

Pipeline ... Extra!

Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

John R. Kasich, Governor

John L. Martin, Director

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Jobs 2.0 Budget Bill Passed, FY2014-15 Begins **\$62 billion biennial budget, a blueprint for prosperity.**

Governor John Kasich signed the new state budget bill into effect, building upon job-creating and pro-growth policies begun two years ago with the prior budget. As the new fiscal year begins, there are many encouraging signs indicating that Ohio continues to get back on track. For example, more than 170,000 private sector jobs were created between January 2013 and May 2013, and wages are growing faster than in the rest of the United States.

The current budget continues to move Ohio forward with major new jobs-friendly policies. These include tax cuts and tax reform, critical funding for transportation infrastructure needs, additional dollars for Ohio's public schools, and a new funding plan for the state's public colleges and universities that rewards improved graduation rates.

Ohio's developmental disabilities system continues moving forward as well. This budget continues to pave the way with rebalancing resources and overall system transformation. We continue to ensure that funds are prioritized according to where and how individuals are served best—in community-based programs and the least restrictive settings possible. Through these efforts we are hopeful that individuals with developmental disabilities can continue to increase their opportunities to participate fully in their communities, and make more independent choices about their lives.

DODD's budget begins significant efforts to modernize the ICF/IID Program.

- In response to input from the DD community, the Department negotiated a historic agreement with stakeholders to significantly increase individuals' opportunities to live in community-based settings. The so-called 'Grand Bargain' includes a commitment by the field to convert up to 600 ICF/IID beds to waiver, and to downsize up to 600 large ICF/IID beds to settings that are no larger than eight-bed homes.
- The budget also creates incentives for rebalancing, which include: retroactive rate adjustments for facilities engaged in downsizing; a time-limited rate add-on for persons moving from institutions to community settings; and an increase in pay for direct-care workers, thanks in part to stakeholder support.

(More)

DODD's budget continues Employment First policies to ensure Community Employment is the preferred outcome for working-age individuals with developmental disabilities.

- The budget provides \$6 million over the biennium for the new Employment First line item.
- Policy changes: Create a presumption that all individuals with developmental disabilities can work unless it is determined otherwise; improve data collection; make permanent the Governor's Employment First Taskforce; and, ask local County Boards of Developmental Disabilities to create their own Employment First policies.

For more information: [Top Ten Health Transformation Initiatives in the Budget](#)



Pipeline Extra is a publication of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) and is distributed infrequently to highlight breaking news in the state's developmental disabilities community. The regular *Pipeline* publication publishes twice monthly to inform readership of relevant information affecting stakeholders. Please share your questions or comments at feedback@list.dodd.ohio.gov or contact sherry.steinman@dodd.ohio.gov or phone (614) 644-0262. **Editor's Note:** DODD values subscriber confidentiality and does not intentionally share subscriber addresses with others. In the event of a public records request, however, the DODD would comply with all applicable Public Records Laws. Please also note the Privacy information at the DODD website, at dodd.ohio.gov/privacy/. To subscribe to *Pipeline* newsletter, send an email to: join-pipeline@list.dodd.ohio.gov and write SUBSCRIBE in the subject line. To discontinue your subscription write UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line. *Pipeline* is archived at dodd.ohio.gov/publications/pipeline.htm