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**March 19, 2014**  
**Volume 8, Issue 6**

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## March: Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

Thanks to all who have contributed information on this subject for this issue of Pipeline.

### **1. Forum on CMS Rule Accentuates Opportunities, Outcomes** **Strategic Leadership Group Training on Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) Rule for Home and Community-Based Services**

On March 11, at the Ohio Department of Commerce Ohio Fire Academy in Reynoldsburg, DODD hosted a forum on the subject of 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 event was excellent, and the maximum number of seats (200) was filled. The event was videotaped and posted online at the [DODD Website Newsroom](#).\*



### She Knows What She's Talking About!

**"This rule is prescriptive: People who receive support – their lives should look like typical lives."**

**Robin Cooper**, Director of Technical Assistance at the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services (NASDDDS), explains the potential impact of the new rule on Ohio's statewide Developmental Disabilities system.

An expert on HCBS waivers, she works with state, county, and local governments – as well as advocacy and provider organizations – on issues concerning long-term community-based services for people with disabilities.



### They drew it out, talked it up, and doodled it.

Breaking the approximately 200 attendees into small workgroups, the Café Conversations portion of the Forum invited participants to pose key questions, express their concerns, and describe their hopes for opportunities the new rule will offer people with developmental disabilities.



### Everyone was at the Table!

Service providers, individuals served, family members, and professionals in the statewide DD service community were actively engaged in the discussion process. We heard many comments, including:

**"An individual Service Plan is important, but there should be unplanned interactions, too!  
Can the person's friends stop by for a visit – things like that?"**



### Round Three: The Finale

What opportunities does this rule open up? In answer to this question, representatives from each table came forward. We heard:

“What can we change in the structure of our system to get these desired outcomes?”

“Let’s look at what we can incentivize.”

“We need to do this *now*.”

“Let’s make the expectations the outcomes.”

At the Forum, DODD Director John Martin looked out from the stage into the crowded meeting room and stated, “It’s important for us to use this opportunity to change the system – to do this planning – and we have about a year to do it. Then, the implementation will span about five years – so, about six years from now this process will be complete.” He added,

“As I look out in the crowd here, I see a lot of good people. People who care – people who care about improving the system.”

### WHAT’S AHEAD? NEXT FORUM – APRIL 1

#### Creating Work Opportunities Learning from Change: Experiences from Vermont, Rhode Island, and Oklahoma

On April 1, the Strategic Planning Leadership Group will be hosting an Open Forum titled, “*Creating Work Opportunities Learning from Change: Experiences from Vermont, Rhode Island, and Oklahoma.*” Speakers from each of the three states will be on-hand to discuss their experiences and answer questions. More information about the forum and registration for the event is at <http://www.planetreg.com/E31374553129464> .

*\*For this and other Forum information, the URL is <http://dodd.ohio.gov/newsroom/Pages/default.aspx> For background information on the event, see the lead article titled, “Strategic Leadership Group to Host Forum on CMS Rule” in Pipeline, February 19, 2014 .*

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## 2. Mid-Biennium Review – Budget Process Underway

Announcing the 2014 Mid-Biennium Review, Governor John Kasich stated, “I think we’ve made the Mid-Biennium Review a part of Ohio’s culture, and that’s good. These are not things you just slop together. These are things that take time, and frankly, when we get this to the legislature, we’re going to need a lot of input from both Democrats and Republicans on some of the best ways we can work on a whole host of these issues.”

According to an Administration [Fact Sheet](#), "The Governor proposes lowering income taxes across all income levels by 8.5% over the next three years, which would bring Ohio's top income tax rate below 5%."

**In addition, 'program improvements' in the bill include an online training and certification program developed by DODD.**



More information at <http://transforming.ohio.gov>

Ohio Provider Resource Association (OPRA) President Mark Davis noted that, "The online training and certification program allows direct support professionals the opportunity to voluntarily gain extra skills, like appropriate behavioral interventions, at their own pace." The bill also establishes requirements for long-term care facilities regarding residents who are identified as sex offenders in the Attorney General's internet-based sex offender and child-victim offender database. Especially of interest to Ohio's DD community are comments in the [budget information currently online](#) "Helping Ohio's Most Vulnerable Citizens." They include:

**"Recent studies indicate that as many as one in 80 children today is born with autism. I hear every day from families that tell me there aren't enough qualified autism professionals to meet the growing demand. Governor Kasich's project along with financial support from the Office of Health Transformation's Innovation Fund will help make a difference in the lives of Ohioans with autism and their families." -Gary Tonks, CEO, The Arc of Ohio**

The Governor's proposed budget also focuses on several behavioral health policies that address mental illness and addiction and 'silos' in the state system. In particular, he calls for the creation of a Human Services Innovation Office to assess and streamline service delivery. As part of the review process, the Ohio House of Representatives will be splitting the plan ([HB472](#)) into multiple separate bills for vetting in various House committees.

*More information at <http://transforming.ohio.gov/>*

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### **3. Awareness & Advocacy Celebrated Around the State**

**A potpourri of DD Awareness Month activities and events around the state.**

#### **Statewide OPI Media and Awareness Awards**

The Ohio Public Images (OPI) annual *Media and Awareness Awards Luncheon* earlier this month was hosted by the County Board Superintendents Association, and awarded more than 50 honors to individuals and entities in Ohio that developed or spotlighted positive perceptions of people with developmental disabilities during the period from December 1, 2012 through November 30, 2013. Entries considered in this competition were published, broadcast, produced, or otherwise occurred during that timeframe. See the complete awards presentation [here](#).



### **Andre's Got Style ... and Substance**

Andre Travis (seated) is presented the Award of Excellence in the Self Advocate of the Year category, by OPI Board President Margaret Compton and County Board Superintendents Association President Rick Marriott. Andre accepted the award noting,

**“Never give up on your dreams!  
Never give up.”**

Andre participated in a marathon earlier this year and plans to do so again. More at [the Summit DD website](#).



### **James Harley**

James Harley was presented the Award of Merit in the Self Advocate of the Year category. He accepted the award with an absolutely fabulous smile just as you see here.

James is currently a student at the University of Cincinnati Blue Ash Campus and the Vice-Chair of the University's Center of Excellence and Developmental Disabilities. He has shown a lifetime commitment to advocacy.

### **Knox County**

The annual Developmental Disabilities Awareness Luncheon earlier this month in Knox County was a collaborative effort between the Knox County Board of DD and Mount Vernon Developmental Center (MVDC), and was attended by more than 200 people representing a broad cross-section of the community. Filling the Great Room at MVDC were employers, people with developmental disabilities and related staff, family, and friends. Along with a short awards ceremony celebrating and recognizing distinguished service and individual achievements (see photo) keynote speaker Pete Moore from the Ohio Association of County Boards shared this message: “Respect for every person is what we really need to focus on. Respect and compassion – the ability to reach out to others is what makes all the difference in peoples’ lives.”  
*More about this event at: [www.facebook.com/KCBDD](http://www.facebook.com/KCBDD)*



**Congratulations, Honored Guests!  
The 2014 DD Awareness Awards  
presented at MVDC included ...**

**Back Row, L. to R.:**

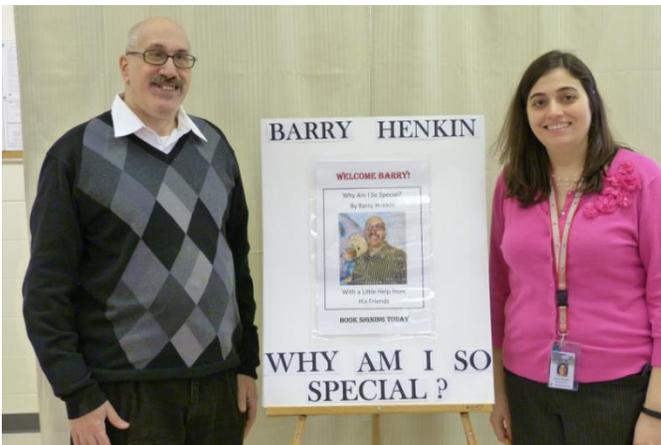
Valerie Hawk, Individual Achievement;  
Jarrod Thomas, Support Professional;  
Patrick Lovell, Individual Achievement;  
Kim Novak, Business Partner of the Year (AVI  
Food Service/Kenyon College).

**Front Row, L. to R.:**

Teresa Brown, Distinguished Service;  
Katelyn James, Volunteer of the Year

**Geauga County – He Wrote the Book on Himself**

On March 3, the Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities (The Metzenbaum Center) kicked-off Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month with a book-signing by author Barry Henkin. His autobiography *Why Am I So Special?* describes how he has overcome various physical, mental, emotional, and societal obstacles. An outspoken self advocate, Barry read some excerpts from the book and then signed copies, as requested. Barry's book is available on Amazon.com. For more information, contact Kelly Ericsson, (440) 729-9406 x1106, [kericsson@geaugadd.org](mailto:kericsson@geaugadd.org).



**The Author & Friend**

Author Barry Henkin and Sarah Rissler, Social Worker, shown at the book-signing event. Sarah is one of Barry's close friends and is mentioned in the book, "*Why Am I So Special?*"

Barry says that having friends like Sarah is part of what makes him so special.

**Hardin County Celebrates Awareness with 'Aktion!'**

Kimberly Thomas, Adult Services Director at the Hardin County Board of DD, reports that the *Hardin Pioneer Aktion Club* recently was named the 2013 winner of the *Community Service Award* at the annual meeting of the Hardin County Chamber and Business Alliance. Accompanying this award were congratulatory letters signed by Senators Keith Faber and Cliff Hite, Representative Robert Sprague, and Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives William Batchelder. When chartered in 2010, the Hardin Pioneer Aktion Club had 13 members. The club now has 25 members unified in their efforts to serve the Hardin County community. Thomas notes, "Their passion for service to others is unmistakable -- with an amazing 38 service projects completed in 2013! Additionally, the Hardin Pioneer Aktion Club held various

fundraisers and social activities which helped the members develop their planning and social skills. The group has grown in size, enthusiasm, and effectiveness.”



### **Aktion Club Members and Friends**

“What better way to celebrate Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month than to earn an award that was open to ALL persons and groups in the entire county! We are proud!”

*-Kimberly Thomas, Adult Services Director,  
Hardin County Board of DD*

### **Franklin County Celebrates Accessibility**

Shari Cooper, Community & Staff Relations Associate at Goodwill - Easter Seals/Miami Valley celebrates DD Awareness Month with an accent on accessibility! She writes, “Would you like to send a shout-out to an establishment whose accessibility features are great -- or help others by educating them on how to make theirs better? If you answered yes, check out this information about *Access Together*, a website where people can share input and advocate to make establishments accessible for all.” Shari adds that for those using screen-reading programs, the URL for the website is <http://www.accesstogether.org/>.

### **In Lawrence County, Awareness is Airborne!**

It wouldn't be DD Awareness Month without the annual Balloon Launch says Tim Nunnery, at the Lawrence County Board of DD. “We've been doing this for as long as I can remember.”



### **An Ironton Tradition**

The students at Open Door School wait eagerly for the annual Balloon Launch, each with a purple balloon in-hand. Attached to each balloon string is a card that bears the student's name and address and encourages the person who finds the balloon to write that student a note. Tim Nunnery said,

**“We've had people write notes from as far away as Pennsylvania and Virginia, and we've gotten plenty from people in the mountains of West Virginia.”**

### **Medina County Empowers Awareness with Scholarship Opportunity**

Medina County high school seniors who plan to pursue a career serving people with developmental disabilities can apply for a \$1000 scholarship from the **Medina County Board of Developmental Disabilities**. The MCBDD Donated Funds Committee raises money for the scholarship through activities all year. The ‘Donor Scholarship’ is available to current high school seniors who have been accepted into an accredited training program in a field that provides services to people with developmental disabilities -- including special education; physical, occupational, or speech therapy; social work; and behavioral sciences. Applicants must

demonstrate involvement in services to people with DD through activities such as volunteering or job shadowing. Scholarship applications are due by March 31. For more information call (330) 725-7751, ext. 273, or visit [www.mcbsd.org](http://www.mcbsd.org).

Visit the [DODD Facebook page](#) for additional photos and information about DD Awareness Month.

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## 4. **People First Says, “The Time to Change is Now!”**

Ohio’s 2014 *People First Conference* March 13-15, at Roberts Convention Center in Wilmington, celebrated 15 years of [People First’s](#) statewide awareness and advocacy efforts with the theme, “*Advocacy, the Time to Change is Now!*”

And People First of Ohio has shown clearly that they know how to celebrate an anniversary! The three-day conference even featured a large ‘time machine’ which served to introduce history and progress. The agenda was packed with plenty of information for the nearly 500 attendees on subjects including the [Employment First](#) initiative and how to put it to work in the lives of *everyone* who wants to work in the community -- as well as sessions on Transition Services, Medicaid Buy-In, and other topics of interest to self advocates, their families, friends, and staff.

People First Executive Director Sadie Hunter emphasized, “What you learn about at this conference is whatever *you* -- as self advocates -- have told us *you* want and need to know more about. *You* set the agenda, and each of you has a say in it. That’s what has driven us all these years.” She added,

**“People First of Ohio is the only organization of its kind that is totally run by self-advocates. You can be proud of your Board, and all the members in our chapters across the state.”**

In the always-enthusiastic style of People First conferences, Sadie’s statement was followed by a great deal of cheering, high-fiving, and even some singing. The three days of learning, surprise guests, and participation in unique activities also included a presentation of chairs, decorated by organizations in attendance to illustrate and answer the challenge, ‘Why do you want to be at the *People First* table?’ (See photos below)

DODD Director John Martin spoke to the group during the opening session and stated,

**“I’m impressed at how People First has made its voice heard over the years. You continue to do that, and you have been involved in making history in this state by doing so. Thank you for making your voices heard.”**



### **This is how you celebrate a 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.**

Roberts Convention Centre in Clinton County has hosted the People First Conference for several years and is very accommodating to attendees. Accessibility and acoustics are excellent, and the festive meeting areas also allow for plenty of mingling.



### **Pulling Up a Chair to the People First Table**

Advocacy and Protective Services, Inc. (APSI) representatives Angie Gerding (left) and Karla Rinto presented a portable chair (unopened, in center) to illustrate that their services are flexible and portable. According to Angie, "Our services are there when you need them, and gone when you don't."



### **John G. Welcomes John M.**

People First member John G. welcomes DODD Director John Martin to the stage, along with Joellen Hunter and Sadie Hunter (at podium). Director Martin spoke in front of the banner proclaiming the event theme, “Advocacy – The Time for Change is Now.” He observed People First’s place in state history, noting the Department’s name change in 2009 and other changes in legislation and statute. He stated,

**“You are a very talented bunch of People!”**

*More information at [www.peoplefirstohio.org](http://www.peoplefirstohio.org).*

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## **5. Employment First Celebrates Two Years**

**On March 19, 2012, the Employment First initiative was signed.**

Today, Ohio recognizes the two-year anniversary of the signing of Governor Kasich’s **Employment First Executive Order** supporting the ongoing shift within Ohio’s developmental disabilities community to a culture that recognizes and embraces the contributions and abilities of people with developmental disabilities. Since the outset of the Employment First initiative, improvements in state policies have been put in place that enable Ohio’s local communities to be better prepared to transform services and expectations, and foster more opportunities for improved community employment outcomes.

In one such new opportunity supporting of the Employment First initiative, the Pickaway County Board of DD has partnered with Scioto Downs Racino to interview and hire five individuals to become part of the organization’s Food & Beverage team. An orientation session was held in late February, with most employees scheduled to begin work during the first week in March. To put together this employment partnership, PCBDD worked with Scioto Downs staff to determine the best way to help facilitate placement for the individuals. They determined that a job fair on-site would be a good approach, so that managers at Scioto Downs could meet the candidates and perform on-the-spot interviews.

The job fair in early February worked well, and allowed candidates to decide which jobs they wanted to apply for. They also gained experience in an interview setting. The Food & Beverage team interviewed nine candidates and extended job offers to five. The new team members have been extended a warm welcome at work, as have the support staff who are initially accompanying the new employees as they learn the requirements of the various positions. Job coaches from service providers, Capabilities, and of the Columbus Speech & Hearing Center are providing this support.

Displaying enthusiasm for the new employment partnership, the Scioto Downs newsletter “*Scioto Spotlight*” noted, “This is a wonderful and important form of support not only to the individuals, but also to Scioto Downs. They stay with the new employee for approximately one month to assure a smooth transition.”

The article also quoted Patrick Kilbane, Transition Services Specialist for PCBDD, who stated,

**“We aren’t looking for a free handout or for special positions to be created. Our people are both willing and able to work in regular positions already being offered at Scioto Downs. They applied and interviewed for them just like anyone else would do.”**



### **Their prospects are looking good!**

New employees of the Scioto Downs Food & Beverage team are Kim (wearing glasses) and Kirsten, shown left with employment paperwork, and Tyler, who is shown (right) filling out paperwork at orientation.

DODD lead person for the Employment First initiative Kristen Helling observes, “As we work toward shifting our culture to one that supports community employment as a *preferred* outcome, more and more individuals will be empowered to identify their own interests, and seek jobs that match their skills. This approach will enable them to participate more fully in their communities. Efforts such as this partnership should make 2014 a very strong year for Ohio’s Employment First initiative.”



More information at <http://ohioemploymentfirst.org/> and at “*Ohio's Path to Employment First*.”

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## **6. DODD Grants Assist in Training DSPs**

Highly qualified and well- trained direct support professionals are extremely valuable resources within the statewide developmental disabilities community. DODD is committed to supporting the availability of these resources, and provides grants to agencies throughout the state who are dedicated to offering provider training.

Specific training is a requirement in order to become a provider in Ohio, and such training can be time-consuming, difficult to schedule, and costly. One of the organizations that DODD assists through such grants is the [Ohio Alliance of Direct Support Professionals](#) (OADSP), which offers a series of online and in-person courses as part of the PATHS credentialing program. PATHS offers a variety of certifications, including Basic Certification, Certificate of Initial Proficiency (CIP) and Certificate of Advanced Proficiency (CAP) courses. Tuition can range from \$150 to \$300 for the required hours of course instruction.

**A grant increase from DODD has made it possible for OADSP to provide scholarships to cover the costs of course instruction for Basic Certification and the Certificate of Initial Proficiency, making some courses free to recipients as a result of the grant partnership.**

Direct Support Professionals interested in participating in the PATHS program can find more information and register [here](#). The next training will take place April 4. To learn more about Ohio Alliance of Direct Support Professionals (OADSP), visit [www.oadsp.org](http://www.oadsp.org).

### **Reminder: 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, and will be held at the Xenos complex in Columbus on April 29. Sessions for the day-long conference 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, and *a one-year OADSP/NADSP membership*. [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](mailto:pcbethany@prodigy.net)

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## **7. OPRA Sharpens Focus on Employment Services**

### **Umstot Named Director of Employment Services**

The shift to employment services is an important one for Ohioans with developmental disabilities in Ohio, and creates the need for more opportunities and training. [The Ohio Provider Resource Association](#) (OPRA) is moving ahead to ensure that Ohio leads the way nationally in this area, and has announced the hiring of a Director of Employment Services.

Jason Umstot will fill a previous gap in resources for providers already offering employment services for people with developmental disabilities in Ohio.

Umstot most recently was Vice President of Program Services for Koinonia Homes, Inc., a service provider in Cuyahoga County. He will focus on employment, vocational training, and day services, and will begin serving in the new position effective March 31. The sharper focus for the statewide provider agency will allow for expanding quality services through collaborative

work with DODD, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities, and systems serving school age youth with developmental disabilities.

OPRA Board President Janice Hall commented, “We see employment services as the future of choice and opportunity for individuals served in the DD system, and we are dedicated to helping organizations grow together with regard to knowledge, training, and strategic planning.”

Looking forward to the new position as Director of Employment Services, Umstot stated, “I am passionate about beginning this work with OPRA and its members because I strongly believe that we are at a critical juncture in the developmental disabilities field with many factors influencing our future. I look forward to working with providers and serving as their voice to ensure that policy is driven by the realities of our business.”

*More information at [www.opra.org](http://www.opra.org)*

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## **8. IT Division Garneres Accolades for ‘*imagine*’ Project**

### **DODD Information Technology Team Receives Award from Microsoft**

Earlier this month, the DODD Information Technology (IT) Division accepted the *Convergence 2014 Microsoft Customer Excellence Award* in the Public Sector category. The award adds to a list of accolades the IT team has acquired since 2010, from entities including [TechColumbus](#) and [ComputerWorld](#). Microsoft Customer Excellence Awards recognize customer organizations that are achieving outstanding success with Microsoft solutions. The DODD IT team received their award for their work on the ‘*imagine*’ project.



***Imagine* is a statewide transformation for Ohio's developmental disabilities system, towards more person-centered practices and individual support. It is currently being piloted by a collaborative entity comprised of 18 County Boards of DD, the Mid East Ohio Regional Council (MEORC), and several individuals and partners.**

The Division was recognized for their behind-the-scenes efforts to facilitate this statewide collaboration through technology. The *imagine* initiative has transformed a previously inefficient, more fragmented and paper-based system into a seamless, more flexible, and coordinated system. This new system is built on a Microsoft platform that provides easy, secure, and mobile access to information, and creates a common data repository for DODD staff and providers, removing long-standing barriers to collaborative partnerships between County Boards and other entities.

While *imagine* is currently operating only within the 18 pilot counties, the goal is eventually to expand and include all 88 counties. More about the *imagine* project at <http://justimagineit.me/>

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## *PostScripts* .....



### **Ohio Waiver Network Training – Slots Still Available!**

The Ohio Waiver Network (OWN) is hosting several important 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 the convenience of the statewide DD community. Register now at the Ohio Waiver Network website: [www.ohiowaivernetwork.com](http://www.ohiowaivernetwork.com).

New SSA Rule, Person-Centered Planning, ISP Development

*Presenters:* Kelly Miller, DODD; Jean Tuller, Consultant – Oregon

April 9, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sheraton Cuyahoga Falls, 1989 Front St., Cuyahoga Falls 44221

AND April 10, 2014, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Quest Conference Center (near Polaris), 8405 Pulsar Place, Columbus 43240

More information at <https://www.ohiowaivernetwork.com/training-opportunities.html>



### **Ohio Partners in Justice to Host Free Training, March 28**

Ohio Partners in Justice (PIJ) is offering a free training titled, “Supporting Individuals who have Developmental Disabilities and Sex Offending Behaviors” on March 28 from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Ohio Department of Transportation, W. Broad Street auditorium in Columbus. For complete location and registration information go to: <http://www.planetReg.com/E3513619129466>



### **Ohio Provider Resource Association Spring Conference, April 8-9**

REGISTER NOW ►

Registration is now open for the **Ohio Provider Resource Association (OPRA)** Spring Conference, April 8-9 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Dublin. This well-attended conference provides updates and new information on many subjects of interest to Ohio’s statewide community of service providers, as well as showcases the providers, themselves. More information at [www.opra.org](http://www.opra.org)



### **PAR Regional Trainings Continue in 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](http://www.par-ohio.org). More info at <http://www.par-ohio.org/index.php?src=events>

## **'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. For registration visit [www.thearcofohio.org](http://www.thearcofohio.org).

## **APSI Now Accepting Nominations for Ron Kozlowski Award** **Nominations will be accepted through April 30**

In 2010, the APSI Board of Directors created the Ron Kozlowski Advocacy Award in recognition of Ron's lifetime advocacy efforts on behalf of individuals with developmental disabilities. APSI is now accepting nominations for this year's recipient. Nominations are being accepted through April 30, and the award will be given at APSI's All Staff Luncheon in June of this year. To access the APSI nomination form, click [here](#).

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:thomas.fish@osumc.edu) or [sahall@ashland.edu](mailto: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>



### **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/>



### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR! 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](http://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](mailto:ODEA2013@gmail.com) after March 20.



### **SAVE THE DATE! OACB Spring Conference, May 22-23**

Mark your calendars! The Ohio Association of County Boards (OACB) is pleased to announce their 2014 Spring Conference will be held at the Hilton Columbus at Polaris on May 22-23. Event registration begins April 1, but you may reserve your hotel today. More information at [www.oacbdd.org](http://www.oacbdd.org).



### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR! 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](mailto:feedback@list.dodd.ohio.gov) or [sherry.steinman@dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:sherry.steinman@dodd.ohio.gov). To subscribe to *Pipeline*, email: [join-pipeline@list.dodd.ohio.gov](mailto: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**

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