Mr. John Martin, Director   January 18, 2017
Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities
30 E. Broad Street, 12th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Comprehensive Review of Burdensome Regulations

Dear Director Martin:

Over the past several years, county boards of developmental disabilities and private service providers have increasingly found themselves mired in an exceedingly complex system of arbitrary and inconsistent regulations at the state level. These regulations, which have prevented boards and providers from directing their full energies toward the facilitation and delivery of services, must be fundamentally redesigned if we are to effectively serve people with developmental disabilities and their families in the years to come.

To overcome this obstacle, we respectfully ask that you (and your senior leadership team) participate in a meaningful dialog with OACB and OPRA members on the regulatory and procedural barriers to effective service delivery currently imposed by the State of Ohio. A workgroup will be formed to make recommendations on ways to eliminate or mitigate these barriers while ensuring that the state's oversight objectives continue to be met. We welcome your earnest participation on this workgroup from its inception so that our discussions can be as productive as possible with all necessary players at the table.

We envision a future in which Ohio's DD service system is easier to navigate and more efficient to operate while remaining accountable to Ohio taxpayers. It has become clear to both of our respective memberships that a comprehensive review of the state's burdensome regulatory framework is the fastest and most effective way to make our vision of a simpler, more effective system become reality.

Please contact us at your earliest convenience to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

Bridget Gargan   **Mark Davis**
Executive Director   President
Ohio Association of County Boards of DD   Ohio Provider Resource Association

Cc: OACB members, OPRA members