



CIDS

County Information and Data Service

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DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL 21, 2008	NW OHIO COMMISSIONERS AND ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING, ROMER'S CATERING & ENTERTAINMENT FACILITY, MERCER COUNTY (CELINA)
APRIL 25, 2008	CCAO PUBLIC SAFETY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS
APRIL 25, 2008	CCC/ESAO NORTHWEST REGIONAL MEETING, HENRY'S RESTAURANT, HARDIN COUNTY (KENTON)
MAY 5, 2008	SE OHIO COMMISSIONERS & ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION, MUSKINGUM COUNTY, (ZANESVILLE)
MAY 9, 2008	CCC/ESAO NORTHEAST REGIONAL MEETING, UPSTAIRS RESTAURANT, MAHONING COUNTY (YOUNGSTOWN)
MAY 9, 2008	CCAO/CEBCO RX TREND SEMINAR, HAYES ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, DELAWARE COUNTY (DELAWARE)
MAY 21-23, 2008	NACo WESTERN INTERSTATE REGION CONFERENCE, WASHINGTON COUNTY (ST. GEORGE), UTAH (WWW.NACO.ORG)
JUNE 8-10, 2008	CCAO/CEAO ANNUAL SUMMER CONFERENCE, RENAISSANCE QUAIL HOLLOW, LAKE COUNTY (PAINESVILLE)
JUNE 20, 2008	CCAO WORKERS' COMPENSATION ANNUAL MEETING, THE RAMADA PLAZA HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER, COLUMBUS
JULY 11-15, 2008	NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE, JACKSON COUNTY (KANSAS CITY), MISSOURI (WWW.NACO.ORG)
AUGUST 19-20, 2008	COUNTY COMMISSIONER DAYS, ROSS COUNTY (CHILLICOTHE)
AUGUST 29, 2008	CORSA ANNUAL MEETING, THE RAMADA PLAZA HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER, COLUMBUS

ASSOCIATION NEWS

CCC/ESAO NW & NE REGIONAL MEETINGS

Over the past five years, the County Commissioners Clerks and Engineers Secretaries Association of Ohio (CCC/ESAO), CCAO's first and oldest affiliate organization, have held a series of very successful regional meetings around the state. The purpose of these meetings is for CCC/ESAO members to share their knowledge with other clerks and secretaries that are unable to attend conferences and workshops.

Due to the overwhelming success, CCC/ESAO has scheduled four regional meetings in 2008. These informal meetings are open to all commissioners' clerks, deputies, engineers' secretaries, or administrative assistants to discuss various topics of concern in your county. The meeting topics are tailored to meet the needs of each district. All meetings will start at 10:00 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m. There is no charge to attend. Lunch will be sponsored by CCAO/CEAO. **The CCAO Board of Trustees encourages all county commissioners to permit their clerks and other office support staff to attend the meetings.**

APRIL 25, 2008 – NORTHWEST REGION - HARDIN COUNTY

LOCATION: Henry's Restaurant, 995 North Detroit Street, Hardin County (Kenton)

For more information, please contact CCC/ESAO NW District Representative Rhonda Slauterbeck, Clerk/Assistant Administrator, (419) 734-6720 or rslauterbeck@co.ottawa.oh.us.

MAY 9, 2008 – NORTHEAST REGION – MAHONING COUNTY

LOCATION: Upstairs Restaurant, 4500 Mahoning Avenue, Mahoning County (Youngstown)

For more information, please contact CCC/ESAO NE District Representative Nancy Walega, Administrative Assistant, Mahoning County Engineer's Office, at (330) 799-1581 or nwalega@mahoningcountyoh.gov.

The SE & SW meetings will be held in the fall. For more information, please contact the 2008

CCC/ESAO President Susan Schmunk, Administrative Assistant, Williams County Engineer's Office, (419) 636-2454 or sschmunk@wmsco.org.

WHICH WORKERS' COMP MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATION IS RIGHT FOR YOU? – GETTING READY FOR OPEN ENROLLMENT – MAY 5-30

The 2008 Open Enrollment period is upon us! Once again, Ohio employers will have the opportunity to select the managed care organization (MCO) they want to handle their workers' compensation claims for the next two years. Counties can expect a marketing blitz as companies compete for their business. **If you are satisfied with your current MCO, you do not need to do anything to continue with that company.** Open Enrollment dates are May 5 - May 30, so it is important for counties to take the time now to assess managed care organizations. Managed care organization programs could save a county thousands of dollars.

Here are some key questions to consider in evaluating your MCO options:

- Does the organization provide and quantify significant medical savings?
- Do they have a strong return to work rate which ensures your employees are returning to the job in a safe, quick, and effective manner?
- Do they provide personal service including dedicated account executives and nurse case managers, quarterly meetings, on-site nurses, regional workshops, and workers' compensation program assessments?
- Do they have a full-time medical director on staff to provide services including availability at workshops, training, claim staffing, provider communication and partnership planning?
- Is the organization committed to online services by providing sophisticated clinical editing and bill review platforms, full imaging/scanning services, and 24 hour real time online access to your claim status, diagnosis, medical information, staff notes and medical documents?

Taking the extra step to assess these factors can result in significant savings in the next two years.

CCAO endorses **CompManagement Health Systems (CHS) as our preferred MCO partner.** CHS is available at (888) 247-7799, press option 1; or contact Beth Miller, CORSA Claim & Litigation Manager, at (614) 220-7989, (888) 757-1904, or emiller@ccao.org if you have any questions.

CCAO/CEBCO RX TREND SEMINAR – MAY 9

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the “RX Trend Seminar,” sponsored by CCAO and the County Employee Benefits Consortium of Ohio (CEBCO), on Friday, May 9 at 10:00 a.m. at the Hayes Administration Building, 140 North Sandusky Street – Room G-35, in Delaware County (Delaware).

Prescription drug benefit designs in the group insurance market change frequently. It is hard to tell what, if anything, is working to control prescription drug costs. Caremark will discuss trends in the industry. Other topics presented include benefit design trends, drug utilization review, and new trends in the delivery of prescription drug benefits.

Lunch will be served. There is no charge to attend the seminar, which is open to all counties. **Registration deadline: April 28, 2008.** To register, please complete the registration form that is attached to this issue of CIDS or contact Melissa Bodey, CEBCO Benefits Specialist, CCAO, 37 West Broad Street – Suite 650, Columbus, OH 43215, (614) 220-7997, fax (514) 229-4588, or mbodey@ccao.org.

OHIO STATEHOUSE MUSEUM PHOTO PROJECT – DEADLINE EXTENDED UNTIL APRIL 15

The Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board (CSRAB) has developed a design plan to create updated, high-tech, interactive exhibits and educational programs at the Ohio Statehouse. CSRAB and CCAO have partnered on this project are seeking the assistance of all counties. Information about the project is posted on CCAO's front page at www.ccao.org.

Thanks to **Allen, Champaign, Fayette, Putnam, and Wyandot** counties for submitting CDs containing photos for the new Ohio Statehouse Museum project! These photos highlight individuals who have come to serve their fellow citizens and make a difference either as governors, legislators, business people, farmers, concerned citizens and even school children.

The Ohio Statehouse Web site highlights plans of the interactive museum, including a fly-through video. The Ohio Statehouse Museum Web site portal is featured on the front page and under the education tab of the Statehouse Web site – www.ohiostatehouse.org. The new Ohio Statehouse Museum is scheduled to be completed in early March 2009.

How can counties participate? Photos are requested that represent Ohioans from all races, genders, socio-economic backgrounds, professions, educational backgrounds and regions of the state. The images will include some of Ohio's first citizens as well as some of its most recent. Specifically, your county is invited to submit the images of up to 25 individuals. Please review the memo and criteria sheet for detailed information.

The deadline has been extended to **April 15, 2008.** If you have any questions, please contact the Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board at (614) 752-9777.

CCAO SERVICE CORPORATION PROGRAM NEWS

CCAO DEFERRED COMPENSATION PROGRAM “GREEN” STATEMENT INITIATIVE

GREEN IS TWICE-AS NICE! Participants in CCAO's Deferred Compensation Program are already saving the green by investing in their retirement plan, but did you know that you can also receive your quarterly statements and stuffers electronically? Visit <https://www.gwrs.com/login.do> to sign up for Online File Cabinet. It's fast and easy, plus Great-West Retirement Services will donate \$1.00 to the National Arbor Day Foundation for every person who signs up during 2008. Working together to preserve your financial future

and our national forests...now, that's savvy investing!

STATE ACTIVITIES

COUNTIES SENT SUBGRANT AGREEMENTS TO SIGN

In the last biennial budget bill (H.B. 119), counties became sub-recipients of federal human service funds. The bill requires counties to enter into subgrant agreements under this sub-recipient relationship no later than June 30, 2008.

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) has sent all counties subgrant agreements for the commissioners, along with all other pertinent human service agencies and boards, to sign and return.

CCAO, along with the Ohio Job and Family Service Directors Association (OJFSDA), Public Children Service Agencies of Ohio (PCSAO), and Ohio Child Support Directors Association (OCDA), have worked with ODJFS to include provisions in the agreements to help protect counties, such as specifying that the state department is responsible for providing counties with training and technical assistance. In order for counties to continue to receive funding for human service programs, all parties, including county commissioners, must sign the agreement.

CCAO has drafted a model resolution that commissioners may use to approve signing these agreements. A copy is attached to this issue of CIDS and posted on the front page of the CCAO website. If you have any questions, please contact Beth Tsvetkoff, CCAO Policy Analyst, at (614) 220-7996, (888) 757-1904, or btsvetkoff@ccao.org.

SCHOOL ISSUES SUFFER WORST PRIMARY ELECTION BEATING IN 25 YEARS

As reported by the Ohio Department of Education, just 46.1% of the school tax issues on the March 4 primary ballot passed. That passage rate is the lowest for a primary election in the last 25 years, according to the Education Tax Policy Institute. The approval rate in the last two primaries was 54.3% in 2007 and 58.8% in 2006.

MEDICAID BUY-IN FOR WORKING ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES

As of April 1, certain disabled workers can apply for the new Medicaid Buy-In for Working Adults with Disabilities program, which allows eligible disabled workers to continue to receive Medicaid benefits while they work. The program applies to disabled workers earning up to 250% of the federal poverty level if those workers pay monthly insurance premiums.

Applications are available online at <http://ifs.ohio.gov/OHP/consumers/Application.stm> or by contacting the Medicaid Consumer Hotline at 1-800-324-8680.

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

SMALL COMMUNITIES ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

One of the most pressing challenges small communities in Ohio face is the task of developing the infrastructure necessary for economic competitiveness and improved quality-of-life. This often includes developing or enhancing environmental infrastructures such as basic drinking water and sewer service. One resource available to communities for development of environmental infrastructure is the Small Communities Environmental Infrastructure Group (SCEIG). Since its formation in 1990, SCEIG, an association of federal and state agencies, local governments, service organizations, and educational institutions, has worked to help small communities in meeting their infrastructure needs.

U.S. Senator George V. Voinovich and the Small Communities Environmental Infrastructure Group will be holding two informational sessions focused on addressing these infrastructure issues. The session will highlight resources SCEIG can provide to help communities with technical assistance, financing and planning for their infrastructure projects. Community leaders interested in exploring funding options for infrastructure projects are encouraged to attend the morning presentation that begins at 9:30 a.m. Following the morning funding presentation and question/answer period, a

finance committee meeting will convene for communities currently planning public drinking water and sewer utilities projects.

The Finance Committee consists of representatives from all the state and federal agencies that provide financial resources to address environmental infrastructure needs of small communities. The group will be prepared to lend advice on a project specific basis the best options a community should pursue towards obtaining the necessary funding. Communities interested in participating in the finance committee meeting should complete a Community Project Profile, found online at <http://www.sceig.org/fmeetings.asp>, and submit the profile to Ohio EPA to be included on the agenda (space is limited).

If you missed the first successful session that was held on April 3, plan to attend on May 7, 2008 - 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., USDA Rural Development Findlay Office, 7868 C.R. 140, Suite D, Findlay, OH 45840. The committee really appreciated the response and comments from the counties that attended.

Sessions will also be held in southwestern and northeastern Ohio in the fall. For more information about this unique opportunity or to RSVP, please contact Senator Voinovich's Southeast Ohio office at (740) 753-1985 or via e-mail at tracy_mann@voinovich.senate.gov.

HILL TO RESTORE PARTNERSHIP FOR HEALTH CARE IN COUNTY JAILS INTRODUCED IN HOUSE

HR 5698, the Restoring the Partnership for County Health Care Costs Act of 2008, was introduced April 3. The bipartisan bill would prohibit the federal government from stripping individuals of their Medicare, Medicaid, SSI and SCHIP benefits prior to being convicted. As a result, local governments, mostly counties, would not be required to cover the medical expenses of jailed individuals who have not yet been convicted of any wrongdoing.

Action needed: Contact your House Member and urge them to co-sponsor HR 5698, the Restoring the Partnership for County Health Care Costs Act

of 2008. For more information, contact Paul Beddoe, NACo Associate Legislative Director, at (202) 942-4234 or pbeddoe@naco.org.

MEDICAID MORATORIA LEGISLATION MOVES FORWARD IN HOUSE

In a rare display of bipartisanship, Democratic and Republican members of the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health agreed by voice vote to send to the full committee the Medicaid Safety Net Act of 2008, which is legislation that would place a one-year moratorium on all seven CMS-proposed Medicaid regulations. The regulations are opposed by members of both parties, as well as the National Governors Association and a wide range of human services providers. CCAO, along with OJFSDA, PCSAO, and OCDA sent a letter to Ohio's congressional delegation supporting the bill.

In the markup this morning, members on both sides of the aisle accepted an amendment offered that narrows the scope of the bill's language to reflect language passed in last year's CHIP extension; requires two independent, comprehensive reviews of the Medicaid services CMS is currently targeting; extends new funds to HHS to combat fraud and abuse; and provides two offset initiatives to account for the moratoria's \$1.65 billion cost.

Energy and Commerce Committee ranking member Rep. Joe Barton (R-TX) noted in his opening statement that he has already requested the Bush administration accept the newly negotiated bill, and that he has "reasonable confidence" it will agree to this request. Subcommittee Chairman Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ) indicated his hope for a full committee markup sometime next week, which would speed the legislation to a House floor vote.

After the full committee's markup, the bill would go to a full House vote. If accepted, the bill would still have to pass through the Senate and garner the President's signature, but today's markup increases the likelihood that the moratoria may be enacted this year.

HOUSING COMPROMISE DEAL REACHED IN SENATE

Upon return from Easter recess, Congress promptly turned attention to the mounting mortgage crisis. This week, Senate Democratic and Republican leaders reached an agreement on a legislative package aimed at addressing concerns from the slumping housing industry. A compromise bill drafted this week will mainly benefit the homebuilding industry by providing \$6 billion in tax rebates for developers.

The bill reportedly also includes \$4 billion to the Community Development Block Grant Program to assist communities in buying foreclosed properties and \$10 billion in new authority under the federal Mortgage Revenue Bond program to assist local housing authorities in refinancing mortgages for qualified homebuyers. The legislation also includes some language to revamp the Federal Housing Administration, the federal agency that insures mortgages for qualified homeowners. Further, the bill includes an additional \$100 million for housing counseling. The bill falls short of providing a legislative vehicle to provide relief to families who are no longer able to pay mortgages that will reset into higher payments, disappointing housing advocates.

For more information, contact Cassandra Duhaney, NACo Associate Legislative Director, at (202) 942-4204 or cduhaney@naco.org.

BI-PARTISAN EFFORT UNDERWAY IN CONGRESS TO ADD BYRNE-JAG FUNDING TO SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

On March 31, a bipartisan group of 56 Senators signed a dear colleague letter to the appropriations committee to add \$489.6 million to the next supplemental spending bill for the Byrne JAG. If adopted this would bring the appropriations level to \$660 million in FY08 the amount that was included in the Senate version of the FY2008 Commerce-Justice-Science appropriations bill.

The omnibus spending bill enacted into law (PL 110-161) included only \$170.4 million for the program. This figure represented more than a 2/3 cut from \$520 million in the FY07 in the House

Commerce, Justice and Science appropriations bill and followed a veto threat and very difficult choices that had to be made in conference.

Unless Byrne-JAG funds are restored promptly law enforcement agencies may be forced to dismantle multi-jurisdictional task forces that often took years to create and develop and crucial in addressing the Meth crisis. Byrne JAG funds are systematic in nature and have represented the major source of federal assistances to counties in the justice field. The Byrne-JAG program allows state and local governments to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime and to improve the criminal justice system. Funding is distributed on a formula basis and may be used to address the most pressing criminal justice problems in a given area.

The House is preparing to take up the supplemental on the House floor sometime in mid or late April. Two hundred eighteen House members have signed a letter on March 6 calling for a restoration of funds to the House Appropriations Committee mark of \$600 million in FY2008.

Please contact your Congressional delegations and explain the importance of JAG to your county. For more information, contact Donald Murray, NACo Senior Legislative Associate, at (202) 942-4239 or dmurray@naco.org.

NACo ACTIVITIES

NACo 73rd ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXPOSITION

The National Association of Counties (NACo) and Jackson County (Kansas City), Missouri invite you to join over 2,000 appointed and elected officials from across the nation this summer for NACo's 73rd Annual Conference & Exposition to be held July 11-15, 2008. This is the only national conference and exposition dedicated solely to county government. Conference registration is now open! Register for the conference and housing online at www.naco.org to save \$25 per registrant. Early bird registration deadline: May 30. Click on the article about the conference on the front page. For more information please contact Mary Jane

Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 757-1904 or mjneiman@ccao.org.

PUBLICATIONS

HUNGER IN OHIO

The Children's Hunger Alliance has released its 2008 Annual Report "Hunger in Ohio: State of the State." The report explains the link between poverty, hunger and obesity, details the status of childhood hunger in the state, and provides policy recommendations to help break the cycle. To download a copy of the report go to www.childrenshungeralliance.org. For more information on the state of hunger in Ohio, contact Kimberly Wisecup, Vice President of Public Policy, Ohio Hunger Alliance, at (614) 341-7700 ext. 275 or KWisecup@ChildrensHungerAlliance.org.

CONFERENCES

BUILDING DOCTOR CLINICS

Since 1979, the Ohio Historic Preservation Office has conducted FREE Building Doctor Clinics around Ohio. This two-hour seminar will discuss recognizing and caring for older buildings, including ways to solve common problems such as peeling paint, falling plaster, wet basements, deteriorating masonry, damaged wood, window repair, and many other topics. The seminar will be held the first day with consultations following on the second day. Workshop schedule:

- April 24-25, 2008 – Bexley
- May 1-2, 2008 – Zoar
- May 22-23, 2008 – Deerfield
- September 11-12, 2008 – Findlay
- September 25-26, 2008 – Burton
- October 9-10, 2008 – Botkins & Anna
- October 23-24, 2008 – Cambridge

The Building Doctor Clinics are FREE, but you must register in advance. For more information please contact the Ohio Preservation Office, 567 East Hudson Street, Columbus, OH 43211-1030, (614) 298-2000, or www.ohpo.org.

HUMAN RESOURCE INSTITUTE

The 14th Annual Ohio University Human Resource Institute will be held on Friday, May 9, 2008 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Ohio University – Zanesville Campus, 1425 Newark Road, in Zanesville. The conference theme is "Elect to be a Leader in Human Resources."

Registration fee: \$74 - single registration, \$55 - two or more from same organization, or \$20 – single session. For more information, please contact Human Resource Institute, Ohio University-Zanesville, 1425 Newark Road, Zanesville, OH 43701-2624, (740) 588-1402.

OKI REGIONAL PLANNING CONFERENCE

Save the date for the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Planning Conference to be held October 15-17, 2008 at the Downtown Louisville Marriott in Louisville, Kentucky. The theme of the conference is "Planning Our Legacy" and is sponsored by the Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio Chapters of APA. The Call for Presentations form can be found at www.kapa.org/okiconference.htm. Proposals must be received by May 2, 2008.

CLASSIFIEDS

TRAFFIC ENGINEER

The Mahoning County Engineer seeks a traffic engineer. The County Engineer maintains approximately 488 miles of roadway which contain 50 traffic signals, pavement markings and signage. The position will be responsible for maintenance of all traffic related devices as well as traffic plan design and review. Candidate shall have working knowledge of all ODOT and FHWA standards and specifications for traffic control and the current Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices and implementation of such.

The Traffic Engineer position requires a four-year degree in Civil Engineering from an ABET accredited school; minimum of four years work experience as traffic engineer; and Professional Engineer's License or the ability to obtain license within one year. For more information go to www.ccao.org. Click on classified ads>traffic engineer.

Send resume and letter of interest by **April 25, 2008** to: Ms. Marilyn Kenner, P.E., Chief Deputy Engineer, Mahoning County Engineers Office, 940 Bears Den Road, Youngstown, Ohio 44511-1299. EOE.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (OVRDC) is seeking an Executive Director. OVRDC is a dynamic 12-county regional development agency designated as an Appalachian Local Development District as well as Economic Development District (EDA) in southern Ohio. The ideal candidate will have a Bachelor's degree in business, economics, political science or a related field and five years extensive experience in planning and economic development in a public or non-profit agency including supervisory experience, with extensive experience in working with local agencies and officials.

The candidate must have experience in developing new programs and initiatives, including experience in preparing federal, state and other grant applications. Experience in working with state and federal legislative bodies and staff is needed. The candidate needs to have management experience in a similar development agency with specific knowledge of personnel management, program planning, strategic planning, experience in working

with a board, experience in economic and community development, business assistance and development (including loan and financial assistance) and have experience in communicating with government officials, local organizations and the media. Excellent team building and interpersonal skills are critical. Extensive fringe benefits. Application filing deadline is **Friday, May 2, 2008, at 11:00 am**. The annual salary range is \$50,000 - \$60,000 depending on education and experience. A detailed job description is posted on the OVRDC web site: www.ovrdc.org.

To apply: Submit cover letter, resume and a minimum of three work-related references by mail or email to: Personnel Committee, Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission, 9329 SR 220 East, Suite A, Waverly, OH 45690 or sclark@ovrdc.org. EOE.

CLASSIFIED ADS

CCAO publishes the County Information and Data Service (CIDS) weekly. Classified ads will be published free of charge as a service to counties. Ads will run for two weeks if space is available. Ads will also be published on the CCAO website at www.ccao.org. When submitting your ad to CCAO please provide a link to the job posting online and a deadline. Please provide a copy of the classified ad by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday of each week. Transmit the copy to Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, by e-mail mjneiman@ccao.org.