA's, direct care staff, parents, and guardians. On March 20, *The Fatal Five: Preventing Preventable Deaths in Community Settings* will be presented by Karen Green McGowan, RN, CDDN. Karen has 35 years of experience in the Developmental Disabilities field, and will focus on the five subjects of bowel obstruction, aspiration pneumonia, sepsis, and dehydration. In addition, *Medications Used in the Geriatric Population* will be presented by Nanette Wrobel, RPH, a strong advocate for individuals with developmental disabilities. Her presentation will look at medications frequently used in the geriatric population and specific concerns in that process. For information and registration: <http://highdd.org> -- look under 'News and Info.'



The Arc of Ohio, Annual March Training Opportunity, March 20

The annual Arc of Ohio training for families of people with developmental disabilities will be on Thursday, March 20, at the Holiday Inn, Worthington. These trainings provide an overview of budget information and service updates, and offer plenty of time for questions and discussion. Registration details coming soon – visit www.thearcofohio.org.



Healthy Lifestyles Train-the-Trainer Workshop, March 21-22 and 24-25

The Ohio Disability and Health Program is hosting a Healthy Lifestyles two-day Train-the-Trainer Workshop at The Ohio State University in Columbus March 21-22, and again March 24-25. The Healthy Lifestyles curriculum was designed by and for people with disabilities to help people develop confidence and skills to maintain a healthy and happy life. This 2-day workshop is free, fun, and educational for people who will commit to teaching people with disabilities about Healthy Lifestyles. Training will feature Master Trainers Angela Weaver, from the Oregon Office on Disability and Health, and Joe Basey, from the City of Eugene, Adaptive Recreation. Participants will learn about the history of the national, evidence-based Healthy Lifestyles© (HL) program; experience many of the hands-on practical aspects of the workshop; receive a certificate as a "Certified Lead HL Trainer"; receive all the necessary HL training materials; and, network with peers. Contact: Erica Coleman, (513) 803-4399; erica.coleman@cchmc.org



Ohio SIBS Looking Forward: Transition Retreat, April 4-6, 2014

The *SIBS Looking Forward: Transition Retreat* is a weekend where students with disabilities (ages 17-22) and their siblings (ages 15-25) can explore transition topics and enjoy time together. Participants will learn about the transition process, get to know their siblings better, and develop more self-awareness and confidence about the future. Activities include group discussions, teambuilding challenges, and advocacy. The retreat will be held at YMCA Camp Wilson in Bellefontaine, Ohio. Siblings pairs are asked to donate \$50/each to help offset the cost of the weekend, but any additional donation would be appreciated. Contact thomas.fish@osumc.edu or sahall@ashland.edu for more information or to register.

A link to a video from last year's retreat: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vC-6hUh2w9Y>



Ohio Provider Resource Association Spring Conference, April 8-9

Planning is currently underway for the Ohio Provider Resource Association (OPRA) Spring Conference, April 8-9 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Dublin. This well-attended conference will provide updates and new information on many subjects of interest to Ohio's statewide community of service providers, as well as showcase providers, themselves, during the two-day conference. More information at www.opra.org



Disability Housing Network, Technical Assistance, April 8-9

Through partnerships with DODD and the Ohio DD Council, the Disability Housing Network (DHN) is offering technical assistance to County Boards and Housing Corporations in these areas:

- County Housing Planning
- Housing Development
- Property Management
- Master Contract Standards
- Exploring Alternatives to Current Housing Model

Contact Jaclyn Slemmer at jacalynslemmer@disabilityhousingnetwork.org to schedule technical assistance. In addition, DHN will offer a track of housing sessions at the 2014 Ohio Provider Resource Association (OPRA) Spring Conference on April 8 & 9. Look for more information at www.opra.org.



Multiple Perspectives Conference, April 16-17

The Ohio State University campus will host the Annual Multiple Perspectives Conference (exact location to be announced) on April 16-17. Individuals with disabilities, family members, professionals and educators in the disabilities field, and community members are welcome. The annual conference will present workshops and keynote speakers on a variety of topics, including housing, education, transportation, and employment. The conference schedule is currently being finalized.

For More Information: [Follow this link to visit the Ohio State University's ADA Coordinator's Office Web-site.](#) Sponsored by The Ohio State University ADA Coordinator's Office.



Annual NADD Conference, 'Call for Presenters' due April 18

Call for Presentations: Now seeking 90-minute presentations and 3-hour skill-building workshops.

NADD Online submission deadline is Friday, April 18: Go to <http://thenadd.org/cfp-ohio/>

All proposals will be considered. A limited number are selected. Notification will be e-mailed by April 30.

The State of Ohio 12th Annual MI/DD Conference sponsored by NADD (formerly the National Association for Dual Diagnosis) on the subject of *Mental Health Aspects Treatment and Support* will be September 16-17, at the Crowne Plaza Columbus/ North. See the 'Call for Presenters' information above. Workshops given by Primary Presenters receive a complimentary daily conference registration fee.

Primary presenters who have clients/consumers in case examples are not required to pay a registration fee. More information at <http://thenadd.org/>



OADSP Sponsors First 'DSP Summit Conference,' April 29

The Ohio Alliance of Direct Support Professionals (OADSP) newly-established Council is working to better support Ohio's DSPs, and has planned the very first Direct Support Professional Summit. Not to be confused with the DSP Recognition event each September, this new Summit will focus on training and

information, rather than recognition. The Summit will be held at the Xenos complex in Columbus on April 29. Sessions for the day-long conference are currently being planned, and will include tracks on leadership, person-centered thinking, UI/MUIs, and rights of individuals served. Registration is \$35 for the day, and includes lunch, six hours of credits, *a one year OADSP/NADSP membership*, and more. [Register here!](#) According to OADSP Credentialing & Outreach Coordinator Bethany Toledo, “We feel that that for the Direct Support field to be recognized as a true profession, we must provide these kinds of learning opportunities, as well as establish a strong membership base. A lot of DSPs work as independent providers, and may have a difficult time accessing quality training.” Contact: pcbethany@prodigy.net



Save the Date! Spring Employment Conference, April 23

A Spring Employment Conference will be hosted at the Xenos complex in Columbus on April 23. The conference will feature Joyce Bender, founder and CEO of Bender Consulting Services, Inc., a firm that recruits and hires people with disabilities in the public and private sectors, headquartered in Pittsburgh. She is the immediate past-chair of the board of the American Association of People with Disabilities and host of “*Disability Matters with Joyce Bender*,” at www.voice.voiceamerica.com. Details will be available soon. Please share this announcement with people interested in employment of Ohioans with disabilities. For more information, or to register, email ODEA2013@gmail.com after March 20.



Absolute Care to Host Paint-A-Palooza, April 26

Absolute Care invites you to join them for *Paint-A-Palooza 2014* on Saturday, April 26th, 12-6 p.m. at [Absolute Care](#), 600 Lakeview Plaza Blvd, in Worthington. This is a day to demonstrate that individuals with disabilities can do anything! This agency flies in an artist from Wisconsin, who brings with him *special adaptive art equipment that allows all individuals with disabilities the opportunity to create their own print design* and paint it on a 100-foot canvas. Along with this large masterpiece to be created throughout the day, [TAASC](#) an adaptive sports coalition, will provide kayaking and bicycling. Also, the Bill Foley Band will be on-hand, and there will be games and food. Visit www.absolutecare.org for more details, or contact Caitlin Weasel at cweasel@absolutecare.org. Just prior to the start of Paint-A-Palooza on that day, Absolute Care will host a “Walk for Wounded Warrior Project.” The walk starts at 10:30 at Absolute Care. Funds raised will go directly to the Wounded Warrior Project. Register by April 20, at www.absolutecare.org.



SAVE THE DATE! The Arc of Ohio Day at Cedar Point, May 22

The Arc of Ohio Executive Director Gary Tonks says, “Please note the change in days of the week this year – May 22 is a Thursday. Cedar Point selects the day and date.” Registration is now OPEN! Request your tickets by clicking here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-arc-of-ohio-day-at-cedar-point-2014-tickets-10789849731>. Nearly 10,000 Ohioans participate each year.



SAVE THE DATE! Governor's Council on People with Disabilities

Youth Leadership Forum, August 3-7; Applications must be received by March 31.

The Ohio Governor's Council on People with Disabilities, in partnership with The Arc of Ohio, invites future community leaders to attend the annual Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) for Students with Disabilities at the State Capitol in Columbus, August 3 – 7. The application, which includes details about requirements and deadlines, [may be viewed and printed here](#).



DODD Hotline for Reporting Abuse, Neglect, other Possible Major Unusual Incidents (MUIs)

To report abuse/neglect and other MUI's call toll-free: **1-866-313-6733**. Please note that MUIs are to be reported to the local County Board of DD, however, it is understood that there may be times an individual, staff member, or family member may feel it is a conflict -- or that, potentially, a County Board may be involved in the allegation. In those instances it is important to remember the hotline number is there to be used for reporting concerns in these situations.

Pipeline Feedback ... from You to the State

Pipeline is an electronic publication of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD), distributed at least twice monthly to update and inform readers of timely, relevant information affecting stakeholders in the developmental disabilities community. Share questions or comments about *Pipeline* at feedback@list.dodd.ohio.gov or sherry.steinman@dodd.ohio.gov. To subscribe to *Pipeline*, email: join-pipeline@list.dodd.ohio.gov and write SUBSCRIBE in the subject line. To discontinue your subscription to *Pipeline*, write UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line. You also may read issues of *Pipeline* at <http://dodd.ohio.gov/publications/pipeline.htm>



Department of
Developmental Disabilities

The State of Ohio is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider of Services.



Stay connected!