



Department of
Developmental Disabilities

Office of the Director

John R. Kasich, Governor
John L. Martin, Director

February 20, 2015

Clifford A. Rosenberger, Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street, 14th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Speaker Rosenberger,

I write to notify you that this letter serves as the Department's official public announcement regarding the Department's decision to close Montgomery Developmental Center and the Youngstown Developmental Center. Today, the Department will begin the process to close the above mentioned centers no later than June 30, 2017.

Ohio's eight other state-operated Developmental Centers will remain open and continue to provide quality care to its residents, as well as technical assistance and short-term stabilization services to their region. This decision was not easy, and was made only after the most careful considerations.

As you may be aware, in recent years, the number of residents living at our state-operated Developmental Centers has reduced substantially. At the beginning of my tenure, there were approximately 1,600 residents living at our ten centers; today, that number is approximately 900, representing a decline of more than 40 percent. Because of this drop in census, it is no longer efficient to continue operating ten Developmental Centers.

I look forward to discussing the Department's decision to close these centers in greater detail with you and your colleagues.

Sincerely,

John L. Martin, Director
Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

JLM/zrh

Cc: Senate President Keith Faber, House Minority Leader Fred Strahorn, Senate Minority Leader Joe Schiavoni, LSC Director Mark Flanders