



Director John Martin  
Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities  
30 E. Broad Street  
Columbus, OH 43215

April 16, 2012

Dear Director Martin:

OPRA commends the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities on two very important steps taken recently to improve employment opportunities for persons with developmental disabilities and to create efficiencies within the provider community to incentivize desired outcomes.

First, the proposed rate increases for supported employment-community and for integrated employment in the SELF Waiver are significant in many ways. They compliment the Governor's Executive Order on Employment First and affirm the State of Ohio's desired goal of prioritizing participation in the workforce. The new rates also incentivize provider investment in delivering this needed service and will begin building the necessary pool of providers. Concurrent with implementation of both new rates OPRA commits to working with providers to develop a strong, viable private provider base with the necessary expertise and diversity to meet the upcoming needs.

Secondly, DODD recently refiled the Adult Day Service rules with revisions to employee training requirements. The Department's willingness to initially incorporate the proposed changes offered by OPRA and the County Board Association is deeply appreciated and reflects a commitment to regulatory reform and better targeting of provider administrative efforts. Of note was the ongoing involvement of Deputy Director Kate Haller and her staff. They remained engaged and committed to the process which has resulted in a better overall outcome.

As a result of the above mentioned Department actions we believe more individuals will have an opportunity to participate in Ohio's economic recovery.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Davis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark Davis  
President

CC: Dan Ohler, Gary Tonks, Carolyn Knight, Sadie Hunter, Dana Charlton, Michael Kirkman, Karla Rinto