It is my pleasure to present to you our first CCAO Annual Report to provide an overview of YOUR association and how together we are advancing effective county government for Ohio. You will read how our focused approach paid off during the biennial budget process—attributable in large part to the legislative advocacy efforts of our members. You will also note a rich array of education and training opportunities were afforded, new resources made available to members, and our tradition of offering quality enterprise service programs continued with newly launched program offerings—all while keeping dues flat for seven (soon to be eight) consecutive years. On behalf of everyone at CCAO, we thank you for your continued support and look forward to identifying additional ways that we can strengthen CCAO in 2016.

Suzanne Dulaney
CCAO Executive Director

State Biennial Budget

After identifying the platform priorities for 2015-2016, CCAO went to work setting the stage for success. Regional Legislative Briefings with members hosting legislators from their region, joined by CCAO staff, provided a venue for members to educate legislators on the budget priorities.

Another venue was created for members as part of the Ohio Council of County Officials Legislative Reception in April. CCAO staff reiterated the priorities by meeting with every Senator or their staff and over 75 House members or their staff. Consequently, we were about to accomplish the following:

**INDIGENT DEFENSE FUNDING**

Thanks to your legislative advocacy, we exceeded the goal of a majority of the Ohio House of Representatives cosponsoring the amendment to add funding to restore the partnership.

$12 million/ year

Added, along with an additional $1.5 million of funding for death penalty cases for each year of the biennium.

**ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATION**

$12.75 million in funding

Included for an 85% state/ 15% local match to purchase electronic poll books, plus current and future efficiencies gained

February special elections were eliminated

Pre-pay requirements for remaining special elections were included
FUNDING STABILITY & ENHANCEMENTS
Did NOT see an attempt to reduce the county undivided LGF or to change the distribution formula for the first time in several budget cycles.

$20 million
to create and fund Local Government Safety Capital Grant Program

$4.7 million
to fund County Agricultural Society Facilities Grant Program

UNFUNDED MANDATE RELIEF & PROTECTION AGAINST NEW MANDATES
• Repeal of county reimbursement to livestock owners for animal kills
• Repeal of county reimbursement to vendors for adjusting cash registers
• Important language limiting county responsibility “to the extent of available funds” was preserved in Adult Protective Services

While the priority items were the clear focus of our efforts, we also did not miss opportunities to advance the CCAO platform and protect local flexibility. Some examples include:

• Granting sale and lease back authority
• Land Bank population thresholds were removed
• County Recorder veteran ID card proposal with funds directed to the Technology Fund was not adopted
• Changes to the PRC program that would have limited local flexibility were not adopted (a study is being conducted so the issue may reemerge)
• Comprehensive case management and employment program was amended to include CCAO recommendations such as changing the implementation date, limiting the population to 16-24 year olds, and limits on state agency rule writing authority
• Funding to address the opiate epidemic, including expansion of medication-assisted treatment programs and $3 million in community and $3 million in community innovation funding to improve services to the jail population

Beyond the Budget: Legislation Impacting Counties

600+ bills introduced this General Assembly
200+ bills monitored by CCAO
100+ bills in which CCAO is an active party
An additional $8.8 million for local government grants

State Capital Improvement Program (SCIP) – Thanks to a joint effort with county engineers and other political subdivision partners, the percentage of funding that is set aside for loans was reduced from 20 percent to 15 percent, freeing up approximately $8.8 million for local governments to apply for infrastructure projects each year.

Looking Ahead: Remaining Legislative Priorities & Challenges Facing Counties

- Laying groundwork for state partnership to fund the next generation of elections equipment, estimated to cost around $150 million
- Making the case for additional public works funding
- Adult protective services rules and legislation
- Workforce development – Local flexibility and a workforce ready for the local labor market
- Growing pressure on child protective services
- Negative impact of Opiate Epidemic on County Government

CCAO took positions supporting Issues 1 and 2 as well as opposing Issue 3, which were consistent with election outcomes.

We provided draft resolutions, press releases, developed toolkits detailing the issues, coordinated with the respective campaigns on communications strategies and social media outreach.
Education, Training & Research

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SYMPOSIUM

Over 60 counties participated 52 speakers presented

International, national, state and local experts spoke on ideas and methods for fostering economic growth in Ohio counties.


We were fortunate to receive sponsorships to assist with a large portion of costs.

Top Photo: Suzanne Dulaney, CCAO Executive Director; Mike Halleck, CCAO President and Columbiana County Commissioner and Kristi Tanner, Managing Director of Advanced Manufacturing and Automotive, JobsOhio

Bottom photo: Attendees discuss county priorities and data.

NEW MEMBER TRAINING

Nearly 40 county commissioners, administrators and clerks attended.

The event was a forum for new commissioners to network and receive training on scope of job, networking opportunities, familiarize with CCAO and the ways we help and support counties.

WEBINARS

CCAO hosted 12 webinars.

Nearly 800 county officials participated.

Interest levels were so high that CCAO had to expand our webinar service.

PUBLICATIONS

5 Handbook Chapters on LGF, Sewer Districts, Economic Development, CIC’s and IDBs, and Land Banks

3 County Data Exchange Bulletins on Various aspects of VSC funding and program info

1 County Advisory Bulletin on Pay Tables for Elected Officials

97 Issues of the Statehouse Report and Counties Current published
CCAO Member Services

PROTECTING COUNTY INTERESTS THROUGH LEGAL ACTION

Walker v. Husted – County charter petitions in Athens, Meigs, Medina and Fulton Counties were threatening to throw the counties into protracted litigation at county expense. CCAO submitted a friend of the court brief to the Ohio Supreme Court on behalf of the counties.

Toledo City Schools v. State Board of Education – CCAO submitted a friend of the court brief to the Ohio Supreme Court in support of current case law that says the retroactivity clause protections apply to counties and counties must be able to reasonably rely on funds distributed to them by the state.

ENHANCED COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES

Our social media platform has expanded our reach to legislators, media and counties to share county news, positions on bills and issues, and association events.

We joined the “Why Counties Matter” campaign to promote county services and supported Child Support Awareness Month and Child Abuse Prevention month.

Revamped and enhanced our weekly newsletter and Alumni newsletter.

Currently working with NACo on an Ohio-focused “Why Counties Matter” document.

RESPONDING TO COUNTY NEEDS

CCAO staff dedicate a significant portion of their time responding to inquiries from counties to help them:

- Answer questions about how federal and state laws and rules impact them
- Help them answer questions about how other counties have handled a particular issue or problem
- Support County Staff through training and assistance to County Affiliates

CCAO staff responds to legislative inquiries

- Provide information directly to legislators about county government
- Answer research requests to the Legislative Services Commission regarding how a proposed bill will impact counties operationally and financially

CCAO media engagement

- CCAO staff responds to media inquiries on county government
- Prepare press releases for counties
- Engage the media regarding our legislative priorities and other issues of importance to county government
TECHNOLOGY ENHANCEMENTS

Strengthened and updated our technology to better support CCAO and serve our members.

- Firewall updated
- New servers
- Cloud backup
- Network switches
- Hired Network Administrator
- New VOIP phone system

CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

CCAO has been involved in:

- Ohio Youth in Government
- Operation Military Kids in conjunction with Ohio 4-H and OSU Extension
- Greater Ohio Policy Seminar
- Mid-Ohio Food Bank Food Drive
- Glenn School Leadership event

REPRESENTATION ON STATE BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

County Leaders and CCAO staff serve on a variety of state boards and commissions, such as:

Advisory Council for the Aging
Agricultural Commodity Advisory Commission
State Auditor's Regional Advisory Groups
Ohio Cemetery Law Task Force
Clean Ohio Council
Concentrated Animal Feeding Facility Advisory Committee (CAFF)
Ohio Consolidated Plan Advisory Committee
Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission
Ohio Council of County Officials (OCCO)
Task Force on the Funding of Ohio Courts
Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission
Commission on Dispute Resolution
Elder Abuse Commission
State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)
Statewide Emergency Services Internet Protocol Steering Committee
Farmland Preservation Advisory Board
Ohio Rural Fire Council
Ohio Geographically Referenced Advisory Board
Ohio Housing Trust Fund Advisory Committee
Ohio Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee
Jail Advisory Board
Consortium of County Law Library Resource Boards
Governor's Executive Workforce Board
Ohio Local Government Innovation Fund
Ohio Public Defender Commission
RECLAIM Advisory Committee
School Based Health Care Advisory Workgroup
Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWAC)
Stepping Up Ohio Steering Committee
Transportation Review Advisory Council
Ohio Department of Veterans Services Advisory Committee
Water Resources Advisory Council
Ohio Expositions Commission
## Quality Service Programs

### CCAO SERVICE CORPORATION

CCAO Service Corporation offers over a dozen programs to serve counties. Some highlights include...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Counties</th>
<th>Savings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natural Gas Program</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>$1.3 million in estimated annual savings for County Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electric Program</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>$2.8 million in estimated annual savings for County Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Aggregation Program</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>$8.0 million in estimated annual savings for Citizens of Counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCAO SC Workers’ Compensation Group Retro Program for 2015</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>$3,078,800 Estimated 20% refund of projected premium, $6,893,914 2010-2015 actual refunds to date, $13,229,707 Total 5-year projected refunds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCAOSC Workers’ Compensation Group Rating Program</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>$146,740 Estimated total savings for 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CEBCO

34 counties strong

Assists counties with procuring employee health benefits and offers members stable and competitive costs, financial strength, broad coverage and a vast array of wellness and health management services.

CCAO is stronger because of CEBCO. Not only financially, but because of the expertise that they bring to the table that benefits all counties, such as:

- Affordable Care Act educational workshops and webinars open to all counties
- Wellness program expertise
- Provide expert speakers on topics of employee benefits

### CORSA

65 counties strong

Provides members with comprehensive property and liability coverage and high quality Risk Management Services at a stable and competitive cost. CCAO is stronger because of CORSA. Source of financial strength, but also benefits CCAO through the expertise they bring to the table, such as:

- Cyber Security Seminars open to all counties
- Law Enforcement Seminars open to all counties
- Provide human resources legal expertise from their HR Hotline to CCAO trainings and conferences
- Courthouse Security risk management expertise
- FMLA Seminars
2015 CCAO Executive Committee

President - Mike Halleck, Columbiana County Commissioner
1st Vice President - R. Douglas Corcoran, Ross County Commissioner
2nd Vice President - Ed Humphrey, Clermont County Commissioner
Secretary - Doug Weisenauer, Crawford County Commissioner
Treasurer - Ginny Favede, Belmont County Commissioner
Past President - Nick Kostandaras, Summit County Council Member
Member - Deborah Lieberman, Montgomery County Commissioner

Board of Directors

Tony Anderson, Fayette County Commissioner
Gary Bauer, Huron County Commissioner
Paula Brooks, Franklin County Commissioner
Kathleen Chandler, Portage County Commissioner
Bob Corbett, Champaign County Commissioner
Mike Crabtree, Scioto County Commissioner
Janet Weir Creighton, Stark County Commissioner
Carl Davis, Monroe County Commissioner
David Dhume, Madison County Commissioner
Julie Ehemann, Shelby County Commissioner
Lenny Eliason, Athens County Commissioner
Patricia Geissman, Medina County Commissioner
Pete Gerken, Lucas County Commissioner
Bob Glaser, Greene County Commissioner

Dave Greenspan, Cuyahoga County Council Member
Gary Lee, Union County Commissioner
John Love, Putnam County Commissioner
Gary Merrell, Delaware County Commissioner
Kerry Metzger, Tuscarawas County Commissioner
Glenn Miller, Henry County Commissioner
Otto Nicely, Defiance County Commissioner
Ann Obrecht, Wayne County Commissioner
Barb Queer, Ashland County Commissioner
T.C. Rogers, Butler County Commissioner
Brian Stewart, Pickaway County Commissioner
Daniel Troy, Lake County Commissioner
Tom Whiston, Morrow County Commissioner

CCAO Standing Committees

Agriculture and Rural Affairs
Chair: Chris Abbuhl, Tuscarawas County Commissioner
Vice Chair: Steve Hess, Champaign County Commissioner

Justice and Public Safety
Chair: Bob Proud, Clermont County Commissioner
Vice Chair: Ed Elliot, Hardin County Commissioner

General Government and Operations
Chair: John O’Grady, Franklin County Commissioner
Vice Chair: Bob Corbett, Champaign County Commissioner

Metropolitan and Regional Affairs
Chair: Pete Gerken, Lucas County Commissioner
Vice Chair: Gloria Rogers, Summit County Council Member

Health and Human Services
Chair: Paula Prentice, Summit County Council Member
Vice Chair: Otto Nicely, Defiance County Commissioner

Small County Affairs
Chair: Mike Bartrum, Meigs County Commissioner
Vice Chair: Steve Seitz, Wyandot County Commissioner

Jobs, Economic Development and Infrastructure
Chair: Tim Bubb, Licking County Commissioner
Vice Chair: Judy Dodge, Montgomery County Commissioner

Taxation and Finance
Chair: Daniel Troy, Lake County Commissioner
Vice Chair: Ginny Favede, Belmont County Commissioner