

Why close two Developmental Centers?

It is not a sustainable use of state resources to continue to operate 10 Developmental Centers (DC).

- DODD will continue to reduce census at DCs by 90 people annually
- As more people with disabilities are choosing to live in small homes near family and natural supports, the demand for DCs is decreasing
- Currently, the only individuals being admitted to DCs are people with significant behavioral challenges or under a criminal court jurisdiction

It is the RIGHT THING to do for Ohio's citizens with Developmental Disabilities.

- Living in small homes provides natural interactions and relationships with the community
- Natural interactions with the community increase personal growth experiences
- Home and Community-Based Waiver services allow individuals, with their family and guardians, to choose from a wide variety of services that are driven by their personal desires and needs
- The waiver is "portable" and allows for a free choice of provider – this promotes quality
- An individual, family, or guardian can change their provider and remain in their home
- Encouraging choice, along with community experiences, builds independence under supervision and structure, leading to more independence

Reducing the number of Developmental Center beds will promote Waiver Service development.

- As people transition to Home and Community-Based Waiver services, state and federal dollars that support them will follow the individuals into their future homes
- Capital funding available for those that transition from a Developmental Center to a Home and Community-Based Waiver will help to build "housing stock" that will increase the potential for others
- Waiver homes generally are less costly than an ICF or Developmental Center

Why close the Montgomery (MDC) and Youngstown Developmental Centers (YDC)?

- MDC and YDC are in close proximity to other centers
- MDC and YDC share a region with another Developmental Center
- MDC and YDC have not had a high demand for admissions, especially for people with significant criminal or behavioral challenges
- The individuals living at MDC and YDC can be served by the private sector service systems more easily than some individuals at many other centers
- MDC and YDC are much more viable than other centers for sale or transfer once closed
- MDC and YDC are in close proximity to facilities run by other state agencies

Why downsize the Developmental Centers at such a fast rate?

- Ohio is downsizing DCs at a slower rate than the national average. According to the recent *State of the States in Developmental Disabilities Project* (2013), from 2011-2013, the number of people living in Ohio's DC has gone down 13 percent, while the national average was 17 percent.
- The number of people moving out of DCs has decreased in recent years. In the last four years (2011 – 2014), 29 percent of the total DC population, or 373 people, have moved. In the last ten years (2004 – 2014), 47 percent of the total DC population, or 818 people, have moved.

Why eliminate services for the most vulnerable people?

- DODD is closing two DCs, not eliminating the option of DCs. The other eight centers will remain open and continue to provide quality services to its residents, as well as technical assistance, short-term stabilization services, and support to their local region.

How will you ensure the health and safety of the people who move out of a Developmental Center?

- DODD will work with individuals and families one-on-one to review their options, and help them select a home that best meets their needs. This may include another DC, an ICF, or a home in the community.
- Once individuals and families have selected a setting, DODD will work with them to develop a personalized transition plan to make the move as easy as possible.
- Each person who leaves a DC and moves to a small ICF or into the community will receive face-to-face follow-along services to ensure their health and safety.
- Most of the individuals who have moved from a DC have been successful in their new setting. 2011-2014, only 10 percent of the individuals who moved out of a DC returned.

Why aren't you honoring the choice families have made for their loved one?

- DODD will honor the choice of individuals who want to stay in a DC, while encouraging and supporting the choice of those who want to leave. Individuals who live in a closing DC will have the option to move to another DC, to a small ICF, or into the community with a [Home and Community-Based Services \(HCBS\) waiver](#). Waivers allow individuals to live in community settings of their choice with supports, rather than in an Intermediate Care Facility (ICF) or other facility.
- All moves from a DC have been voluntary.

Who can I call with questions?

- You can contact your Developmental Center Superintendent with questions.
- You can call DODD's Budget and Developmental Center Closure hotline toll-free at 855-611-6446 (OHIO) or 614-728-5311.
- You can find more information online at DODD.Ohio.gov/OurFuture.