



John R. Kasich, Governor

John L. Martin, Director

*Pipeline* is published at least twice monthly. Issues are archived at [www.dodd.ohio.gov/pipeline](http://www.dodd.ohio.gov/pipeline)  
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**September 12, 2012**  
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**This is National Direct Support Professionals Week – We Salute Ohio’s DSPs!**  
September also is Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Month and National Preparedness Month

**Administration News**

**1. Focus on Employment First**

*Governor Kasich to Address Summit on September 17*

**DisAbility Jobs Summit**

The Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission (RSC) reports that speakers addressing the upcoming *DisAbility Jobs Summit*, September 17-18 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center will include Governor John Kasich, and JobsOhio President Mark Kvamme on the morning of the first day of the event. In addition, DODD Director John Martin will present and participate as a panel member, as will Directors of several other state agency partners.

The two-day *Summit* content is designed to be of interest to employers, professionals in the developmental disabilities field, vocational rehabilitation counselors, mental health professionals, educators, and individuals with disabilities and their families. The event is focused on actionable information that can help Ohioans with disabilities find or keep employment.

**Registration for the *Summit* can be made online using the following link:**  
[http://www.garrisonevents.com/disability\\_jobs\\_summit.php](http://www.garrisonevents.com/disability_jobs_summit.php)  
Online registration closes at 5:00 p.m., September 20

**DODD Promotes Governor’s Employment First, Learns Best Practices from Communities**

Expanding community and integrated employment opportunities received well-deserved, statewide attention this past March when Governor Kasich issued an Executive Order establishing Ohio as an Employment First state. Since then, the task force and advisory committee created by the order have been working throughout the summer to develop thorough

recommendations on successfully implementing the policy and collaboration goals to improve employment outcomes. Also this summer, when the Governor's mid-biennium budget review legislation became law, another important Employment First policy became reality: Now every student with DD will begin the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) process two years earlier at age 14, and every IEP is required to include a strategy for learning about and preparing for employment, by establishing post-secondary goals related to community employment.



Director John Martin and other DODD staff have been visiting local communities to highlight Employment First initiatives, and to learn more about best practices that can serve as models throughout the state. In August, that included a visit to Wood County, which has the highest percentage of adults served by an Ohio County Board employed in integrated, community jobs.

In September, Director Martin and RSC Director Kevin Miller traveled to Logan for an Employment First roundtable discussion with individuals, employers, superintendents and county officials representing Fairfield, Hocking and Perry Counties. The discussion was hosted at The Employment Connection, a Council of Government (COG) and community employment program serving the three-county region.

### **The Employment Connection**

“The Employment Connection does a great job of getting to know the people they serve,” said Ben Hollinger, Assistant Deputy Director for the Division of Policy and Strategic Direction at DODD. “In employment services this may be called the Discovery Process (assessment), and this is key to making employment work for the people we serve. By really getting to know someone this allows the team to search out opportunities that fit the unique strengths of people we serve. A good employment fit is critical to success.”

Employers in the discussion seemed to echo the value of those efforts to Directors Martin and Miller. They shared that it was strong relationships proactively developed by employment program staff members that opened the door for them to be aware that individuals with developmental disabilities are capable, desirable and dependable employees. Once they hired, and felt matched with well-qualified employees who fit their work cultures, they were more than pleased with the quality of work they received.

### **Medicaid Buy-In Supports the Employment Picture**

Medicaid Buy-In for Workers with Disabilities (‘Medicaid Buy-In’, or MBIWD), is a Medicaid-funded program that allows Ohioans with disabilities to work and continue to receive Medicaid benefits. Historically, people with disabilities were often discouraged from working, and earning more than a certain prescribed amount of money annually, because the earnings would make them ineligible for Medicaid coverage. MBIWD was created to enable Ohioans with disabilities to work and still keep their health care coverage. MBI was authorized in Ohio in 2007, and participants began enrolling in April 2008.

**[More about Medicaid Buy-In at: Medicaid Buy-In Information](#)**

### **Now On-the-Road with Information**

Chuck Beatty, long-time MBI proponent, and advisor to Ohio's DD community, is now on-the-road with MBI information and training. DODD has contracted with Beatty for the remainder of

2012, to offer presentations anywhere in Ohio on the subject of MBIWD, and thus support the overall goal of improved employment options for people with disabilities. Among the many questions he has been asked are, “Who is eligible?” Chuck’s response would include:

To qualify for MBIWD, a person must:

- Be 16 to 64 years old;
- Be defined as having a disability, per the Social Security Administration, or as determined by Ohio Medicaid, or eligible under the MBIWD ‘medically-improved’ category;
- Be employed in paid work (includes part-time and full-time work);
- Pay a premium (if applicable);
- Meet certain basic requirements and financial criteria.

To schedule training, contact Chuck Beatty at (513) 398-4923; email [cwbeatty@centurylink.net](mailto:cwbeatty@centurylink.net)



**“Ask me about Medicaid Buy-In!”**

**Chuck Beatty, Chair of the Ohio Olmstead Task Force MBI Advisory Committee, shown here at the 2012 Legislative Advocacy Day, with Renee Wood, Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council chairperson.**

### **And, You Can Bet That Employment Will Be Mentioned at the Next DODD Family Advisory Council Meeting, September 25**

According to DODD Family Advocate Peggy Martin, the agenda for the next meeting of Family Advisory Council (FAC) will be packed with information requested by family members around the state, which in the past has included presentations by DODD Deputy Director Ben Hollinger on *Employment First*, as well as individual and family stories about personal success in work environments and community living. The next FAC meeting on September 25 at the Columbus Developmental Center (CDC) will include updates on Guardianship, Quality Assurance, Home Health Services, and much more.

**Family Advisory Council Meetings are open to everyone!**  
Meetings are at the Columbus Developmental Center (CDC) Training Room  
Contact: [Peggy.Martin@dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:Peggy.Martin@dodd.ohio.gov)



## *Pipeline Profile*

### 2. DODD Division of Human Resources

*Pipeline Profiles appear periodically, and spotlight each of the eight Divisions within DODD. All issues are archived at [www.dodd.ohio.gov/pipeline](http://www.dodd.ohio.gov/pipeline).*

Discussing the Division's efforts during the past year in the areas of Labor Relations, Benefits Administration, EEO/Diversity Affairs, Personnel Services, and Workforce Development, DODD Deputy Director for Human Resources, Laura Frazier, emphasizes the overall goals of streamlining, simplifying, and saving money through consolidation of functions. "We have concentrated on making several transitions during the past year, consolidating several functions that had been more fragmented, and in that process we have been very happy with the results -- both in terms of lower costs, and in managing and tracking information within our system."

Frazier goes on to explain, "It's important to consider that, while DODD Central Office is the 'hub' for the Division of HR, there is a great deal of HR activity going on at each of our ten Developmental Centers around the state. So, establishing one consistent way of doing things is much more effective and efficient than trying to accommodate ten or eleven different ways of doing things." For example, Frazier notes that the Division has consolidated payroll and benefits functions at Central Office, and has implemented some systems-related programs that organize and track various functions such as mediation and arbitration activity, as well as absenteeism and Workers' Compensation benefits. Having this capability will allow for improved forecasting, and better overall information management along with long-term cost savings.

In addition, Frazier explains that looking ahead, streamlining and simplifying – along with consistent messages and information – are key to improving the functions and services provided by the Division. She adds,

**"Human Resources must constantly deliver the message that we're one agency, and we need to give a 'one agency' message to our staff and other agency partners."**

On that subject, Frazier adds that as a partner agency in the [Governor's Office of Health Transformation](#) (OHT), it has been beneficial to DODD during the past year to compare efforts with other state agencies. "We've learned a lot, as well as been learned from," she states, noting that DODD has taken the lead in some system-wide consolidation and resource-sharing efforts, and the resulting savings have been noted by other agencies.

She continues, "We're looking ahead now at our recruitment, training, hiring, and orientation functions to assure greater consistency throughout the organization, and apply some of the new technologies and ideas that will help us to do that. Again, it's so important to keep the message at the forefront that while we are a statewide agency with approximately 2800 staff, geographically located across the state, we are all here to serve Ohio's more than 80,000 individuals with developmental disabilities. And that takes a lot of human resources!"



**Laura Frazier**  
Deputy Director, Division of Human Resources  
Laura.Frazier@dodd.ohio.gov



### **3. FASD Steering Committee Hosts ‘Not a Single Drop Day’ Awareness and Prevention Information**

The Ohio Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Steering Committee hosted families, professionals, and interested members of the community attending the *Not a Single Drop Day* event on September 7, last week at the Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence (OCALI) gymnasium, in Columbus. FASD is an ‘umbrella term’ broadly describing the range of physical, behavioral, and mental effects that can result from prenatal exposure to alcohol. Opening remarks were offered by Dr. Jessica Foster (Ohio Department of Health) who noted, “This steering committee is a wonderful example of what we can do in state government when we bring our partners together – along with professionals and families – to make a real difference to the health of Ohio citizens around the state.”

**The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) strongly advises that no amount of alcohol consumption by a pregnant woman is safe ... and urges that women who are pregnant, think they may be pregnant, or who are planning to become pregnant, should abstain from drinking alcohol in any amount.**

Attendees learned about the reality of FASD from families it has affected, including the difficulty in diagnosing the condition, and sometimes receiving conflicting information from different medical practitioners largely unfamiliar with FASD. One panel member and parent-advocate, Phil Petrosky, who also is a Steering Committee member representing the Ohio Department of Health, noted that in many cases local County Boards of DD are very helpful in providing resources and information to help individuals work through issues in the educational system as well as with residential, community-based services.

The event also provided valuable information about advocacy and prevention, respite services, and Individual Service Plans (ISPs), from professionals who work with individuals affected by FASD.

#### **Governor's Proclamation**

Recognizing the lifelong, detrimental effects caused by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) and the high costs associated with the effects of FASD, Governor John Kasich has declared September 2012 *FASD Prevention and Awareness Month* in Ohio. Annual spending related to the care of persons with FASD in Ohio is estimated at approximately \$300 million.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) strongly advises that no amount of alcohol consumption by a pregnant woman is safe ... and urges that women who are pregnant, think they may be pregnant, or who are planning to become pregnant, should abstain from drinking alcohol in any amount.



These healthy babies are happy to report that Governor John Kasich has designated September as “National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Prevention and Awareness Month in Ohio.”



Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder is a life-long disorder that causes physical and/or behavior and learning issues. FASD can be prevented 100% simply by not consuming any alcohol during pregnancy.

*For more information, contact Statewide FASD Coordinator, Melinda Norman, at [melinda.norman@ada.ohio.gov](mailto:melinda.norman@ada.ohio.gov); phone (614) 644-8318.*

*Learn more about FASDs at CDC information; [www.ocali.org](http://www.ocali.org); and at Not a Single Drop*



## Spotlight on Direct Support Professionals

### **4. Direct Support Professionals Blazing Trails This Week**

The week of September 9 is National Direct Support Professionals Week. National Direct Support Professionals Week is sponsored by the American Network of Community Options and Resources (ANCOR), and recognizes the important contributions that Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) make in every community, every day. Governor John Kasich has recognized the month with a Proclamation spotlighting the vital role of Direct Support Professionals in enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities of all ages.

#### **Event Today**

One of the premiere events illustrating the positive impact of DSPs within Ohio's developmental disabilities community is free to DSPs and is being celebrated today -- the annual Ohio Direct Support Professionals recognition day, coordinated by the Ohio Alliance of Direct Support Professionals (OADSP) at the Xenos complex in Columbus. The 2012 theme, “Blazing Trails, Leading the Way, Enhancing Lives Every Day,” was carried through in the traditional Western wear worn by many (see photos) and alluded to often in presentations.

Keynote speaker, John Raffaele, representing the National Alliance of DSP's headquartered in New York, spoke of the [Code of Ethics](#) for DSPs, noting that to follow the Code is to 'cowboy up' to what is right and responsible. He noted, "Every day you are making decisions *with* and *for* others who depend on you. The Code of Ethics is there to guide you in the right direction."

DODD Director John Martin addressed the group with heartfelt opening remarks, stating,

**To say 'thank you' to you all for your work is not enough. Thank you is not enough because we, in this state, have not done enough to improve the wages you are paid in the service system. Our work is not done in this area, and we have not yet been able to reward your work with improved wages. We are continuing to focus on that as a high-priority issue with our agency partners, and with our legislators. I, personally, deeply appreciate the work that Direct Support Professionals do and your commitment to it. If it were not for you, individuals like my son could not survive."**

In addition to Director Martin, Ohio Provider Resource Association (OPRA) President Mark Davis was a featured presenter, flourishing the large and official Proclamation from Governor John Kasich's office, and reading it aloud to the group of nearly 500 attendees. Sporting a large cowboy hat, he noted, "The Governor's Office is proud of the work that you do, as we are -- and so I'm going to read every 'Whereas' in this Proclamation, and there's a lot of them!"



### **Blazing Trails, Leading the Way ...**

(L. to R.) Jasmine Beckwith, DSP with service provider Koinonia (and singer extraordinaire), John Raffaele, keynote speaker representing NADSP, and Master of Ceremonies Scott Osterfeld whoop it up at the outset of the program. Beckwith sang, "A Better Me" – a song with lyrics written by participants at last year's event, and nearly brought the house down with...

**"Your challenge is my treasure. Let's live life in harmony ... a better you, a better me, a better we."**

At right, OPRA President Mark Davis reaches for (not his 6-shooter!) the Proclamation from the Governor's Office, marking the week of September 9 as DSP Recognition and Appreciation Week. He read every word!

**"I like this part ... 'Whereas, DSPs build a close and trusted relationship with individuals' ..."**

The full day's program also spotlighted Direct Support Professionals sharing skits focusing on ethics and competencies. Master of ceremonies Scott Osterfeld kept everyone enthused and on-track throughout the day, and attendees from all over the state noted it was the best program ever. From a national perspective, John Raffaele was not shy in stating several times that Ohio, "Has got it goin' on. This is a one-of-a-kind event, and no other state comes close to what you are doing here, to recognize and encourage Direct Support Professionals. Yee-hah!"

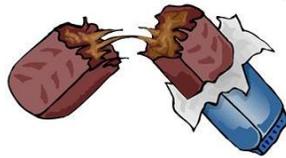
*For more information: Lisa Barnes, OADSP Board Member and Chairperson for the event.  
LisaB4DSPs@yahoo.com or (866) 862-2322, ext. 102. (DSP event)*

### **Ohio Developmental Centers Spotlight DSPs**

Ohio's state-operated Developmental Centers employ many Direct Support Professionals as key front-line staff, who carry a variety of job titles and manage a variety of responsibilities. Several attended the DSP event in Columbus, noted above, and were selected or nominated to participate by residents and other DC staff. In addition, staff at these facilities report that individual residents are providing personal glimpses as to why individual DSP's are so valuable to them.

At Tiffin Developmental Center, Candy Messmer reports that resident, Mike Neff, stated that Dave Farris is his favorite staff person. He said,

*"He's always nice to me and helps me and the other guys. He still won't buy me a Snickers candy bar, but I will still keep asking!"*



Also at Tiffin, Ralph Phipps said that Don Bauer is his favorite staff person, noting,

*"Don keeps me and the other guys busy with playing cards and having campfires out back. He will always talk to me when I need to talk to someone."*

### **Community Care Day, Enjoyed by DSPs and Friends**

The Annual Community Care Day Parade at Columbus Developmental Center marched proudly around the CDC campus yesterday, with nearly every resident and staff member in the crowd. Parade participants included the Ohio State School for the Blind Marching Band (see below), mounted police, cool cars, fire trucks, and much more. DSP's had a perfect sunshine-filled day to enjoy with the residents, along with plenty of food and music to round out the afternoon.



**Marching and playing instruments, the Ohio State School for the Blind is Amazing!**  
How do they do it? With a lot of practice, and as you can see below, a little guidance from their sighted friends. Residents and DSPs alike, enjoyed the variety of entertainment on a beautiful day.



*Information about Ohio's Developmental Centers at: [DODD Developmental Centers](#)*



## [Health & Safety](#)

### **5. Major Unusual Incident (MUI) Unit, Annual Report 2011**

The 2011 Annual MUI Report is now available on the DODD website at [2011 MUI / Registry Unit Annual Report](#). This latest report was developed using the large volume of data compiled from the Incident Tracking System (ITS) for calendar year 2011. Information highlights some of the challenges that individuals with disabilities faced during the year regarding health and welfare concerns, as well as reports on the work of providers, County Boards of DD, and DODD staff in providing ongoing supports to address these health and safety concerns.

**All MUI/Registry Unit Annual Reports since 2005 are at the Health & Safety tab at [www.dodd.ohio.gov](http://www.dodd.ohio.gov)**

The MUI Registry Unit reviewed nearly 20,000 reported incidents in 2011. This is an increase of approximately 6% from calendar year 2010. The Department reviews each case to assure that appropriate immediate action has been taken to protect an individual's health and safety. In addition, Ohio provided technical assistance and supports to multiple states around the country in 2011. Topics of discussion include Ohio's web based reporting system (ITS), the Abuser Registry System, Mortality Review, and Statewide Patterns / Trends. Each of these elements plays a critical role in improving statewide processes that help protect individuals in Ohio.

DODD Assistant Deputy Director Scott Phillips and the MUI Unit staff thank all who work so diligently to protect those we are entrusted to support. Phillips states, "The Ohio system is comprehensive and requires cooperation and teamwork to gain positive results. When all facets of the system work well together the benefits to those we support are immeasurable. The Ohio DD community's collective commitment to continuous quality improvement has allowed the state to remain at the forefront of effective health and safety systems for people with disabilities."

#### **Upcoming MUI and Rights Training, September 20**

Free training for Ohioans with disabilities and their family members (\$49 for professionals) titled "*An Afternoon of Learning*," will be hosted on September 20 at the Holiday Inn – Worthington, 7007 N. High St., in Worthington. MUI and Rights training is required for all waiver service

providers, including those Transitions DD Waiver providers who will be transitioning from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to DODD on January 1, 2013.

Register today at: <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/4306693436>



## 6. National Emergency Preparedness Month Honors Many

*Pipeline takes a look at preparedness efforts and other safety-related activities around the state.*

National Emergency Preparedness Month 2012 reminds and encourages all Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies.

Visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) to view new information for 2012, under the theme, 'Today Is the Day Before Tomorrow.'

National Preparedness Month is a nationwide effort to encourage individuals, families, businesses and communities to work together and take action to prepare for emergencies. Nationally, the Preparedness Month efforts are led by the [Federal Emergency Management Agency](#), (FEMA) 'Ready Campaign,' in partnership with related state and local organizations.

As Ohio honors the nation's First Responders during *National Preparedness Month*, an event at the Ohio Statehouse West Lawn was held last week, in remembrance of September 11, 2001. Event organizers placed 2,999 flags in the grass, representing the number of lives lost that day due to the terrorist attacks. [Hands on Central Ohio](#), and the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (EMA) organized the event in collaboration with other agencies. Hands on Central Ohio is a state affiliate of the HandsOn Network – the largest volunteer network in the nation – connecting individuals and organizations with civic engagement opportunities.



Again this year, the Ohio Statehouse lawn is transformed into the Memorial Field of Flags – A highly visual display of 2,999 American flags arranged to signify the outline of The World Trade Center and The Pentagon, and to represent the lives lost on September 11, 2001.

### Of Special Interest to People with Disabilities

At [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) click the link "Prepare For Emergencies Now: Information For People With Disabilities" for information including a brochure specific to people who have disabilities and other access/functional needs that could affect overall emergency preparedness. While *National Emergency Preparedness Month* is observed each September, FEMA's *Ready Campaign* promotes individual emergency preparedness throughout the year.

*Additional information also at [www.ema.ohio.gov](http://www.ema.ohio.gov)*

## ***PostScripts*** .....

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



### **IMAGINE PROJECT Develops from County Collaborative Efforts**

Ohio's 'Region V' County Collaborative efforts are driving system change within the 18-county geographical region, and working toward statewide system improvements as an end result of the pilot project's work. Describing the change is a recently-launched video introducing the *Imagine Project* – a new name, branding the Region V County Collaborative. To learn more about the concepts driving this system transformation from the individuals served, as well as from others in Ohio's DD community, click below to see the video, "*Imagine – The Time is Now.*"

[www.tinyurl.com/ImagineTheTimelsNow2](http://www.tinyurl.com/ImagineTheTimelsNow2)

The Imagine Communications Team invites interested individuals to look for more videos in the future both on a blog/website that will debut in the coming months, and on YouTube.

### **Annual Mental Illness and Disabilities Conference, September 18-19**

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

**Ohio State 10th Annual MI/DD Conference**

[Click above for registration information](#)

### **Employment First: Transitions Conference, September 13-14**

*Employment First: Transitions* will be held September 13 – 14 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 6500 Doubletree Avenue, in Columbus. The conference is a joint effort of Ohio's Association for Persons Supporting Employment First (Ohio APSE), the Ohio Association of Adult Services (OAAS) and the Ohio Children's Association. Featured presenters will include DODD Director John Martin, Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission (RSC) Director Kevin Miller, and Pat Rogan, Executive Associate Dean of the Indiana School of Education at Indianapolis. The conference will address challenges inherent in transitions -- including from school to community employment, and from a sheltered work environment to a community job -- as well as support services for people working in the community. Details and online registration at [www.oaas.org](http://www.oaas.org).

### **Ohio Disability Employment Alliance to Host Forum September 25**

The Ohio Disability Employment Alliance will host a statewide forum, "*Employment of Ohioans with Disabilities: Policies and Practices for Supported Employment,*" on Sept. 25, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., at the Worthington Community Center. Cost is \$10, and lunch is included.

**All participants must register by Sept. 19**

**For more information and to register, email: [axiscenter@columbus.rr.com](mailto:axiscenter@columbus.rr.com)**

Keynote speaker will be Serena Lowe, Senior Policy Analyst, Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP), Washington, DC, and other topics to be discussed at the forum include the Disability Employment Initiative; Ohio's models for supported employment; the status of Employment First; Policy Roundtables; and impacting Ohio's 2014-1015 budget.

### **Benefits Planning for Families of Adults with Disabilities, September 25**

Families & Friends Network of Goodwill Columbus is sponsoring a seminar for family members of individuals with developmental disabilities, titled, “Benefits Planning for Families of Adults with Disabilities,” Tuesday, September 25, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Goodwill Columbus, 1331 Edgehill Road, in Columbus. Sessions will include:

- *Medicaid Mandate – What it Means to You:* David Zwyer, JD will discuss new requirements, in addition to waivers, Social Security and the compliance process including special needs trusts.
- *Maintaining Health Benefits Into Adulthood:* Margaret Tabit will discuss federal, county and private health coverage options including current and anticipated changes beginning in 2014.

The seminar is free. Registration is encouraged. Margaret Tabit; 614-583-0567; [mtabit@columbus.rr.com](mailto:mtabit@columbus.rr.com)

## **OPRA 2012 Fall Conference, September 25-26**

The Ohio Provider Resource Association (OPRA) conference provides an opportunity to network, and learn more about the latest issues facing providers, find new resources, and learn from first-rate speakers. Attracting more than 500 attendees and dozens of exhibiting organizations, the program content offers many learning opportunities to enable professional growth.

[Click here for Registration](#) [Click here for OPRA Fall Conference Brochure](#)

This year, in conjunction with DODD, the two-day ‘RN Train the Trainer’ course will be offered at the conference. This is the [program of instruction](#) required for RNs to become certified by DODD to train and certify unlicensed DD personnel for Medication Administration. The course runs concurrently with other conference sessions. [Learn more here!](#) In addition, sessions during the two-day conference will include tracks on subjects including Supported Employment, Adult Guardianship, Direct Support Professionals as Mentors, and much more. OPRA is also planning a silent auction fundraiser – for donation information contact [Director of Government Relations Jeff Davis](#), (614) 224-6772.

## **2012 National Forum on Disability Issues, September 28**

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

[The Forum is both an in-person opportunity and an online opportunity.](#)

[To register to attend the event and to view the live webcast, go to \[www.nfdi.org\]\(http://www.nfdi.org\)](#)

## **Disability Housing Network: Housing Funding Symposium, October 24**



Supporting housing corporations  
that provide safe and affordable housing  
for individuals with disabilities

The Disability Housing Network (DHN) has announced plans for the 2012 Housing Funding Symposium, October 24, 8:30-4:30, at the Xenos Complex, 1340 Community Park Dr., in Columbus. Following recommendations of the 2011 Symposium attendees, DHN developed a roundtable format for this year’s event, allowing people to participate in small-group training and discussions for the various development funding sources. Sessions will include information about the DODD Community Capital Program, an update on Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities (HUD 811), and much more.

[For more information and to register: http://www.click here to register](http://www.click here to register)

DHN has received approval for CEUs in: Adult Services; Early Intervention; Investigative Agent; SSA; Supt./Asst. Supt. (Services, Programs, Supports Stream); and, County Board Members. Contact: Jacalyn Slemmer, Exec. Director, Disability Housing Network, [jacalynslemmer@disabilityhousingnetwork.org](mailto:jacalynslemmer@disabilityhousingnetwork.org).

## **PAR & OSDA ‘SYNERGY’ Conference, October 3-5**

The annual PAR & OSDA (Professionals, Advocates, Resources & Ohio Self Determination Association) Conference is scheduled for October 3-5 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 5100 Upper Metro Place, in Dublin. The conference theme will be 'Synergy.' For more information go to [www.par-ohio.org](http://www.par-ohio.org), or [www.ohiosda.org](http://www.ohiosda.org). Several exciting awards will be presented at the PAR/OSDA conference, nominations for which are now closed. More information in future issues of Pipeline.

### **Direct Service Workforce Applied Research Conference, October 4**

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

### **SAVE THE DATE! Ohio Partners in Justice Offers Free Training October 19**

Ohio Partners in Justice, in collaboration with the Ohio Department of Mental Health, is providing a free training on October 19, at the Mt. Carmel West Hospital Auditorium, 793 W. State Street, in Columbus. The purpose of this training is to assist forensic monitors and County Board of DD professionals to develop a better understanding of each other's roles, rules, and responsibilities, as well as how they can better work together for the benefit of individuals with developmental disabilities. Registration is at 9:00 a.m. and the conference hours are 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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

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

See 'Sibling Stories'- Essays about siblings by people with disabilities, at <http://siblingstories.blogspot.com/>

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

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

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

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

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

To report abuse/neglect and other MUI's call toll-free: **1-866-313-6733**. Please note that MUIs are to be reported to the local County Board of DD, however, it is understood that there may be times an individual, staff member, or family member may feel it is a conflict -- or that, potentially, a County Board may be involved in the allegation. In those instances it is important to remember the hotline number is there to be used for reporting concerns in these situations.

### ***Pipeline Feedback ... from You to the State***

*Pipeline* is an electronic publication of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD), distributed at least twice monthly to update and inform readers of timely, relevant information affecting stakeholders in the developmental disabilities community. Share questions or comments about *Pipeline* at [feedback@list.dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:feedback@list.dodd.ohio.gov) or [sherry.steinman@dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:sherry.steinman@dodd.ohio.gov). *DODD values subscriber confidentiality and does not intentionally share*

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