
Pipeline

News from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

John R. Kasich, Governor

John L. Martin, Director

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In This Issue ...

- 1. Governor Kasich Signs Ohio Jobs 2.0 Budget Bill
 - 2. Ohio to Grant \$3 Million to At-Risk Youth Services
 - 3. DODD's New Data Warehouse, Access and Training Now Available
 - 4. SELF Waiver Marks One-Year Milestone
 - 5. Training to Build Understanding, Resilience, and Hope
 - 6. Spotlight on Cuyahoga County: A Center for Employment, Education and Training
- Pipeline PostScripts: News and information to update your calendar.*

Celebrate the 23rd Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), July 16.

Ideas at <http://www.ada.gov/>

1. Governor Kasich Signs Ohio Jobs 2.0 Budget Bill

A new budget year has begun, with Governor John Kasich signing House Bill 59 ([View Bill Text](#)). The \$62 billion budget is considered a blueprint for prosperity, and continues to build on job-creating and pro-growth policies begun two years ago with the state's prior budget. ([See Pipeline EXTRA, July 2, 2013](#))

In reviewing the budget on June 30, Governor Kasich vetoed an attempt to block efforts to expand Medicaid in Ohio, and the Administration is continuing to work with legislators on the subject of expansion, as well as other related health care funding reforms. The budget bill does include Medicaid coverage of telehealth services ([HB123](#)), capitalizing on advances in technology to increase access to medical care and reduce costs. Nationally, Ohio joins 45 other states with similar legislation.



OHIO'S JOBS
BUDGET 2.0

JOBS. MOMENTUM. TRANSFORMATION.

Budget documents and fact sheets are at <http://JobsBudget.Ohio.Gov>

ODMHAS Created

Also created in the budget was the new Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services (OhioMHAS), a merger of the Ohio Department of Mental Health (ODMH) and the Ohio Department of Alcohol & Drug Addiction Services ODADAS. The new, combined agency has a two-year budget of nearly \$1.4 billion, and includes approximately 2400 employees, statewide. Tracy Plouck, Director of the former ODMH, is head of the consolidated agency, and Orman Hall, former Director of ODADAS, remains in the Governor's cabinet continuing work on issues regarding heroin and pain-pill addictions.

The new OhioMHAS will coordinate a system that includes six state hospitals, 460 treatment providers, and 400 mental health agencies. The consolidation will not affect 50 county alcohol, drug-addiction and mental health boards. According to Plouck, "We are going to be spending almost \$2 million less in administration and investing \$1.5 million a year in new community innovation projects with county jails." Supporting these efforts, the Ohio General Assembly added \$100 million in funding over two years for the new agency, with \$60 million earmarked for mental health and \$40 million for addiction.

RSC Re-Named

In addition, the new budget confirms a re-naming of the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission (RSC) in an effort to clarify the nature and scope of the agency's work. Now named the *Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency*, the organization moves forward with what Director Kevin Miller has described as a name that is ... "The result of a statewide needs assessment that spotlighted confusion regarding what we do and who we serve." He noted, "Our goal as an agency is to assist individuals with disabilities in finding successful employment outcomes and make determinations on disability for the Social Security Administration." DODD and RSC work collaboratively on many issues and projects, including Ohio's [Employment First initiative](#).

Additional budget information: [Top Ten Health Transformation Initiatives in the Budget](#)

[Return to Top](#)

2. Ohio to Grant \$3 Million to At-Risk Youth Services

Ohio will direct \$3 million in federal funds this year to community projects aimed at helping young people at risk of harming themselves or others due to a mental illness or developmental disability. The "Strong Families, Safe Communities" grant funds will support crisis intervention, family mentoring, and screening programs along with other services in 20 counties. It is funded by Governor John Kasich's initiative to commit money from Ohio's Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) awards to help stabilize youth in crisis, ages 8-24, and develop long-term treatment plans resulting in stronger families and safer communities.

DODD Director John Martin, noted that all but a few areas of the state applied for the grant money, adding, "That also told us there's significant need out there in our local communities for something like this." Examples of projects proposed for grant funding included one in Hamilton County that outlined a plan to create 24-hour crisis services, while another, in southeastern Ohio,

would set up temporary care for young people in situations where they may need to be removed from a home. Some of the funding will help develop partnerships, or “rapid response teams,” across counties to help families after daytime working hours and during weekends, should a crisis occur. The teams may include members from local law enforcement, County Boards of DD, mental health boards, juvenile probation officers, and other social services agencies.

In addition, the state will be using \$250,000 in federal money this fall to train child welfare workers, school employees, and others in first aid and trauma-related approaches. Next year, it is expected that an additional \$1.5 million in federal funds will be used to continue the project, or possibly fund other related proposals.

See more at: [DODD and ODMH Announce Strong Families Safe Communities Grant Awards](#)

 [Return to Top](#)

3. New Data Warehouse: Access and Training Now Available

As DODD Director John Martin has stated many times, data-driven decision-making is the key to making responsible, fact-based decisions that strengthen Ohio’s developmental disabilities system. The Data Warehouse is a long-awaited, much-needed advance, and its usage can simplify data, clarify trends, and more easily spotlight comparisons.

“How many people do we serve that are over the age of 50, yet still live with parents?”
“How many people do we serve in Ohio that are competitively employed in the community?”
“How many Ohioans have a dual (DD and mental health) diagnosis?”

These are just a few of the many questions fielded daily by DODD staff in the Division of Medicaid Development and Administration (MDA) -- questions now easier to answer, thanks to the new Data Warehouse. A central data resource built by the Department for use by County Boards of DD, Councils of Government (COGs), and state employees who need access to detailed data in a streamlined system, the Data Warehouse is a powerful new tool. In fact, it has the power to generate reports and queries, conduct analyses, and create ‘packages of data’ for specific needs. In addition, the system is faster and easier to customize than previous reporting systems, while being simpler to use.

How does it work?

Data may be extracted daily, weekly, or monthly from a variety of DODD information applications that support business processes. Once extracted, it can be restructured and supplemented with data from other applications and sources. The data then may be used by individuals granted access to generate reports and queries, conduct analyses, and otherwise structure information.

Using data from DODD applications, such as Payment Authorization for Waiver Services (PAWS), the Individual Data System (IDS) and others, the Warehouse allows a user to quickly look at snapshots of data and ‘trends over time’ on an individual, county, COG or state level. Counties can compare themselves with similar counties, and with statewide averages if desired. Any report or query can be delivered to users and colleagues via email, or saved on a computer as an Excel document for easy transformation into graphics or analysis.

Pilot Project

As part of a pilot project, several counties are already using the Data Warehouse, and more than 40 counties have requested and been granted access to it. Among other uses, they have been able to research causes behind denied Medicaid claims, to quickly understand participation levels in various programs, and to generate reports to local leadership.

Joan Gilmore, a staff member at Hamilton County Developmental Disabilities Services, attests,

“The Data Warehouse already has yielded significant cost savings and revenue enhancement for us, through identifying erroneous acuity scores and Medicaid information. These data problems would require a significant amount of time and effort to identify in any other way ... and in some cases would not be possible without the Data Warehouse.”

According to DODD staffer Hope McGonigle, “It is important to note that in order to successfully answer data requests, DODD relies on county-created IDS data. The Data Warehouse gives us visibility into this data that was not previously possible. For example, we are able to more easily identify data inconsistencies, such as children being counted in Adult Services or vice versa, that would previously have been very time-consuming to find.”

During the summer, DODD will begin fully rolling out this tool around the state, working with counties to begin cleaning up any missing or inaccurate data. As DODD Deputy Director Patrick Stephan stated at a recent Family Advisory Council meeting,

“We hope that by using this tool we can have better visibility into our data, both within and across counties. Over the next few months, we also hope to begin using this tool to help clean up missing and inaccurate data. The end goal of this is to be able to have databases that are accessible and reliable.”

For more information: Details and usage information are available at the DODD website, via this link from the DODD portal: [Data Warehouse](#).

Data Warehouse Training, Summer 2013

The Data Warehouse team will be holding weekly webinars throughout the summer on specific topics, including those requested by new users. And, registration for general training is online -- Follow this link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D4CAFA723A02-dodd>

Contact: Hope McGonigle, Hope.McGonigle@dodd.ohio.gov

 [Return to Top](#)

4. SELF Waiver Marks One-Year Milestone

The SELF waiver means more opportunities and choices for individuals served.

As of July 1, 2013, the Self-Empowered Life Funding (SELF) waiver has been in existence for a full year. DODD is pleased to celebrate the one-year anniversary of the first waiver for individuals with developmental disabilities that incorporates *participant-direction* and has a wide

array of *flexible services*, including several designed to serve individuals with *intensive behavioral needs*. Here are just a few of the ‘first-year’ highlights and accomplishments:

- DODD staff trained nearly 1000 people during several two-day SELF waiver training sessions conducted regionally throughout 2012;
- Public Partnerships Limited (PPL) trained more than 500 attendees at Support Broker Certification trainings, conducted across the state in 2012 and 2013;
- There are currently 122 individuals enrolled on the SELF Waiver. Enrollments encompass both new enrollees and transfers, and include both children and adults;
- All 100 state-funded waivers for Children with Intensive Behavioral Needs (CIBN) have been filled;
- DODD has conducted a number of SELF waiver-related online webinar training sessions, including both two-day and one-day general training; a specific training targeted to mental health providers; a day-long Support Broker Certification training; and a 2-hour training for stakeholders on the Role of the Support Broker.



**Congratulations, Christine!
First Adult Enrolled on SELF Waiver**

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.

See *Pipeline*, August 15, 2012



**Bradley Shonkwiler,
First Child Enrolled on SELF Waiver**

Bradley's in his element!

Bradley shows his considerable enthusiasm for swinging – and just about any activity outdoors. According to his mom, Tracey, “Bradley really likes all the sensations of being outside on the swings, and enjoys active play in general.”

See *Pipeline*, November 7, 2012



With the first year completed, what's next? Currently, DODD is working on transitioning the two contracts associated with the SELF waiver, which ended June 30, 2013. Those contracts were for the Financial Management Services entity (as of July 1, 2013, this became Morning Star Financial Services) and for the Support Brokerage Certification trainings that PPL, a previous training provider, had been offering. Look for an announcement in an upcoming *Pipeline* for more details about the transition of the Support Brokerage Certification trainings.

In addition, DODD will continue to provide general technical assistance and training on the SELF waiver and its many unique aspects. Input is always welcomed regarding any questions or comments related to the SELF Waiver – simply email SELFWaiver@dodd.ohio.gov.

For more information on the SELF Waiver visit the [SELF Waiver](#) page on the DODD website.

 [Return to Top](#)

5. Training to Build Understanding, Resiliency, and Hope

“Building Understanding, Resiliency, and Hope”

New approaches for understanding and supporting people with complex neurobehavioral conditions and histories of trauma and toxic stress will be discussed at a two-day training, August 26 – 27 at the Xenos Center, 1340 Community Park Drive in Columbus, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. each day. [Click here for registration information.](#)

DODD Senior Policy Advisor Pam Berry, explains, “This two-day training opportunity will provide new understanding of the latest research and best practices for supporting people with complex needs and histories of trauma and toxic stress. The information is very relevant to our collective efforts in Ohio to build increased capacity to support people in their home communities -- using positive approaches that promote healing and resiliency.”

“Building Understanding, Resiliency, and Hope” is geared toward developmental disabilities professionals as well as mental health professionals -- including case managers, SSAs, and other County Board of DD staff, program managers of day service and residential support agencies, and mental health clinicians. Continuing Education Units are available on request at close of session on August 27.

Presented by Julie Gentile, MD, and Mary Vicario, LPCC-S, the importance of this training is underscored when working with individuals entering the service system who have specific and complex needs. For them, traditional approaches to assessment, planning, and service delivery may not work well, and new approaches based on research and best practices are needed.

[This training brings together two nationally acclaimed experts – Dr. Julie Gentile and Mary Vicario – who have blended their areas of expertise to bring fresh and hopeful approaches to serving people with complex support needs.](#)

Dr. Julie Gentile directs the Coordinating Center of Excellence in MI/DD, and is a professor at Wright State University School of Medicine. She is a practicing psychiatrist and recognized national expert on co-occurring mental illness and developmental disabilities.

Mary Vicario, LPCC-S uses principles of relational neuroscience in her work at St. Aloysius, and with Finding Hope, her Cincinnati-based private consulting practice. In addition to clinical work, she lectures and trains worldwide. Mary is affiliated with the Jean Baker Miller Training Institute at Wellesley, and with trauma research at Harvard University.

Follow-up 'Theory to Practice' Sessions

Four follow-up sessions will be hosted in different areas of the state. These one-day sessions will offer the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills learned from the two-day training. Dr. Gentile and Mary Vicario will help participants move from theory to practice.

“Building Understanding, Resiliency and Hope” is a collaborative effort sponsored by the Coordinating Centers of Excellence in MI/DD, DODD, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Ohio Provider Resource Association, the Ohio Association of County Boards, and the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council.

Contact: Pam.Berry@dodd.ohio.gov

Complete training link is: <http://www.xenos.org/aboutxenos/meetings.htm#map>

 **Return to Top**

Spotlight on Cuyahoga County

6. A Center for Employment, Education, and Training

A grand opening ceremony was held on June 14 for the Terrence M. Ryan Agricultural Education Center, at Stanard Farm in Cleveland. The new facility for Cleveland Crops, an urban farming venture of the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities (CCBDD), its nonprofit division ‘SAW, Inc.’ and The Ohio State University Extension Office, will serve as headquarters for both Cleveland Crops and OSU Extension–Cuyahoga County.

The Center is named after just-retired CCBDD Superintendent Terry Ryan, who attended the ceremony, as did (then) OSU-President E. Gordon Gee, guest speaker. Ryan’s staunch support for the Cleveland Crops program enabled the vision of an agricultural training and employment initiative serving people with developmental disabilities to grow from one plot into eight major farm locations, four of them in Cleveland and four in suburban areas.

The Center will employ 15 people with developmental disabilities in all aspects of food processing, including thermal processing, dehydration, dry goods packaging, baking, and cooking.



Voila!

(L. to R.) Cleveland Economic Development Director Darryl Rush; Cuyahoga County Board of DD Superintendent Kelly Petty; retired CCBDD Superintendent Terry Ryan; Cleveland Councilman Jeff Johnson (in whose ward the Center is located), and Cleveland Crops farmers Amy Kleinman and Patrick Harris. The green canvas was removed to reveal the name on the new Terrence M. Ryan Agricultural Education Center.

According to CCBDD Communications Director Lula Holt Robertson, the building was previously an auditorium for the now-demolished Stanard Elementary School, and has been fully refurbished, now featuring 4000 square feet of office and training space. Later this summer, a 5000 square-foot Food Innovation Center and commercial kitchen will allow Cleveland Crops to add value to its own crops, as well as to those of other Northeast Ohio farms, with products such as jams, sauces, packaged herbs, and dehydrated and other prepared foods.

The facility adds to a 2.5-acre campus that includes a one-acre urban farm and a large greenhouse. Marie Barni, executive director of OSU Extension–Cuyahoga County announced at the grand opening, “We couldn’t be more excited to be partnering with CCBDD as we relocate to this beautiful new space. We’ve had a great partnership since the beginning of the Cleveland Crops venture, and we look forward to doing great things together for years to come.” OSU Extension’s presence benefits Cleveland Crops with on-site technical assistance and research-based information on agricultural practices.

Rich Hoban, Executive Director of SAW, Inc. added, “The Terrence M. Ryan Agriculture Education Center is a kind of ‘phoenix rising from the ashes’ story. The site was mostly piles of bricks when we first laid eyes on the property in 2008,” he recalls. “It’s hard to believe the transformation that has taken place.”

Cuyahoga County Employment Scene Adds Just-A-Buck #3!

As shoppers turn to bargain retail outlets to extend their budgets, a third *Just-A-Buck* store has opened in Cuyahoga County. Owned and operated by SAW, Inc., the nonprofit partner of CCBDD, the newest of the three stores employs 15 workers who have developmental disabilities, a store manager, three shift managers and a job coach.



“1 – 2 – 3, CUT!”

At the grand opening of Just-A-Buck store #3 in Cuyahoga County is Mayor Pamela Bobst of Rocky River (left of ‘Bucky’) and a host of employees and well-wishers. CCBDD Superintendent Kelly Petty is in back, at right.

The newest *Just-A-Buck* store is in Rocky River, and follows on the success of the first store in Parma, opened in 2009, and the second, in South Euclid, opened in 2011 (*See Pipeline Quarterly, Autumn 2011.*) *Just-A-Buck* is a New York-based franchise, and merchandise sells for one dollar or less. SAW Inc. employs more than 2000 individuals at various businesses in the community, and at centers operated by the County Board.

Contact: Robertson.Lula@CuyahogaBDD.org

 [Return to Top](#)



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Pipeline Quarterly,
reporting on spring 2013.
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PostScripts

REMINDER! All RN Trainer Certifications will expire August 1, 2013

DODD Health Improvement Policy Specialist Janet Winterstein, RN, emphasizes that in the continuing effort to maintain high standards in service provision, it is critical to maintain up-to-date credentialing and certifications. All RN Trainer certifications will expire August 1, 2013, and complete recertification instructions and forms have been sent to all RN Trainers.

Any RN Trainer who has not received the notice and form should contact MA.Database@dodd.ohio.gov to update the RN Trainer e-mail list.



IMPORTANT: Medication Administration-Certified Personnel & Their Employers

All MA-certified personnel and employers of certified personnel should independently validate their certification on the DODD web page *before August 1, 2013*, to assure their certifications are correctly registered. When certification information is moved from the current MA Database to the new system (MAIS), only active and up-to-date personnel certifications will transfer to MAIS. *After August, no late entries or corrections can be made to outdated certifications.* To check the status of a certificate, visit the DODD home page at www.dodd.ohio.gov and use the “Health and Safety” drop-down menu at the top to choose “Medication Administration Verification” and link <http://dodd.ohio.gov/Pages/default.aspx>.

Governor’s Council on People with Disabilities, Awards Nominations

All nominations are due by July 31.

The [Governor's Council on People with Disabilities](#) is now accepting applications for Annual Awards. These include: Employer of the Year; Public/Non-Profit Best Practices; Advocacy Award; Karla Lortz \$1000 Scholarship; Maureen Fitzgerald Leadership Award; Accessible Parking Award; and, a new Accessible Medical Services Award. *All nominations are due by July 31*, and the Awards ceremony will be held in October, as part of RSC’s DisAbility Jobs Summit. Applications are on the GCPD website at www.gcpd.ohio.gov – Go to the menu on the left, and the nomination form is under “AWARDS.”

Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council Seeks New Members

The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council (DD Council), a planning and advocacy council committed to community inclusion for people with developmental disabilities, is currently seeking applicants for new membership. To apply, visit their website at www.ddc.ohio.gov or contact Carla Cox at (614) 644-5538, or email carla.cox@dodd.ohio.gov.

Autism Society National Conference, July 10-13

The Autism Society’s National Conference will be at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, PA, July 10 – 13.

To register, please click here

More information at <http://www.autism-society.org/get-involved/conference/>

The National Conference addresses a broad range of issues affecting people with autism, including early intervention, education, employment, communication, social skills, biomedical interventions, and more, across the lifespan. Bringing together the expertise and experiences of family members, professionals, and individuals who have autism, attendees can learn how to more effectively advocate for and obtain supports. The Conference goal is to empower family members, individuals on the autism spectrum, and professionals who work with them to make informed decisions.

Family Advisory Council Meeting, August 20

The DODD Family Advisory Council (FAC) will host its next meeting on August 20 at the Columbus Developmental Center training room, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.. FAC meetings are open to anyone with an interest in Ohio’s DD community, and DODD especially appreciates the attendance of individuals and family members served throughout the statewide system. For more information, contact Peggy Martin at Peggy.Martin@dodd.ohio.gov or call (614) 466-8706.

SAVE THE DATE! Direct Support Professionals Event, September 11

The Ohio Alliance of Direct Support Professionals (OADSP) annual DSP Recognition Event will be at the Xenos complex in Columbus, on September 11. Rachel Simon, a writer, and sibling to a sister with

DD, will be the keynote speaker. The energetic Scott Osterfeld will MC the event. DODD Director John Martin will speak, and several additional presenters and surprises are planned. More than 400 DSPs attended last year. The event theme is *Direct Support Professionals Help Create Life Stories*, and DSP's will have an opportunity to share stories of the great work they do -- see [Directions for sharing videos](#). To register go to www.dspath.org. Contact: Amy Gerowitz, (513) 484-2772 agerowitz@me.com or event coordinator Lisa Barnes, (866) 862-2322 LisaB4DSPs@yahoo.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! PAR/OSDA Synergy Conference, October 2-4

Two non-profit organizations, PAR and OSDA are hosting a statewide conference on October 2-4, 2013 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, in Dublin, OH. Both organizations have held annual conferences for many years and have been a source of training, professional development and advocacy in the field of developmental disabilities (DD). This year's conference will bring together a cross section of all stakeholders - people with developmental disabilities, their family members, professionals and staff of county boards of DD and providers of residential and day service settings

The Annual ESDY Awards will be given at this Conference!

Eligibility: Individuals or entities that have promoted the principles of self determination which affected their own lives or the lives of others. Details soon on the OSDA website at www.ohiosda.org. *Completed nominations are due by 5:00 p.m. on August 31, 2013.* Contact stravis@eriecbdd.org. All nominations are confidential. Please do not tell anyone about being nominated!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! DisAbility Jobs Summit, October 8-9

The Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency (formerly RSC - the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission) has announced the dates for this year's *DisAbility Jobs Summit* – October 8 and 9, at the Columbus Convention Center. This event will include program tracks that will offer educational experiences for all attendees. Details will be forthcoming as the dates draw nearer. Until then, mark your calendars for the 2013 *DisAbility Jobs Summit*.

WALK NOW FOR AUTISM SPEAKS – October 13

Join 'Autism Speaks' on Sunday, October 13, at Huntington Park in Columbus, and walk to change the future for people with autism. *Walk Now for Autism Speaks* is a family-friendly event and helps to fund research that will lead to answers surrounding the many questions posed by Autism Spectrum Disorder. Previous years' participants say, "Whether you strive to join the new "Grand Club" (walkers that raise \$1,000 or more), sell lemonade, or create your own unique event, you can become a part of the solution!" Contact Columbus@autismspeaks.org or call (216) 524-2842.

SAVE THE DATE! Ohio SIBS Conference, November 8-9

The 13th annual Ohio Adult Sibling (SIBS) Conference is set for November 8-9 at the Columbus Airport Marriott Hotel. It's an opportunity to meet and partner with other adult siblings and disability professionals for a uniquely informative experience. Learn useful information, strengthen advocacy skills, expand community inclusion, and connect with other siblings from around the state. Ohio SIBS serves as a unified voice and partner for Ohio adult siblings of people with developmental disabilities and their families. As the date draws nearer, go to www.ohiosibs.com for more information on the conference.

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

To report abuse/neglect and other MUI's call toll-free **1-866-313-6733**. 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 the hotline number is there to be used for reporting.

Pipeline feedback ... direct from you to the state ...

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