
Pipeline News from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

John R. Kasich, Governor

John L. Martin, Director

Pipeline is published at least twice monthly. Issues are archived at www.dodd.ohio.gov/pipeline
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August 15, 2012
Volume 6, Issue 18

In This Issue ...

- 1. *Administration News: Recent Initiatives, Opportunities for System Improvement*
- 2. *DODD Releases ICF-IID Program Vision Paper*
- 3. *Self Empowered Life Funding (SELF) Waiver: First Recipient, Christine A. Brown*
- 4. *Rules Update: Public Hearing Set for September 14*
- 5. *Mahoning County – Local Government Innovation Grant Offers Options*
- 6. *Mount Vernon Developmental Center and Madison Avenue*
- 7. *Voter Registration News and Reminders*

Pipeline PostScripts: Many Events & Opportunities for Your Calendar

Administration Update

1. Recent Initiatives, Opportunities for System Improvement

Strengthening Health-Related Disability Programs

The Ohio State University Nisonger Center and the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) will receive a \$900,000 grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to promote health, prevent chronic disease, and increase the quality of life among people with disabilities.

According to OSU, this is the first time Ohio is among the states receiving this grant to develop and strengthen health-related disability programs. The statewide efforts will work to increase capacity in the areas of health promotion, access to healthcare, and emergency preparedness for people with disabilities.

The *Ohio Disability and Health Program* -- a partnership between ODH, the Nisonger Center and the University of Cincinnati (UCEDD) at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center -- will establish and work with a disability community planning group that will guide, advise, and assist in program activities. The planning group will consist of state and community disability agencies, individuals with disabilities, and family members.

Nursing Homes, Quality Measures

After changes made in last year's budget, Ohio nursing homes must meet five quality measures in order to qualify to receive their normal reimbursement amount. As reported by news outlets last week, just-released data shows that all but five facilities have met that goal. The change was established in the biennium spending measure (**HB153**) as a means to drive patient-centered quality, with the specific measures later finalized through separate legislation (**SB264**).

The Office of Health Transformation (OHT) released [Nursing Home, Quality Data](#) that indicates the largest category of facilities met between 11 and 14 of the 20 possible quality measurements connected to the reimbursement payments.

According to Ohio Department of Aging Director Bonnie Kantor-Burman, in the process of developing the quality indicators, "We developed a website for nursing homes so that they would have all of the tools at their disposal to provide the highest quality care possible. So, for each of the quality incentives we were able to explain not only how one would go about meeting it, but why one would want to go about meeting it not only for the resident ... but also why each of the quality incentives makes good business sense for them."

According to OHT and partnering agencies, the quality metrics were designed to be those that each facility could accomplish without a large degree of capital outlay, and also would be in the best interests of the facilities from a business perspective.

Of the facilities measured, 142 met five to ten measures; 549 reached 11 to 14 measures; 207 met 15 to 18; and, five met as many as 19 or 20 standards, according to OHT.

[U. S. Department of Labor Announces Grant Opportunities for Disability Employment Technical Assistance Centers](#)

The U. S. Department of Labor announced two grant opportunities earlier this month, to establish and maintain technical resources for individuals with disabilities in the workplace.

A \$1.1 million grant will fund the establishment of the National Center on Leadership for the Employment and Advancement of People with Disabilities, a technical assistance center that will focus on improving employment outcomes and promoting the economic advancement of people with disabilities.

A second grant for \$950,000 will fund a cooperative agreement to establish and operate the Accessible Technology Action Center, a new national resource that will facilitate and promote the use of accessible technology in the hiring, employment, retention and career advancement of individuals with disabilities.

[Click here to ... Read the DOL Newsletter story ... Learn about the grants](#)
[And click here for more information from the Office of Health Transformation.](#)
www.healthtransformation.ohio.gov/



[2. DODD Releases ICF-IID Program Vision Paper](#)

DODD recently released a vision document, *The Future of the ICF-IID* Program*. Now posted on the DODD Website, the [white paper](#) also was mailed to service providers this week.

The document describes the Department's vision in support rebalancing efforts, as Ohio's developmental disabilities system continues to move toward more choice and community integration for individuals served. DODD makes clear in the document that the ICF-IID Program will remain a vital part of the future service delivery system, but over the next ten years will transition to a smaller, more targeted role.

This long-term transition supports system stakeholders' shared goals of improving the quality of services, connecting resources to the level of individual need, and assuring long-term financial sustainability of the system.

More about the ICF-IID Program on the [DODD website](#). At the bottom of the webpage, those who wish to receive regular updates related to ICFs also may sign up to receive announcements via e-mail.

**Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF-IID or ICF)*



The SELF Waiver

3. Ohio's First SELF Waiver Recipient, Christine A. Brown

Ohio's first Self Empowered Life Funding (SELF) waiver recipient is Franklin County resident and long-time self-advocate, Christine A. Brown.



Congratulations, Christine!

Christine Brown (right) with Jeanne Stuntz, friend and advocate.

Christine has lived in Franklin County since May 2009, and enjoys experiencing living life to the fullest, including all of the joys and challenges that come with it. She is always thinking about ways to improve the lives of people with disabilities

As the owner of *Brown-Cooley Associates in Self-Determination* Christine is well known to many in Ohio's developmental disabilities service system. She has been advocating for people with disabilities since 1994, and has a real passion for positive change, and seeing choices for people with disabilities.

Christine has worked with many County Boards and local officials to foster awareness for disabilities issues affecting individuals in the community. In addition, Christine has received recognition from various organizations for her enthusiastic advocacy efforts, including the Ohio Public Images' Self-Advocate of the Year Award in 2005. She is affiliated with several organizations and projects to promote concepts related to self-determination, including serving as the Ohio Self Determination Association - Central Region Chair; and People First of Franklin County.

Christine notes that she was very excited about hearing that she had been the first individual approved for services via the new SELF Waiver, stating,

"I tried to get all the paperwork in right away and did some research into how everything should be done – I'm ready to get started on this!"

Read More about Christine Brown and the SELF Waiver in the next issue of

Pipeline Quarterly reporting on Summer 2012

Archived at [Pipeline Quarterly](#)

More SELF Training Available

A second August SELF waiver training has been scheduled for *August 21 & 22*, for anyone who has not been able to attend a previous session. The two-day training will be at the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission, 400 E. Campus View Blvd., Columbus, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m..

Click below to register for the training:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SELFWaiverTrainingRegistration>

DODD also will offer SELF Waiver two-day training *via webinar*, September 17 and 18. Start time will be 10 a.m., and end time will be approximately 3 p.m.. *Please register for each day of this two-day webinar separately.* See links below:

The links to register for the September 17 & 18 SELF waiver training *webinar* are:

SELF Waiver Webinar Training DAY 1 Registration

LINK: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/658160640>

SELF Waiver Webinar Training DAY 2 Registration

LINK: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/977589881>

For questions regarding registration for the SELF waiver trainings, contact Katie Rupinsky at katie.rupinsky@dodd.ohio.gov.

For more information about the SELF waiver go to [SELF Waiver online](#)



4. Rules Update: Public Hearing Set for September 14

DODD has provided notice of its intent to *rescind* and *adopt* the following rules under Chapters 5123:2-3 and 5123:2-16 of the Administrative Code on a permanent basis, on or about October 25, 2012, and to conduct a public hearing on the actions.

- *Rule 5123:2-3-15 titled "Procedures to Waive Licensure Rule Requirements"* is being rescinded and replaced by a new rule of the same number. The rule sets forth procedures for the Department to waive licensure rule requirements.
- *Rule 5123:2-3-26 titled "Development of Licensed Residential Beds"* is a new rule. The rule establishes uniform standards and procedures governing the development of residential facilities licensed by the Department under section 5123.19 of the Revised Code. The rule is proposed to replace existing rule 5123:2-16-01 which is being rescinded.

A public hearing on the proposed rule actions will be held on September 14, 2012, beginning at 10:00 a.m.. The hearing will be held in the Lobby Hearing Room of the Rhodes State Office Tower, 30 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

At this hearing, DODD will accept verbal and/or written testimony on the proposed rule actions under consideration.

Persons unable to attend the public hearing may submit written comments on the proposed rule actions. Any written comments received on or before the public hearing date will be treated as testimony, and made available for public review. Submittal of written comments may be made to Becky Phillips, Administrative Rules Coordinator: email becky.phillips@dodd.ohio.gov; fax (614) 644-5013; or U.S. Mail to 30 East Broad Street, 12th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3414.

The rules are available at the Register of Ohio website: <http://registerofohio.state.oh.us> and at each County Board of Developmental Disabilities.



Community Collaboration, Mahoning County

5. Local Government Innovation Grant Offers Options

Sharing Technology Resources Via \$100,000 Grant

Keeping up with technology is important to any modern organization, and smaller government agencies like many County Boards of DD need to keep up, too -- often without adequate financial and other resources to do so. Local Government Innovation Grants are another option that may bring with them opportunities to collaborate and share resources within larger systems.

ACCESS currently helps schools in Mahoning County share technology resources. Now, with a \$100,000 Local Government Innovation Grant – part of Governor Kasich's \$50 million allocation for local government innovation projects that demonstrate collaboration/shared services projects and create greater efficiencies – ACCESS will help townships, cities, and counties in the Mahoning County area fund technology improvements. ACCESS is one of 23 'Data Acquisition Sites' licensed by the Ohio Department of Education.

ACCESS serves 26 school districts in Mahoning and Columbiana counties, two Educational Service Centers, 20 non-public schools, and two Special Education Regional Resource Centers.

John Laplante, executive director of ACCESS, noted, "If we can do something together to look at combining our efforts, we think that gives us a chance to provide a lot better services for a lot less money." And, Randy Cole, President of the State Controlling Board commented regarding the ACCESS grant money,

"And you look at who all of your partners can be. Not just schools together with schools, but schools with governments, and County Boards of Developmental Disabilities, and Park Districts, and everyone working together to try and drive down their costs."

According to Mahoning County Board of DD Superintendent Larry Duck, "While we were not part of the grant application, we are definitely willing to meet to discuss any ideas to save money and improve efficiency regarding technology. A few years ago we worked with county officials to upgrade and strengthen our servers within the larger county system, and that has been a positive direction for us. We're always looking for ways to work together, as community partners."

Acknowledgements: WKBN Fox 27 Youngstown, 08/03/2012, '16 Mahoning Agencies to Share \$100,000 Grant'



DCs as Community Resources

6. Mount Vernon Developmental Center and Madison Ave.

Ada, Patsy, and Robert

Submitted by Laurie Johnson L.S.W., Dana Mattison, and Ernie Fischer, at MVDC

As Ohio's Developmental Centers (DCs) continue with a gradual downsizing process and sharper focus on community involvement, facilities report that strong regional support from their county service areas has offered exciting opportunities for DC residents. Mount Vernon Developmental Center reports some successes and some challenges – all with the helping hands of community partners.

Mount Vernon Developmental Center's (MVDC) first major experience with broad-based community development was as a partner with the Knox County Board of Developmental Disabilities (KCBDD). The County Board invited MVDC staff and residents to experience planning for, renovating, and decorating a four-bedroom home in Mount Vernon with a specific purpose in mind -- and with a firm grasp of managing the large project from the ground up.

On June 15, 2011, Ada, Patsy, and Robert moved in to their new home on Madison Avenue in Mount Vernon. Molly Wobbecke, now Community Support Advisor with DODD, was KCBDD Community Services Director at the time. She explained, "The Madison Avenue home was purchased by the Eastern Ohio Housing Development Corporation as coordinated by KCBDD and the Knox Metropolitan Housing Authority. Funding for the purchase of the home was provided by the Neighborhood Stabilization Program, and DODD."



**The House on Madison Avenue
Home to Ada, Patsy, and Robert.**

Ada's Advocacy and Protective Services Inc. (APSI) representative, Daryl Davison, observes, "Ada appears to be happier and more active since the move to the house on Madison Avenue and her participation in Core Connections Adult Day Services. She's more relaxed, and seems to have a sense of belonging with her new peer group." He adds,

"It's my opinion that Ada enjoys more options – getting out into the community – and is able to lead a more traditional life. She has more of a happy face these days."



A little relaxation.

Patsy in a reflective moment; Robert and Ada relaxing on their couch.

Pennie Chappell, owner of the Center for Disability Services (CDS) Core Connections, comments, “I feel honored to share about Ada, Patsy, and Robert’s transition into community living. First, let me say that the main reason it has been successful is because of the cooperation, dedication, and hard work of so many teams ... people at MVDC, KCBDD, APSI, and CDS. This was true at the time of transition and remains just as true one year later. I was surprised how well each of them transitioned to their new home after living in a Developmental Center for so long.” She adds,

“Ada, Patsy, and Robert represent what a successful community placement looks like, and it is all possible when teams get together and support each other.”

Despite the vigilant efforts of her service provider, Patsy was hospitalized in July. Due to the extent of her medical needs, she then was discharged from the hospital to a local Skilled Nursing Facility in Mount Vernon. Patsy has been experiencing ongoing health issues, and at this point is unable to return to her waiver-funded home. APSI and MVDC are looking into creative options for Patsy’s future residential needs.

MVDC staff note enthusiastically that they are very fortunate to have worked with so many outstanding County Boards and providers throughout Ohio. Superintendent Ernie Fischer adds, “We will continue to work cooperatively to create opportunities for the residents of MVDC to experience living and working in new, healthy and safe environments, within the various communities we serve.”

Since January 2010, MVDC has successfully transitioned 49 people into the community, with 22 moving to Medicaid waiver-funded homes, and 27 moving to Intermediate Care Facility settings.

Read More about Ada, Patsy, and Robert ... and meet Brandon ... in future issues of [Pipeline](#), and in the next [Pipeline Quarterly](#) reporting on Summer 2012
[Archive at Pipeline Quarterly](#)

Mount Vernon Developmental Center serves the geographic area of Region 5, which includes the counties of Knox, Holmes, Tuscarawas, Carroll, Jefferson, Harrison, Licking, Fairfield, Hocking, Perry, Muskingum, Coshocton, Guernsey, Belmont, Noble, Monroe, Morgan, and Washington.
More about MVDC at [Mount Vernon Developmental Center Online](#)



7. Voter Registration News and Reminders

Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted announced last week that his office has launched a new website that allows voters to change their addresses online, and therefore avoid the use of provisional ballots. The website is at www.MyOhioVote.com.

Husted stated when announcing the site, “Of the provisional ballots used during the 2008 presidential election, as many as 130,000 -- or 65% -- of them could have been avoided had voters had the ability to change their address online. An out-of-date address is the top reason voters use provisional ballots.” He added that the state will likely see more provisional ballots than usual, simply because the November 2012 election is a presidential election.

At MyOhioVote.com, voters may change their residence information through a four-step process. The updated information is then sent to local County Boards of Election. Changes must be made 30 days prior to an election, according to the Secretary of State’s office.



Reminders

Tuesday, October 9, is the deadline to register to vote in the November 6 General Election. In Ohio, you are eligible to vote if you:

- Are 18 years old or older, including if you will be age 18 on election day;
- Live in Ohio for at least 30 days before the election;
- Are not currently in jail for conviction of a felony; and,
- Have not been found incompetent to vote through a specific finding and order of a probate judge regarding voting. (A general finding of incompetency and guardianship does not take away the right to vote. An order must state that a person is not competent to vote. If it does not, the person can vote

You may register to vote in-person at any of these places:

- Agencies that provide public assistance or disability programs;
- County Boards of Election;
- County Treasurers' offices;
- Deputy Registrars of the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles;
- Office of the Ohio Secretary of State;
- Public libraries; or,
- Public high schools or vocational schools.

You also may register by mail. *Your registration must be postmarked at least 30 days before the election.* A voter registration application is online at the [Ohio Secretary of State's website](http://www.MyOhioVote.com).

For more information about registering to vote: [Register to Vote - Frequently Asked Questions](#).



PostScripts

Pipeline PostScripts are organized by month, unless the item is a general announcement that is not dependent upon a date.

Annual Mental Illness and Disabilities Conference, September 18-19

The annual conference, “*Mental Health Aspects, Treatment, & Support*,” will be September 18– 19 at the Doubletree Hotel in Columbus. The 10th anniversary of a training partnership between DODD and the Department of Mental Health, the conference is jointly sponsored by the two departments, the National Association for the Dually Diagnosed (NADD, an association for persons with developmental disabilities and mental health needs), and Northeast Ohio Medical University -- in association with the Ohio Coordinating Center of Excellence in MI/DD, Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council, and The Ohio State University Nisonger Center. The annual conference is dedicated to providing quality training to assist people with co-occurring developmental disabilities and mental illnesses live better lives, and this year’s program will include a reflection on the past decade and insights to the future. Click below for registration information:

Ohio State 10th Annual MI/DD Conference
Click above for registration information

2012 National Forum on Disability Issues, September 28

The National Forum on Disability Issues is an historic nonpartisan event. The 2012 event, is both an in-person and streaming-online event on September 28, 2012, is building on the success of the first-ever forum organized by the national disability community in 2008. This year’s forum will focus on the disability positions of the 2012 Presidential candidates. Candidates for the U.S. Senate seat from Ohio also will be invited to participate. Candidates will be given an opportunity to provide their positions directly to the disability community on a wide variety of disability issues. The Forum is FREE, but registration is required. For more information contact Sue Hetrick, (866) 575-8055; shetrick@abilitycenter.org

The Forum is both an in-person opportunity and an online opportunity. Go to www.nfdi.org to:

- Register to attend the event in Columbus
- View the live webcast

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! RSC DisAbility Jobs Summit, September 17-18

The Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission (RSC) is hosting a *DisAbility Jobs Summit: Connecting & Building Partnerships*, September 17-18, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center, 400 N. High St., Columbus. The Summit is designed to benefit employers, developmental disabilities professionals, vocational rehabilitation counselors, mental health professionals, educators, and individuals with disabilities and their families. Contact Chris Glover at Chris.Glover@rsc.ohio.gov; call (614) 438-1430.

The Ohio *DisAbility Jobs Summit* is highly focused on actionable information that can help Ohioans with disabilities find or keep employment at a time when the quest for work is the global issue of our times.

Register online using the following link:
http://www.garrisonevents.com/disability_jobs_summit.php

Direct Support Professionals Prepare to Blaze Trails on September 12

The third annual *Direct Support Professional Recognition Event* will be hosted at the Xenos Complex in Columbus on September 12 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. The theme is, “*Blazing Trails, Leading the Way, Enhancing Lives Every Day.*” Keynote speaker is New Yorker, John Raffaele, who emphasizes the National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (NADSP) Code of Ethics in his presentations.

The event is free for DSPs and will reinforce that today’s most successful Direct Support Professionals will foster *partnerships with individuals who have developmental disabilities to help them reach their goals.*

DODD Director John Martin; Ohio Provider Resource Association (OPRA) President Mark Davis; and Ohio DD Council Policy Analyst Fatica Ayers, also will be featured presenters. In addition, Direct Support Professionals will present skits focusing on ethics and competencies. Returning Master of Ceremonies Scott Osterfeld will welcome an estimated 500 attendees to the Xenos Complex.

Lisa Barnes, OADSP Board Member and Chairperson, notes that funding for this event consists entirely of donations by agencies and County Boards, and that donations are welcomed. Contact her at LisaB4DSPs@yahoo.com or (866) 862-2322, ext. 102.

[Click here to register for the event.](#)
[Registration is ongoing until August 31.](#)

Ohio Legal Rights Service to Become 'Disability Rights Ohio'

Governor John Kasich has issued a public notice to re-designate the Ohio Protection and Advocacy System and the Client Assistance Program for people with disabilities. *This change will happen on October 1, 2012.* The agency's new name will be *Disability Rights Ohio* and will continue to provide client-directed advocacy to people with disabilities.

[Click here to read the Notice of Intent to Re-designate](#)

Send questions or comments about this subject to Ohio Legal Rights Service, 50 W. Broad Street, Suite 1400, Columbus, OH 43215, by *August 31, 2012*. You also may offer comments at a Public Hearing:

Wednesday, September 5, 2012, 10:00 a.m.

Rhodes State Office Tower, First Floor Hearing Room
30 E. Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215

[Click here to read the Notice of Public Hearing; *http://dodd.ohio.gov/newsroom/*](#)

For additional information about the transition, visit their website at <http://www.disabilityrightsohio.org/>

SAVE THE DATE! PAR & OSDA 'SYNERGY' Conference, October 3-5

The annual PAR & OSDA (Professionals, Advocates, Resources & Ohio Self Determination Association) Conference is scheduled for October 3-5 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 5100 Upper Metro Place, in Dublin. The conference theme will be 'Synergy.' For more information go to www.par-ohio.org, or www.ohiosda.org.

Direct Service Workforce Applied Research Conference, October 4

The Government Resource Center and The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, announce a conference, "*Developing Ohio's Long Term Care Direct Service Workforce*," October 4, at the OSU Fawcett Center, 2400 Olentangy River Rd., Columbus. The conference may interest individuals involved in: Behavioral Health; Nursing Homes; Home Health; Developmental Disabilities Providers; Direct Service Workers; Researchers, and anyone interested in long term care and the future of Ohio's direct service workforce. Contact Courtney Downing, Wexner Medical Center, Courtney.Downing@osumc.edu.

Annual Ohio Adult Sibling ('SIBS') Conference Set for October 26-27

Featured speakers at the Twelfth Annual Ohio Adult Sibling (SIBS) conference, October 26-27, at the Columbus Airport Marriott will include Dr. Ann Kaiser, Scott Osterfeld, and Rob Snow. More information about the conference is now online at www.ohiosibs.com. Questions regarding the conference or Ohio SIBS may be directed to Linda Martens, at lmartens@ohiosibs.com.

[See 'Sibling Stories'- Essays about siblings by people with disabilities, at *http://siblingstories.blogspot.com/*](http://siblingstories.blogspot.com/)

SAVE THE DATE! Annual OCALI Conference, November 14-16

'OCALICON 2012' is scheduled for November 14-16, 2012 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. OCALICON is a national forum on autism, assistive technology, and low-incidence disabilities including visual impairments, hearing impairments, and Traumatic Brain Injury. Current research, trends, ideas, and solutions to improve the lives of individuals with autism and other disabilities will be shared. The event includes more than 150 sessions, a pre-conference workshop, a National Autism Leadership Summit and a Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Summit. More at: <http://conference.ocali.org>.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! December 5-7, OACB Winter Conference

The Ohio Association of County Boards (OACB) Serving Individuals with DD announces the dates for its Annual Winter Conference: December 5-7, 2012. The event will be held at the Hilton Hotel at Easton Town Center in Columbus. More information as the event draws closer. Contact: Kim Linkinhoker, OACB Associate Director, (614) 431-0616; klinkinhoker@oacbdd.org.

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. *DODD values subscriber confidentiality and does not intentionally share subscriber addresses with others. However, in the event of a public records request, the DODD will comply with all applicable Public Records Laws.*

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