
Pipeline

News from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

John R. Kasich, Governor

John L. Martin, Director

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November is National Family Caregivers Month

National Family Caregivers Month is recognized in support of the many family caregivers in the workplace who balance work and family caregiving responsibilities. A few examples of these efforts are featured in November issues of *Pipeline*, and DODD salutes the day-to-day efforts of Ohio's many family caregivers. See articles #2 and #4 in this issue, and more information at <http://www.nfcares.org/>



Next Issue, Nov. 21 - The Annual Thanksgiving Issue of Pipeline

Tell us what YOU are thankful for this year. Please submit items for consideration by Nov. 14th to sherry.steinman@dodd.ohio.gov. A short paragraph and a photo, if appropriate, would be best. Thank you!
Here's what last year's issue included: *Pipeline Volume 5 Issue 2, November 22, 2011*

Administration News

1. Funds to Support Shared Services, Other DD Initiatives

DODD has been awarded \$500,000 from the Governor's *Health Transformation Innovation Fund* to support a broad-based information technology (IT) infrastructure project to improve planning and shared services goals among Ohio's County Boards of Developmental Disabilities. Specifically, the project scope is to build a new information system allowing an 18-county collaborative area to share administrative activities, standardize person-centered planning practices, and more efficiently support people in the developmental disabilities system.

The 18 counties in the project are: Belmont, Carroll, Coshocton, Fairfield, Guernsey, Harrison, Hocking, Holmes, Jefferson, Knox, Licking, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Tuscarawas and Washington.

Announcing the funding, DODD Director John Martin stated, "We're working to provide a better technology platform as an important tool to make sure timely and relevant information is accessible for DODD, County Boards, and individuals served. The project is driven by a collaborative group of counties that are committed to creating and implementing simpler, more person-centered practices that do away with duplicative or burdensome processes."

The information technology project is branding its efforts under the theme, "Imagine," and is part of the Region V County Collaborative. The group has worked during the past couple of years to identify opportunities for building more efficient, person-centered practices that standardize processes across county borders, and without counties losing their local identities.



By making information more accessible and current, people served by Ohio's Developmental Disabilities system can better **Imagine** the services they want and need.

Some of the project goals are to improve the way counties interact with people and their families, and create processes that reduce paperwork and the time-frame for determining eligibility. DODD and the counties involved in the project have identified that a shared IT system, where support coordination is digitally documented, is a critical component to successfully standardizing practices while ensuring better customer service.

Controlling Board Approves Additional Funding

The [Ohio Controlling Board](#) has increased the DODD appropriation authority by \$1.57 million, allowing the Department to fund targeted disability programs using money awarded by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. These *Health Transformation Innovation Fund* dollars will support programs to expand early intervention for Ohio's youngest children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and to improve employment outcomes for young adults with ASD.

Specific programs include the *Autism Diagnostic Education Project (ADEP)* which helps train pediatricians to correctly identify early signs of autism to aid in early intervention; *Specialized Training for Early Intervention Professionals*, serving infants and toddlers in a play-based approach that nurtures early parent/child relationships; and, support for Governor Kasich's *Employment First* Executive Order. *Employment First* challenges Ohio to increase the likelihood that youth with developmental disabilities successfully exit high school directly to community-based integrated employment. For more on these initiatives visit the [DODD Newsroom online](#).

Public Hearing for Administrative Rule

A Public Hearing is scheduled for December 5, 2012, at 10:00 a.m., in the Lobby Hearing Room of the Rhodes State Office Tower, 30 E. Broad St., Columbus, for the following proposed administrative rule action:

- **Rule 5123:2-9-07** titled, "*Home and Community-Based Services Waivers - Request for Prior Authorization for Individuals Enrolled in the Individual Options Waiver*" establishes standards and procedures for prior authorization of waiver services when an individual funding level exceeds the funding range determined by the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Profile for individuals enrolled in the Individual Options Waiver. The rule is necessary because the Ohio Office of Medical Assistance is delegating responsibility to DODD for the review and determination of requests for prior authorization.

Visit the DODD website at [Rules Under Development](#) for more details, or contact Becky Phillips, Administrative Rules Coordinator, at becky.phillips@dodd.ohio.gov.



2. National Family Caregivers Month Honors Many

November is *National Family Caregivers Month*, in support of family caregivers in the workplace who balance work and family caregiving responsibilities. DODD salutes the day-to-day efforts of Ohio's many family caregivers and notes that in 1994, the National Family Caregivers Association (NFCA) began spotlighting the role of family caregivers during the week of Thanksgiving. In 1997, then-President Bill Clinton signed the first Presidential Proclamation appreciating the work of family caregivers. As interest grew in family caregiving issues, National Family Caregivers Week became National Family Caregivers *Month*.

New national estimates are that more than 65 million family caregivers fulfill this vital role.

NFCA's core 'Caring Every Day' messages are:

Believe in Yourself ... Protect Your Health ... Reach Out for Help ... Speak Up for Your Rights

The NFCA and DODD acknowledge that no one else is in a better position to ensure continuity of care. Family caregivers are the most familiar with their care recipients' medication regimen; they are most knowledgeable about treatment needs; and, they understand any dietary or other recommendations that would benefit their family member. DODD celebrates November as a time to thank, support, educate, and empower family caregivers, and to:

- Raise awareness of family caregiver issues
- Celebrate the efforts of family caregivers
- Educate family caregivers about self-identification
- Increase support for family caregivers



More information at <http://www.thefamilycaregiver.org/>

Ohio Family Caregivers Take Care of Each Other

Sandusky County has a story to tell about family caregiving, with a twist! An adult program participant, Carolyn, lives at home with her mother, Velma, and has been well taken care of for many years. This year, after much work with staff on her communications skills including telephone usage, Carolyn added an amazing dimension to the caregiving scenario. When her mother fell down the basement stairs, Carolyn quickly called 911 and explained the emergency. Then she waited on the front porch for the ambulance to arrive, and took them directly to her mother.

She likely saved her mother's life, and was awarded a Proclamation from the Sandusky County Mayor, and City Council. Way to go, Carolyn – a family caregiver herself! – *Acknowledgements, OACBDD 'News in a Nutshell'*.

Speaking of Families – The Family Advisory Council

In Ohio, the DODD Family Advisory Council (FAC) meets regularly to discuss family caregiver issues and share ideas and concerns. Information on a wide range of subjects requested by individuals and families served in Ohio's DD system is always on the Council's agenda.

Reminder: Next meeting of the Family Advisory Council is December 4th at the Columbus Developmental Center Training Room.

***More about the DODD Family Advisory Council at www.dodd.ohio.gov/families/familyadvocate.htm*



Update on the SELF Waiver

3. Bradley Shonkwiler, First Child on SELF Waiver

Bradley Shonkwiler is making state news at only 8 years old as the first child to be enrolled on the new DODD Self-Empowered Life Funding (SELF) Waiver. Bradley's enrollment was effective October 1, and already his mom, Tracey, is excited about the options now available to him and the Shonkwiler family in Warren County.

In developing SELF Waiver service options, DODD and its stakeholders felt that it was important to incorporate 100 state-funded SELF Waivers designated for Children with Intensive Behavioral Needs (CIBN) to specifically serve children who have demonstrated such needs. Some of the services available within the SELF Waiver were particularly designed to assist individuals who exhibit intensive behaviors. Tracey Shonkwiler worked closely with Kelly Detherage, Service and Support Administrator at the Warren County Board of DD, to apply for the SELF waiver, and the process went smoothly.



**Bradley,
In His Element!**
Ah, the sheer joy of being 8 and on a swing. Bradley Shonkwiler 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.”

According to Detherage, “We put several children on the wait list for services, and Bradley has some intensive needs due to autism. He had received some services through the Ohio Department of Education Autism Scholarship, and we felt he would be a good candidate for a

SELF waiver. It was so exciting when we learned that Bradley was going to be enrolled on the waiver and a great surprise that he was the first child in Ohio on SELF!”

Bradley utilizes the *Clinical/Therapeutic Intervention* services that are available with the SELF Waiver. These services include those that assist unpaid caregivers and/or paid support staff in carrying out individual treatment/support plans that are needed to reduce the individual’s intensive behaviors, and implementing the supports that are necessary to improve the individual’s independence and interaction with the community. To access these services, Bradley participated in a *Functional Behavior Assessment*, which was completed in 2011 under the Autism Scholarship. Detherage explains,

“So as a team, then, with this information we were able to review the Assessment and determine that Bradley would benefit from the *Clinical/Therapeutic Intervention Services*. He also has some self-injurious behaviors that needed to be addressed. His mom, Tracey, was hopeful that Bradley could utilize the *Clinical/Therapeutic Intervention* services in his daily life to help reduce intensive self-injurious behaviors.”

For Bradley, these services include an aide/provider coming to Bradley’s home three to four days per week to work with Bradley to help reduce the unwanted behaviors, and they work with Bradley at his home as well as out in the community. According to Detherage,

“They work on skills such as patience and redirection when Bradley starts to exhibit a self-injurious behavior. Bradley is using the *Clinical/Therapeutic Intervention* services to help him better participate in socializing, making friends, engaging, and communicating with others in activities in the home and out in the community.” She continued,

“When reviewing the SELF Waiver with Bradley’s mom, she was very excited that her son would be able to obtain these services under SELF, as the Level One and Individual Options waivers do not offer these services. Tracey knew that Bradley would benefit greatly from having Clinical Therapeutic Intervention, and was excited about the flexible options in this waiver.”

Tracey Shonkwiler notes that the SELF Waiver has helped them to purchase a [Rifton adaptive tricycle](#) to provide therapeutic exercise (SELF waiver funded under ‘Participant-Directed Goods and Services.’) The adaptive tricycle offers the fun of riding a tricycle for children who do not have well-developed motor skills, while helping to strengthen their legs and sense of balance as they learn. She adds,

“When Kelly and I were looking over the options with the SELF Waiver we tried to think of anything and everything that could benefit Bradley, and then incorporate the most important aspects of those things. The Clinical/Therapeutic Intervention and Participant-Directed Goods and Services options have been so helpful already.”

As the first child enrolled on the Self Empowered Life Funding waiver utilizing one of the state-funded waivers for Children with Intensive Behavioral Needs, Bradley and his family have found the kind of assistance with day-to-day issues that the waiver was designed to provide – so that children with these intensive behaviors can become adults more fully-participating in their communities.

For more information about the SELF Waiver, click on [Self-Empowered Life Funding \(SELF\) waiver](#)



4. Annual Ohio SIBS Conference Gathers Strength

The 12th Annual *Ohio Adult Sibling Conference*, October 26-27 in Columbus, convened more than 100 siblings from across Ohio (and a scattering of other states) to gain information and support from fellow siblings. Just ahead of National Family Caregivers Month (November) the event is a venue growing in family participation each year.

DODD Director John Martin addressed the group, noting that the network of support for families of Ohioans with developmental disabilities is further strengthened by gatherings such as the annual SIBS conference. He noted,

“This is a unique gathering, about which the Ohio SIBS organization can be very proud. It is always exciting to see families helping families - and individuals helping individuals - through their own personal experiences.”

The two-day conference included a presentation by **Dr. Ann Kaiser**, noted speaker from Vanderbilt University-Kennedy Center, during which she shared her own original poetry and her experiences as a sibling of a family member with developmental disabilities. It was the first time Dr. Kaiser had addressed the subject publicly, and her experiences brought laughter and tears of shared understanding with other siblings.

Attending again this year, DODD Family Advocate Peggy Martin observed, “I cannot express how wonderful it is each year to see such a gathering of siblings who have amazing stories to share -- and the evident love they have for their sibling and family. I so enjoy meeting them, and hearing their passion as they speak of their brothers and sisters. It truly is my favorite conference!”

Attendees also heard Ohio SIBS Board Member Dr. Sarah Hall, who reported on a successful Transition Retreat in April - *SIBS Looking Forward*. It was the first event of its kind in the country, and will be planned again in 2013, focusing on the importance of transition services. Concerning the conference overall, Ohio SIBS Board Member Michelle Long had this to say:

“Throughout the conference, siblings formally and informally shared their experiences, both good and bad! It was plain to see that siblings attending this year’s conference left refreshed, with new friends, and plenty of information with which to support their families.”



The Man with No Name Tag

Long-time advocates and siblings of people with disabilities, Tom Fish (left) and Bob Milliken (right), join The Man With No Name Tag – DODD Director John Martin – at the Ohio SIBS Conference late last month. Director Martin, however, was not able to go totally unrecognized!





Proud to be Siblings

The Macintosh family attended this year's Ohio SIBS conference, and brought these fabulous family smiles along with them.



Ohio SIBS

Special Initiatives by Brothers & Sisters

For more information or to get involved, visit www.ohiosibs.com.



Health & Safety Potpourri

5. Severe Weather Prompts Several Safety Reminders

The DODD Office of Legal & Oversight/ Major Unusual Incident Unit, in conjunction with state agency partners the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (EMA), and the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) provide the following information in the wake of severe weather caused by Hurricane Sandy, and for future reference during winter storms.

How to Help After the Storm

Hurricane 'Superstorm' Sandy has wreaked havoc in at least 11 states along the East Coast, and left its impact on other nearby states. The Ohio Emergency Management Agency (EMA) has received many calls from concerned citizens wanting to volunteer their services here in Ohio and along the East Coast, because, officials say, "When disasters happen, Ohioans want to help!"

To help Ohioans in need, state officials encourage citizens to either work through Ohio Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), or contact a volunteer agency of choice, such as a local American Red Cross chapter.

More online at www.ohiovoad.org and www.ema.ohio.gov.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has established a website that provides information on donating goods and volunteering (click on www.fema.gov/volunteer-donate-responsibly.) FEMA notes that because the American Red Cross had to cancel approximately 300 regular blood drives due to the storm, blood supplies are running low. Visit www.redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED-CROSS to schedule a donation appointment.

During this and any future severe weather-driven power outages, residents without power should call the '211' number for information and resources – and as always, call '911' in an emergency.

Information for People with Disabilities

Because people with disabilities can be disproportionately affected by a severe storm and its aftermath there are several specific *emergency readiness resources* for people with disabilities and their families, including assistance for people with hearing or vision loss, and low mobility.

The DODD Office of Legal & Oversight/ Major Unusual Incident Unit provides relevant information online at [Health & Safety Alerts](#) and the Unit's Assistant Deputy Director Scott Phillips notes that a [Health & Safety Toolkit](#) is also updated online for specific reference by Individuals & Families; County Boards; and Service Providers. He underscored the importance of emergency preparedness, stating,

“We take very seriously guarding the health and safety of individuals with developmental disabilities. Through useful information and prevention, DODD and our agency partners in the Office of Health Transformation hope to help this more vulnerable population feel more confident and prepared should an emergency arise.”

Phillips notes two additional helpful resources: A [CDC Article: Emergency Preparedness for People with Disabilities](#) helping people with disabilities and their families plan ahead for safety during a disaster, and, a good all-purpose resource/ booklet from FEMA and the American Red Cross, helping people with disabilities prepare for all kinds of emergencies: [Preparing for Disaster for People with Disabilities and other Special Needs](#).

In addition, state agency partner Nancy Dragani, executive director of the Ohio EMA comments, “Ohio is no stranger to strong winds or prolonged power outages. We encourage everyone to make sure that your *household disaster supply kit* is well-stocked. Have flashlights or battery-operated lanterns on hand, and basics such as bottled water, nonperishable foods, a manual can opener, blankets, warm clothes, a First Aid kit, and a battery-powered radio.”

Appliances in the home should be turned off during a power failure. When power is restored, higher voltage surges are possible and may cause damage to some devices. Turning off or unplugging appliances, including television sets, will help prevent surges or circuit overloads when service is restored. Leave one light on to know when power is restored.

Generator Power

While a generator can provide an alternative source of power when needed, it also can become a dangerous source of carbon monoxide. The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) provides the following information on power generators and generator safety:

- Carbon monoxide, is an odorless, colorless gas that can cause sudden illness and death. A gas-powered generator can produce as much as 100 times more poisonous Carbon Monoxide gas than a car's exhaust. So, never use a generator inside your home, basement or garage. Opening the garage door does not make it safe.
- Operate generators outdoors as far away from your house as possible. Even 15 feet away may be dangerous, as fumes can enter the home through windows, doors or vents.
- Install carbon monoxide detectors inside the home near all the sleeping areas.
- Never use a generator in a flooded area.
- Never refuel a generator while it is running or hot.

Food Safety Reminder

Refrigerators and freezers can keep food cool and safe for a limited amount of time without a power source. However, spoiled food can pose a health risk.

Food from the refrigerator should be thrown out if the power is out more than four hours. Never taste food to determine its safety! Appearance and odor are not indicators of food safety.

For more information: [Keeping Food and Water Safe after a Natural Disaster or Power Outage](#) and [Preventing Illness after a Natural Disaster](#) on the CDC's website, and go to www.dodd.ohio.gov and click on *Health & Safety*.



6. Ohio Public Images Begins 2013 DD Awareness Efforts

Ohio Public Images, Inc. (OPI), a volunteer information and advocacy organization encouraging positive perceptions of people with developmental disabilities, has announced the 'Call for Entries' for its annual *Media and Awareness Awards* for the period *December 1, 2011 through November 30, 2012*. Entries eligible for consideration in this competition must have been published, broadcast, scheduled, produced, or occurred during that timeframe.

The awards competition will honor individuals and organizations throughout Ohio who, through their exceptional efforts, have succeeded in creating a greater understanding of people with developmental disabilities. It also recognizes outstanding self advocates, elected officials, and employers who champion and support people with developmental disabilities.



The 2012 'Call for Entries' will be posted on the OPI website at <http://www.publicimagesnetwork.org/>

OPI Recognizes Administration's Focus on Employment

The *Call for Entries* details more than 20 categories for award nominations, and includes a specific category for outstanding efforts by Ohio employers. Such efforts could include:

- Those that foster a positive environment for individuals with disabilities in the workplace;
- Unique or exceptional efforts to train and hire individuals with developmental disabilities for specific employment opportunities; and,
- Employers who have partnered successfully with agencies in the community that serve people with developmental disabilities to provide successful employment outcomes.

Special Events

The OPI awards for efforts during the 2012 timeframe will be presented at a luncheon on March 11, 2013, during the Ohio Association of Superintendents of County Boards of DD conference.

In addition, DODD will partner with OPI, the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council, The Arc of Ohio, and other stakeholders to organize the annual statewide Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month kickoff event at the Ohio Statehouse, this year incorporating legislative advocacy as well. The 2013 *Developmental Disabilities Awareness & Advocacy Event*, will be held on Tuesday, March 5, at the Ohio Statehouse Atrium.

SAVE THE DATE! TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2013.

The Annual Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month kickoff event at the Ohio Statehouse.
More information as the date draws nearer.

The 2013 DD Awareness Month theme will be announced soon!
More at www.ohiopublicimagesnetwork.org

The Public Images Network and parent organization, Ohio Public Images, a not-for-profit corporation, were established in 1983 to promote positive awareness of people with developmental disabilities.



7. National Institutes of Health, Down Syndrome Registry

New registry connects individuals with researchers

A new Down syndrome patient registry will facilitate contacts and information-sharing among families, patients, researchers, and parent groups. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has awarded a contract to *PatientCrossroads* to operate the registry.

People with Down syndrome or their family members will be able to enter contact information and health history in an online, secure, confidential database. Registry participants can customize their profile, update it online, and choose which information they would like to display. They also will be able to compare their own medical information to that of other registrants in a confidential, anonymous manner. If a participant gives permission to be contacted, clinicians and researchers who are authorized to access the database will be able to contact individuals to see if they are interested in participating in a research study.

Ultimately, the registry will link to information with the goal of making it easier to take part in clinical studies for new medications and other treatments. Yvonne T. Maddox, deputy director of the NIH's *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development - which is funding the registry - says, "The new registry will be able to link researchers seeking volunteers for their research studies with those who most stand to benefit from the research."

For example, it is known that individuals who have Down syndrome are likely to age prematurely, and may earlier experience dementia, memory loss, or impaired judgment similar to that experienced by individuals with Alzheimer disease. The new registry could connect individuals and information gathered on subject such as this.

For more information, or to sign up for the new registry, visit <http://www.nichd.nih.gov/>.

PostScripts

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

☞ It's Tomorrow! Disability Job Fair, November 8

The Columbus Center for Human Services plans a Disability Job Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. tomorrow, Nov. 8 at the Hyatt Regency Columbus in the Franklin C & D Ballroom.

The public is welcome and registration is not required. The event's goal is to help people with disabilities find employment. Job-seekers should bring resumes and two forms of identification. For more information contact Dennis DeYoung at ddeyoung@cchs-col.org or (614) 316-9052.

☞ Register Now! Shared Services Expo – Cleveland, November 27

Ohio's developmental disabilities community is a leader in knowing the value of sharing services, including shared County Board of DD Superintendents, and shared administrative functions. Here's an opportunity build on that path.

Exchange practical ideas on how to increase efficiency in government and operate at a lower cost to taxpayers! The *Shared Services Expo* highlights successful shared services programs, and offers practical advice to those interested in collaborative shared service projects.

- Listen to a panel of shared services leaders
- Share a networking lunch and dialogue with peers

- Engage in *Brass Tacks* breakout sessions
- Interact with the *Aisle of Experts*

Government entities and schools interested in attending only the morning presentations via Distance Learning should contact John Ramicone at john.ramicone@ideastream.org or (216) 916-6360.

Registration fee for this option is \$75 per site. Pre-registration is required due to limited capacity.

In-person attendees' registration is \$50, and includes light breakfast, box lunch, and conference materials.

Register at: www.ideastream.org/education

Contact: Greg Wasil at greg.wasil@ideastream.org

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>.

Ohio Respite Coalition – Lifespan Respite Summit, November 20

The Ohio Respite Coalition's Lifespan Respite Summit will be held Nov. 20, 2012, 8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. in the Ohio Statehouse Atrium in Columbus. The Coalition is a statewide collaboration among family members, caregivers, advocates, respite providers, agencies, community groups, and state and local government officials whose mission is to educate, advocate, and promote access to respite options for people who care for a loved one. For more information, go to www.ohiorespitem.com. To request an event registration form, email ohiorespitemcoalition@gmail.com or call Mozelle Mackey, (614) 466-0749. Space is limited! Register soon.

SAVE THE DATE! 'Preparing for 2013' Budget and More – November 29

State Department budget proposals now have been submitted for consideration, as the state prepares for the budget year beginning July 1, 2013. To prepare for what lies ahead regarding the budget proposals and initiatives that will affect the lives of Ohioans with disabilities and their families, register now -- [click here](#) for the program, sponsored by The Arc of Ohio, November 29 at the Holiday Inn, Worthington, 9 a.m. – 4:15 p.m., including an evening program 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. about the Ohio Transitions Developmental Disabilities (TDD) Waiver. DODD Continuing Education Credits are pending. Lunch is included in the registration fee.

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

The Ohio Association of County Boards (OACB) Annual Winter Conference will be December 5-7 at the Hilton Hotel at Easton Town Center in Columbus. Attendees will learn more about recent developments in Ohio's County Board system, develop professional relationships with their colleagues around the state, and improve their professional skills. Several new and unique sessions are offered this year. Contact Kim Linkinhoker, OACB Associate Director, (614) 431-0616; klinkinhoker@oacbdd.org.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE CONVENTION](#)

NOTE: The Disability Housing Network (DHN) has announced the agenda for the DHN Housing Track at this convention. The sessions will include: DODD Updates; Using Assistive Technology in Community Housing; Working with your Local Metropolitan Housing Authority; and Community Housing Needs for Individuals with Criminal Backgrounds and Intense Behavioral Needs. To view session information, please see the "Welcome Home" track for the OACBDD 29th Annual Convention.

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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