



STRONGER COUNTIES. STRONGER OHIO.

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Continuing the State County Partnership in Jails

CCAO Operating Budget Requests:

- Restore the \$159 million for jail construction projects in Governor DeWine's proposed budget, with the funding coming from adult-use marijuana excise tax revenue.
- Explore the creation of a long-term program to enable the General Assembly, the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, and counties to better strategically guide future jail construction and renovation investments across the state.
- Maintain the House's requirement that the Department of Medicaid apply for an 1115 waiver to amend the state's Medicaid plan to allow for Medicaid to cover the medical costs associated with pre-trial inmates in the county jail.

Talking Points (Personalize for your county when applicable):

- Jail Construction Funding:
 - If you have or are contemplating a jail renovation or construction project, this funding could help your county.
 - Without state support for county jail projects, many counties are unable to fund the project on their own due to inflationary construction factors.
 - Prior to 2020, the state last provided funding to counties for jail projects in 2001. This 20-year gap has allowed many county jails to become outdated and ill-equipped to deal with the current inmate population.
 - We should acknowledge the renewal of state jail funding of \$175 million dollars since 2020 by the DeWine-Husted administration and the Ohio General Assembly.
 - CCAO and BSSA's recent jail survey shows there is approximately \$2.2 billion dollars' worth of necessary county jail projects across the state.
 - The survey also showed that the price for the project increased by 41.5% on average between the initial bid for the project and the most recent bid.
 - The average price per sq ft for jail construction was around \$600 in 2019, the average price per sq ft is now between \$800-\$1,100.



- 1115 Waiver and Medicaid Coverage of Inmate Healthcare Costs:
 - Ohio has approximately 10,000 pre-trial detainees and 4,000 inmates who are currently sentenced in a full-service jail at any given time in the year.
 - According to DRC data, approximately one in three inmates are currently confined in a county jail due to a drug-related offense, with many of those inmates also diagnosed with a mental health condition.
 - Allowing Medicaid coverage for this population will allow for inmates in county jails to potentially receive additional medical care and will allow for increased linkage to providers in the community following their release from jail.