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**Wednesday, September 29, 2010**

**Volume 4, Issue 20**

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#### **As September draws to a close and we look at October...**

**We look back at the History-Making OSDA Conference, Direct Support Professionals Week, and other September highlights ...**

**and we look ahead to National Disability Employment Awareness Month and other important October events.**



#### **We May Need a Fire Extinguisher!**

### **1. Ohio Self Determination Assn. ‘Celebrates the Fire Within’**

**“I want to thank you for all the work you have done to show society what you can do when given the opportunities you need. Our society needs each and every one of you to continue to advocate for what you need and want – to be an integral part of your community.”**

**- Ohio First Lady Frances Strickland, addressing OSDA conference participants**

The enthusiasm generated by “Celebrating the Fire Within,” the theme of the Ohio Self Determination Association (OSDA) annual conference September 20-21 at the Doubletree Hotel in Worthington, definitely fired-up the nearly 300 participants in attendance during the two-day event, and may have prompted those with September’s heightened sense of preparedness (it’s National Preparedness Month – [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)) to make sure there were fire extinguishers ready to be deployed if need be... because this group was super-charged!

Not only was the conference a venue for several spirited and positive motivational speakers – including Ohio First Lady Frances Strickland -- but it was the forum for a history-making process of naming the new DODD Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waiver submitted last week for consideration by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

### First, a Little Background

The Medicaid HCBS waiver is authorized in §1915(c) of the Social Security Act. The regulations permit a state to offer an array of home and community-based services that assist Medicaid beneficiaries to live in the community and avoid institutionalization. The state has broad discretion to design its waiver program to address the needs of the waiver's target population. Waiver services complement and/or supplement the services that are available to participants through the Medicaid state plan and other federal, state, and local programs, as well as the supports that families and communities provide.

The design and operational features of a waiver will vary depending on the specific needs of the target population, the resources available to the state, service delivery system structure, state goals and objectives, and other factors. (See [NEW Flexible Supports Waiver](#)),

**The state has the latitude to design a waiver that is cost-effective and employs a variety of service delivery approaches, including participant direction of services.**

### How Do You Name a Waiver?

Given this background, DODD Director John Martin invited OSDA to lead the effort to involve all 2010 OSDA conference participants in brainstorming, discussing, refining, and then voting on a name that would accurately and appropriately identify the waiver -- and be meaningful to those for whom it has been developed. That is precisely what was accomplished.

Understanding the language in the proposed waiver description is important, and was part of the conference's participant education efforts. With that foundation, it was equally important to empower people and energize statewide advocacy efforts through the waiver-naming process.

**Out of the 164 name ideas initially brainstormed, the list was narrowed to nine. Then, following a 'sales pitch' by self-advocates and other supporters of each of the nine ideas, a final vote was taken, yielding the selected name:**

## Self Empowered Life Funding (SELF)



**Five Principles of Self-Determination: Authority, Confirmation, Support, Freedom, Responsibility**  
More about self determination at: [dodd.ohio.gov/families/self.htm](http://dodd.ohio.gov/families/self.htm)

As noted in the official waiver submission description, *“The waiver will offer participant-direction of services and supports, and will embrace an individualized planning and budgeting approach.”* The name selected could not have been more appropriate or descriptive.

Observing hundreds of individuals, family members, and professionals involved in the naming process was a strong testament to the democratic system. The process was detailed and organized, yet provided ample opportunity for individuals to express themselves, have fun, air questions and concerns, show enthusiasm for what the waiver might do for them personally, and be a part of something that had never been done before in Ohio’s developmental disabilities community ... Take some of the bureaucracy out of waiver development, and empower the individuals ultimately to be served!

**“The Ohio Self Determination Association does not just represent self advocates. OSDA represents them, yes – and all of the people affected by developmental disabilities services in Ohio ... families, County Board staff and other service providers, and friends. It’s about all of us, working together, having a voice together.”**

**- Dana Charlton, Director OSDA**

Acknowledging the staff at OSDA and partnering agencies in the waiver-naming process, DODD Deputy Director Patrick Lanahan noted, “A special thank you to the board and members of OSDA, to staff and members of People First of Ohio, to staff of County Boards and other provider organizations – and especially to all of you self advocates! We are close to making this dream a reality, and we thank you for helping to make this happen.” He added,

**“ This is definitely the first Home and Community-Based Services waiver that doesn’t sound like it was named by a bureaucrat. And that’s because it wasn’t! ”**

OSDA President Lee Wedemeyer, Past President Annette Davis-Kramp, and Vice President Jeanne Stuntz, as well as OSDA Director Dana Charlton, assured that the waiver-naming activity was involving and meaningful for all. “We know you are excited about the options that will be made available to you with the way this proposed waiver is structured,” said Stuntz, as she rallied the collective energy of self advocates and others before the final vote. She continued,

**“Are you ready to make history?”**



**Lining up to continue the democratic process.**

Self Advocates and support staff prepare to tell their stories as to why the waiver they name they like best should be chosen as 'the one!' 'Self Empowered Life Funding' was the final choice.

### Other Conference Highlights

In addition to the lively waiver-naming activity, OSDA's conference honored the 2010 ESDY Award winners – self advocates Cindy Carpenter, Mike Riggle, Brady Sellet, and Brad Whitmoyer, (more about ESDY awards at [www.ohiosda.org](http://www.ohiosda.org)), and honored Fatica Ayers, Policy Analyst with the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council, with the annual Steven R. Cooley Award, kept secret until the conference presentation. Featured speakers from around the nation and state added to the exciting agenda. It would be difficult to imagine a more interesting and informative two days to help ignite and 'celebrate the fire within' every participant.

In fact, Sue Thomas, an internationally-known speaker with hearing and speech challenges who was the inspiration for the television program, "*Sue Thomas, F.B.Eye*," literally threw (a small cup of) cold water on a couple of conference participants, playfully chiding them, and saying,

**"Don't let anyone throw cold water on your flame. Don't let anyone put out your personal fire!"**



Sue Thomas playfully 'surprises' Clyde Yoder with a little cold water. It did not dampen Clyde's 'Fire Within'!



Below we share additional glimpses of this historic conference. More will be added periodically at [www.dodd.ohio.gov](http://www.dodd.ohio.gov) and at [www.ohiosda.org](http://www.ohiosda.org) in the coming weeks as DODD and OSDA update their respective websites with additional follow-up material.

**"I had hoped when we put this conference together, that we would spark the passion to be self determined that lies inside each one of us, and motivate everyone to 'celebrate the fire within'! From our feedback I believe we accomplished this. We have reached out to many who have not been reached out to in this way before."**

**- OSDA Director, Dana Charlton**



Self advocates mingle with Ohio's First Lady Frances Strickland and DODD Director John Martin during a break. Joe, Clyde, Amy, and others complimented the First Lady on the guitar-playing skills she displayed as she lead the group in a few spirited songs earlier in the program.



### Talk about 'reaching out to your audience'!

Nick Scott's reach was a long one and a strong one, as he delivered his motivational message to a very receptive group. Nick (black T-shirt, third from left) uses a wheelchair following a traffic accident resulting in paraplegia when he was 16 years old.

"Focus every day on being the best you can be. Turn those 'shoulds' into 'musts'."

-Nick Scott, motivational speaker and award-winning powerlifting champion





In the OSDA vendor area, it was 'standing room only' at the Dan's Sunglasses table during a morning break.

**"How can this waiver help me? How can it help me in my business?"**

- Self advocate and business operator, Gloria, of Gloria's T-Shirts, and Dan Schoonover of Dan's Sunglasses



**She's Got the Artistic Fire...**

Drucilla Manuel's self portrait was on display at the OSDA conference, and, it also was chosen by ANCOR\*, to be on display at *The Smithsonian American Art Museum National Portrait Gallery* earlier this month in Washington D.C. Dru attended the OSDA conference as a vendor. According to Kathy K. Rader, Champaign Residential Services Inc., Dru actively participates in CRSI Urbana's Adult Day Services program.

\*ANCOR: American Network of Community Options and Resources - the national organization for providers of developmental disability services.



## 2. Sixty Chapters, and Counting ... People First!

As a person who has a developmental disability, Shena Lemons has much to say about improving the lives of other Licking County residents with developmental disabilities. She explains, "I want people to know how to help people with disabilities in the workplace, in church, and in the community." According to a September 24 article in *The Newark Advocate*\* Lemons and others have jumped at the chance to join *People First of Ohio*, a self advocacy

group, whose local chapter – the 60<sup>th</sup> in Ohio – will be sponsored by the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities (LCBDD).



Shawna Winterbotham, of Newark, creates a campaign sign for her entry as secretary of the new Licking County Chapter of *People First*, sponsored by the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

Photo courtesy, Matthew Berry, *The Advocate*

The Board conducted introductory informational meetings last week at its Service Coordination office in Heath, and more than 30 people attended.

The original *People First* chapter in Ohio was started in 1998 after a group of people with developmental disabilities came together to make their voices heard, according to Sadie Hunter, Executive Director of *People First of Ohio*. Originally, the group received funding from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities and the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council.

Every chapter is run by its members, who are people with developmental disabilities. *People First of Ohio* provides training for each chapter so members can learn how to run their meetings, and express themselves effectively as self advocates.

Hunter notes, "The goal is for people with developmental disabilities to learn about their rights and responsibilities, learn about laws that affect their lives, and advocate for family and friends." According to chapter organizers, it will be up to the members of the Licking County chapter of *People First* to decide what their focus will be. Hunter emphasized, "A lot of people with disabilities are used to people telling them what to do," she said. "But this is theirs."

Officers for the new chapter will decide when the group will meet, and choose advisers from the LCBDD to assist them with projects and activities. LCBDD Superintendent Nancy Neely, who opened the first meeting last week, told the group of potential "People First" participants,

"I am really, really excited about this. I think it will make you stronger people because you'll have a voice – your own voice. And when you become stronger people, we'll be a stronger organization (the LCBDD) and you'll make Licking County a better place."

*For more information: Diana Shannon, LCBDD, (740) 349-1420.  
[www.newarkadvocate.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=20109240356](http://www.newarkadvocate.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=20109240356)  
[www.peoplefirstohio.org](http://www.peoplefirstohio.org)*



### 3. Looking Back at DSP Recognition Week, Across the State

Recognizing the important contributions that Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) make in every community, every day, throughout the nation, this month Governor Ted Strickland issued a proclamation\* spotlighting the dedication and vital role played by Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) in enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities of all ages, and proclaiming Ohio's DSP Recognition Week, September 12-18.

\*(Full text at [www.ancor.org/sites/default/files/dsp-recognition-week-2010\\_ohio.pdf](http://www.ancor.org/sites/default/files/dsp-recognition-week-2010_ohio.pdf) )

In the most recent *Pipeline*, [Pipeline Volume 4 Issue 19](#) we reported on Ohio's first major recognition event celebrating the work of DSPs ("ACTION! Direct Support Professionals Make It Happen A Premiere Special Event") -- and as we look back at the month, we now take a brief look at some recognition efforts around the state on a smaller scale, but no less important.

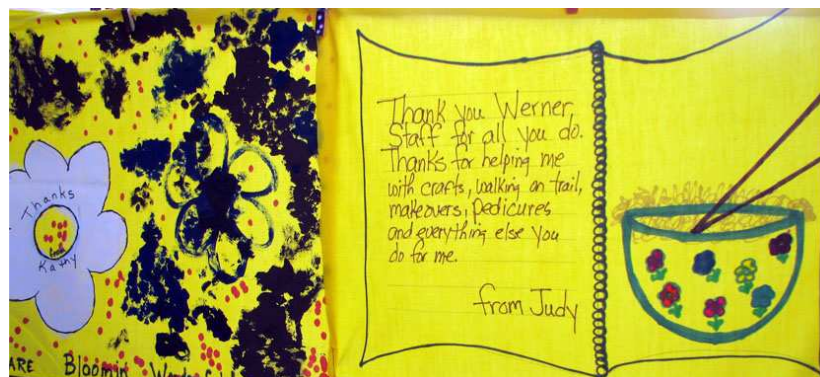
#### In Wood County

*Thanks to Debbie Leibig, Wood Lane Residential Services (WLRS), for this information:*

"Many individuals who receive services through Wood Lane Residential Services helped decorate yellow flags thanking DSPs. These flags (more than 120 of them!) were displayed at the Wood County Courthouse Atrium, along with the proclamation from Governor Strickland, and an explanation about the display. Visitors to the Courthouse frequently stopped to look at the many colorful and interesting flags. Several Wood Lane DSPs also visited the display, and for those who could not make it to the Courthouse, Wood Lane showed the flags for a week at our offices, where many of our staff meetings and Board meetings occur.

We also had a 'Thank you card' designed by one of the men who receives services from WLRS and printed by *Real Ink*, a small art studio supported by the Wood County Board of DD. To the card, which was signed by our administrators and given to each DSP, we attached a puzzle-piece pin stating, 'You're A Vital Piece.' More photos are at [www.woodlaneresidential.org](http://www.woodlaneresidential.org)."

Contact: [dleibig@woodlaneresidential.org](mailto:dleibig@woodlaneresidential.org).







More than 120 handmade yellow flags honoring DSP's were displayed at the Wood County Courthouse Atrium, along with the DSP Week proclamation from Governor Strickland.

(NOTE: Next to the top upper right flag, "Thank you for cheese!" was one stating, "Thank you for pop!")

#### **In Guernsey County**

*Thanks to Missy Craddock, Ohio Provider Resource Assn. (OPRA), for this information:* In recognition of Direct Support Professionals Week, Guernsey Residential's Executive Director Janice Hall, hosted a cornhole tournament (with prizes) and picnic lunch at her home for all staff. There was a great deal of good-natured competition. A photo board now hangs in the office to commemorate the day, showing that DSPs are #1 with Guernsey Residential. Two little children attending the event and pictured smiling on the photo board were dubbed, "Future DSP's!"  
Contact: Missy Craddock, [mcraddock@opra.org](mailto:mcraddock@opra.org), or Janice Hall, [gueres@mail.jadeinc.com](mailto:gueres@mail.jadeinc.com)

#### **Also In Guernsey County, at Cambridge Developmental Center**

*Thanks to Cambridge Developmental Center (CaDC) Superintendent Troy McCollister, for this information, as reported in the CaDC newsletter, The Cambridge Compass:* "As I have said before, every day, somewhere on this campus, something special happens for someone. Those special moments are rewarding for those involved, and offer a private reinforcement for the efforts put forward every day. However, every now and then, a special event, activity, play (see photo below) -- or simply working together with a common purpose -- aggregates many special moments all at once, and the result is nearly magical. It is those joint efforts for the good of others, and the hard work to make them happen, that brings pride to our facility. Thank you all for creating a true home and family for the residents here, and take pride in the fact that the smile on a face that you see is there because of you."

Contact: [Troy.Mcollister@dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:Troy.Mcollister@dodd.ohio.gov), or visit [dodd.ohio.gov/residential/cadc.htm](http://dodd.ohio.gov/residential/cadc.htm).



**"Just Desserts" cast members include CaDC residents and staff.**  
Photo courtesy, Sue Sprang, CaDC

Read more about this original theatrical production in the next issue of *Pipeline Quarterly*, reporting on Summer 2010 ... coming soon!

#### **In Hamilton County**

*Thanks to Mary Beth Poulimenos, Resident Home Corporation (RHC) for this information:* RHC celebrated Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week at their Monfort Heights campus. RHC employs 130 DSPs, and recognized their hard work with a cookout and car wash. Washing their cars and throwing a good old fashioned cookout ended up being a great idea, as we can see from the photos provided!

Contact: Mary Beth Poulimenos, [mbpoulimenos@rhcorp.org](mailto:mbpoulimenos@rhcorp.org).



**DSPs employed by Resident Home Corporation enjoy the simple pleasures of cotton candy, cookouts, and clean cars.**

**Shown l to r: RHC employees David Levine and Brittney Rodgers delight in their cotton candy, and RHC President Patrick Maynard, and HR Director Larry Mullins, ready to wash employees' cars.**

### REM – In Counties Throughout Ohio

Thanks to Carla Parker, with REM Ohio for this information: REM Ohio celebrates outstanding DSPs throughout the state all year long. Those recognized by REM as Outstanding 2010 Direct Support Professionals go beyond the typical DSP job description and contribute to the lives of individuals with DD in unique ways. From sixty employees nominated during the year, the REM Ohio Leadership team selected six to receive further recognition during National DSP week. They were: *Diane Goodwin, Ashlee Jackson, Karen Smith, Misty Bowman, Danny Greenwade, and Thomas Tucker*. The chosen employees were personally interviewed, and their stories published in local community newspapers including *The West Side Leader, The Southside Leader, Austintown Crier, This Week Reynoldsburg, The Daily Jeffersonian, and Amherst News Times*. Contact: Carla Parker, [Carla.Parker@TheMentorNetwork.com](mailto:Carla.Parker@TheMentorNetwork.com).



### Reader Request – “We want info on the upcoming DD levies!”

## 4. County Board Levies on November 2 Ballots Across Ohio

“Could you please put in the next issue of *Pipeline* the upcoming levies for County Boards? I think that information should be in soon so that all of the self advocates know what’s going on as soon as possible.”

– self advocate Christine Brown



Franklin County self advocates stoke the fires within! Participants in the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities (FCBDD) Self Advocate Advisory Council meeting on September 16 included self advocates, staff, and DODD Director John Martin (back row, center, with beard). *Pipeline* reader, Christine Brown (flowered blouse, front row) requested early levy info for the benefit of all in Ohio’s DD community.

In preparation for important events such as the November elections, self advocates around the state have been meeting in groups both formal and informal, to discuss issues of interest to them, their families and friends. While the calendar says Election Day is Nov. 2, early voting in Ohio



started yesterday, September 28, launching a 35-day 'voting window.' And, according to the Ohio Secretary of State's Office, an increasing number of Ohioans have voted absentee, either in person or by mail, since the state adopted "no-fault" absentee voting in 2005. Elections officials have been promoting early voting not only as a convenience for voters, but as a way to ease congestion at the polls on Election Day.

### **Your vote is very important!**

Ballot issues in the upcoming election affecting Ohio's developmental disabilities community include those in the following counties:

- *Athens:* 1.8 mill Replacement Levy. To generate \$1.65 million annually for eight years.
- *Defiance:* 1.9 mill Replacement Levy. To generate \$200,000 per year. First time on the ballot as a replacement.
- *Mahoning:* 3 mill Renewal Levy. To generate \$11.9 million annually for five years.
- *Medina:* 1.12 mill Replacement Levy. Second attempt.
- *Montgomery:* 6.03 mill Replacement Levy. \$4.5 million new money to offset losses in tangible personal property and CAT tax dollars. (NOTE: Montgomery County operates a Human Services Levy and is a combination of DD, ADAMHS, Children's Services, Elderly support, etc.)
- *Portage:* 1.8 mill Renewal Levy. To generate \$3.9 million for five years.
- *Putnam:* .5 Replacement Levy. To generate \$322,727 each year for 10 years.
- *Vinton:* 2 mill Renewal Levy. For five years.

The Secretary of State website at [www.sos.state.oh.us/](http://www.sos.state.oh.us/) contains a wealth of voting information, and will post more about the November 2 election as it draws closer. See additional information at [Voters With Disabilities](#).

### **Register Now to Vote in the November General Election**

**The deadline to register for the November 2nd general election is October 4, 2010.**

The OLRs website at <http://www.ohio.gov/vote-register> features general information regarding voting rights, and includes a link to the [Voter Registration Form](#). If you have other questions, you also may contact the Ohio Legal Rights Service Intake Department at (614) 466-7264 or 1 (800) 282-9181; (TTY) 614-728-2553 or 1-800-858-3542.



### **October is National Down Syndrome Awareness Month**

## **5. 'Buddy Walks' Across Ohio**

You can 'take steps' to improve the lives of persons with Down syndrome while getting exercise and having fun at the Buddy Walks throughout Ohio in early October. Central Ohio's traditionally well-attended Buddy Walk will take place on Sunday, October 3, at Columbus Crew Stadium. The one-mile walk will begin at 10 a.m., and registration begins at 9 a.m..

The Buddy Walk is sponsored by the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio (DSACO) in order to promote acceptance and inclusion, and celebrate the accomplishments of persons with Down syndrome. DSACO hopes to raise \$200,000 through the walk this year. After the walk, a wide range of entertainment will be available.



For more information regarding the Buddy Walk, please contact DSACO at 263-6020 or go to [www.columbusbuddywalk.org](http://www.columbusbuddywalk.org).

#### **Related News from the Northwest Ohio/Greater Toledo area**

From Liz Sheets at the Wood County Board of DD we learn that, "The National Down Syndrome Awareness Video features Dylan Schuh of Perrysburg! Schuh appeared in the National Down Syndrome Society's (NDSS) video production on Saturday, September 25, on the larger-than-life MTV plasma screen, located in the heart of Times Square. The Schuh family all went to New York to see the debut of the video, and were very excited about it!"

According to Sheets, Dylan's photo was selected to be among 225 photos chosen from more than 1000 entries in the NDSS worldwide 'call for photos.' The photos in the video presentation illustrate young children, teens, and adults with Down syndrome working, playing, and learning with friends and family. The Perrysburg resident is pictured on a park bench with his arms wide open for a hug. The video will be posted at [buddywalk.org](http://buddywalk.org), click on "events" at the top of the home page.

The Times Square video production kicks off National Down Syndrome Awareness Month, which includes the 2010 Buddy Walks across the country. In Northwest Ohio/Greater Toledo the walk also will be on October 3. For more information, contact [information@dsagt.org](mailto:information@dsagt.org) or (419) 536-4321. The group's website is [www.dsagt.org](http://www.dsagt.org).



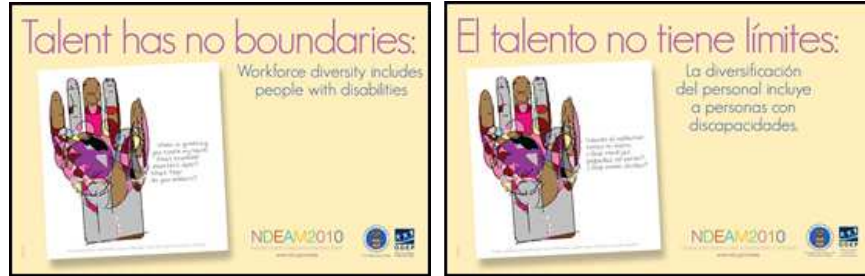
#### **October is ...**

### **6. National Disability Employment Awareness Month**

The 2010 National Disability Employment Awareness month poster is now available to order online at [www.dol.gov/odep/](http://www.dol.gov/odep/). For the first time, the posters also are available as downloadable versions in English and Spanish, as well as in six additional languages: Arabic, Chinese, Russian, French, and two Native American languages: Navajo, Lakota.



**“Talent has no boundaries: Workforce diversity includes people with disabilities.”**



**2010 National Disability Employment Awareness Month Posters Available to Order**  
*[Click here to read about the poster and how to order.](#)*

The 2010 theme emphasizes the diversity and talent that workers with disabilities bring to the workplace. According to Kathleen Martinez, Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of Labor Office of Disability Employment Policy, "Our diversity of talent is a wellspring of innovation and creativity in the workforce."

#### **About the Artist**

The 2010 poster highlights the talents of artist and writer, Laura Hershey. Through the medium of computer generated art, she created a figure of a hand including many colors and shapes, and a verse that reaches out in friendship to dispel the fears and misconceptions often associated with disabilities. Hershey is one of many artists featured by VSA, (formerly 'Very Special Arts') the International Organization on Arts and Disability, on their website: [VSA's Website](#).

#### **Coming in October Issues of Pipeline**

Focusing on the subject in October -- National Disability Employment Awareness Month -- the October 13 and 27 issues of *Pipeline* will feature employment options, programs, and initiatives within the state and national business community, as well as within the developmental disabilities system.



**[From the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services \(ODJFS\) ...](#)**

## **7. Updated Private Duty Nursing Information**

**This information is provided by ODJFS to clarify this important service component.**

Private Duty Nursing (PDN) is a Medicaid State Plan service that provides in-home skilled nursing care to Medicaid clients of any age who require continuous nursing services beyond the Medicaid State Plan Home Health benefit.

**The purpose of Private Duty Nursing is to provide continuous skilled nursing care for individuals with complex medical needs, if the skilled care can be provided safely in the person's residence.**

The Medicaid State Plan also provides home health services for individuals who have a medical need for part-time intermittent skilled nursing or aide care and therapies. A person enrolled in the Medicaid State Plan Hospice benefit cannot access State Plan Home Health or PDN services.

When individuals elect to receive hospice care they agree to waive Medicaid services that are equivalent to hospice care. Hospice election by a person younger than age 21 does not constitute a waiver of any rights of the person to be provided 'curative services' related to the treatment of a terminal condition.

In order to be eligible for Private Duty Nursing services, the individual must:

- Be Medicaid eligible;
- Require continuous skilled nursing services; and,
- Have a comparable institutional level of care.

*For more information about PDN: [jfs.ohio.gov/OHP/consumers/PrivateDutyNursing.stm](http://jfs.ohio.gov/OHP/consumers/PrivateDutyNursing.stm)  
Contact: Susan McKinley, [Susan.McKinley@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:Susan.McKinley@jfs.ohio.gov)*



## 8. A Quick Look at the Affordable Care Act

**Last week marked the six month anniversary of the Affordable Care Act (ACA).**

In recognition of the six month anniversary of the ACA, the White House has launched a new health care website at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/healthreform/>, which provides a great deal of information about the Act, including state-specific information.

In Ohio, the Affordable Care Act is currently being analyzed to determine next steps, so that the state takes full advantage of all of the opportunities that will benefit Ohioans. State 'team leads' have been designated for every provision of the bill, and will work with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as further guidance and regulations are crafted. Earlier this year, Ohio launched a website to keep people informed about various healthcare reform activities, at <http://healthcarereform.ohio.gov>.

A recent poll conducted by the Associated Press indicates that many Americans are uncertain about what the ACA will and will not do.\* In an effort to inform, The White House website includes a "Myths & Facts" section about the ACA, as well as state-by-state reports that detail how the Act is affecting the health care system in different states. The site also features stories from individuals and employers in every state.

The DODD also has posted a web page devoted to keeping Ohio's DD community updated on ACA progress. Visit the DODD site at <http://dodd.ohio.gov/HealthCareReformInformation.htm>.

*\*(<http://surveys.ap.org/data/KnowledgeNetworks/Health%20Reform%20Topline%20for%20Posting.pdf>).*



## 9. Pipeline PostScripts – News Briefs & Calendar Notes

### ⇒ Ohio Public Images (OPI) Training on Usage of Social Media, October 4

A Social Media seminar, addressing the subject from a basic, novice standpoint, and sponsored by Ohio Public Images (OPI) and the Southwest Ohio Council of Government (COG), is slated for October 4, from 9 a.m. -3 p.m. at the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) complex, 1980 W. Broad St. in Columbus. Registration information is at [publicimagesnetwork.org/SocialMediaRegistration.htm](http://publicimagesnetwork.org/SocialMediaRegistration.htm). This seminar will help dispell myths and fears of social media usage, and review case histories of organizations and professionals in the DD field using this communications tool.

### ⇒ Belmont County Board of DD to Host Kathie Snow, 'Disability is Natural'

*"Awesome change is possible when we think differently about developmental disabilities!"*

Learn how to think differently at an evening with parent advocate, author, and trainer Kathie Snow, on Thursday, October 21, 5:30 p.m. at Ohio University Eastern, St. Clairsville -- presented by the Belmont County Board of Developmental Disabilities. *Public Invited! Free Admission!* Kathie is the author and creator of *Disability is Natural*, a respected source for new ways of thinking about developmental disabilities. Learn more at [www.disabilityisnatural.com](http://www.disabilityisnatural.com). Contact: Pamela McCort, [pmccort@bcbdd.org](mailto:pmccort@bcbdd.org).

### ⇒ Celebrate National Disability Employment Awareness Month October 6 at the Ohio Statehouse

Celebrate the gifts and talents of Ohio's workers with disabilities October 6 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with music by the Ohio State School for the Blind Marching Panthers and information tables representing employers, business owners with disabilities, disability organizations, and service providers from around the state. The event is sponsored by the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission (RSC), and the Governor's Council on People with Disabilities (GCPD). For more information contact Eileen Courson, RSC, at [Eileen.Courson@rsc.state.oh.us](mailto:Eileen.Courson@rsc.state.oh.us).

### ⇒ PAR (Professionals, Advocates, Resources) Conference, October 6-8 – 'Get Connected'!

**Click here for registration and information!**

Register online at [www.par-ohio.org](http://www.par-ohio.org) for the October 6-8 PAR Convention at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Dublin, Ohio. 'Get Connected' is the theme. The mission of PAR is to offer quality training, professional development, and networking opportunities to enhance services to individuals with developmental disabilities (DD). PAR relies on the support and volunteer efforts of many dedicated people working together to improve the manner in which individuals with developmental disabilities are provided personal care and assistance. Professionals from throughout the DD community share knowledge and expertise to achieve common goals. The annual PAR Convention is the keystone event for these efforts.

### ⇒ Social Capital and Community-Building Workshop, October 14

The Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission invites you to attend a half-day training on Social Capital. This workshop focuses on the concept of social capital and community building. Many organizations have learned that one of the most important aspects to overall life success is social capital and relationships. Studies show that people who have important relationships in their lives are healthier, happier, safer, advance more quickly, and achieve more in life.

When: October 14, 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Where: Marcus Cincemas, 200 Hutchinson Avenue, Columbus

Contact Chris Glover: [chris.glover@rsc.state.oh.us](mailto:chris.glover@rsc.state.oh.us)

Registration: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/socialcapitaloct14>

⇒ **Partners in Policymaking 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering, October 22-23, in Columbus**

Ohio Partners in Policymaking (PIP) will host their 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering on October 22-23, at the Hyatt on Capital Square, Columbus. About 150 graduates of PIP are expected to attend the gathering, whose overall purpose is to bring graduates of *Partners in Policymaking* together for updates on legislative issues and best practices, share their advocacy experiences since graduation, re-energize efforts, and network with new graduates.

Partners in Policymaking is an internationally-recognized leadership program that prepares adults with developmental disabilities, parents, and other family members to advocate effectively and knowledgeably with decision-makers on local, state and national levels. Advocacy efforts are critical to keep the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families in the forefront of public policy decisions. Contact: Essie Pederson, [epederson@cinci.rr.com](mailto:epederson@cinci.rr.com) or Linda Kunick, [lkunick@rhcorp.org](mailto:lkunick@rhcorp.org).

⇒ **Tenth Annual Ohio SIBS (Special Initiatives by Brothers and Sisters) Conference, Nov. 5-6**

The Ohio SIBS Conference is a great opportunity for siblings to learn about the services and resources their brothers or sisters receive or may be eligible for. The conference also allows adult siblings to meet each other, share their stories, and enjoy being with others who can identify with each others' experiences in growing up. To register for the November 5-6 Conference at the Columbus Marriott Airport Hotel, go to [www.ohiosibs.com](http://www.ohiosibs.com). *Deadline for conference registration is Monday, October 25th.* Contact: Michelle Truby, The Ohio State University Nisonger Center, [truby.5@osu.edu](mailto:truby.5@osu.edu).

⇒ **DODD Hotline for Reporting Abuse, Neglect, and other Possible Major Unusual Incidents**

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 ... direct from you to the state ...***

*Pipeline* is an electronic publication of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD), distributed approximately twice monthly to update and inform readers of timely, relevant information affecting stakeholders in the developmental disabilities community. Share comments about *Pipeline* at [feedback@list.dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:feedback@list.dodd.ohio.gov), or contact Sherry Steinman, [sherry.steinman@dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:sherry.steinman@dodd.ohio.gov), phone (614) 644-0262. *The 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.* To subscribe to *Pipeline* or add a new address, email: [join-pipeline@list.dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:join-pipeline@list.dodd.ohio.gov) and write SUBSCRIBE in the subject line. To discontinue your subscription to *Pipeline* or remove an old address, email: [join-pipeline@list.dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:join-pipeline@list.dodd.ohio.gov) and write UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line. Pipeline is archived at <http://dodd.ohio.gov/publications/pipeline.htm>

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