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# CIDS

## County Information and Data Service

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OCTOBER 3, 2008

### DATES TO REMEMBER

OCTOBER 24, 2008

**CCC/ESAO SOUTHWEST REGIONAL MEETING, SPRINGVIEW GOVERNMENT CENTER, CLARK COUNTY (SPRINGFIELD)**

DECEMBER 7-10, 2008

**CCAO/CEAO ANNUAL WINTER CONFERENCE, HYATT REGENCY, COLUMBUS**

MARCH 7-11, 2009

**NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE, MARRIOTT WARDMAN PARK, WASHINGTON, D.C.**

JULY 24-29, 2009

**74<sup>TH</sup> NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION, DAVIDSON COUNTY (NASHVILLE), TN**

### ASSOCIATION NEWS

#### CLINTON COUNTY COMMITS TO THE CEBCO PROGRAM

The CCAO staff is pleased to announce that on Monday, September 29 the Clinton County Commissioners voted to join CEBCO, the County Employee Benefit Consortium of Ohio, effective January 1, 2009. With the addition of the 285 employee lives CEBCO will have nearly 9,300 county employees in the program. Clinton County is the 19th county to join the plan. In addition to the member counties, the CCAO staff is also part of the CEBCO program. The consortium was created by CCAO to help stabilize the health insurance costs for the counties. Clinton County will enjoy the benefits of the consortium membership along with the following CEBCO counties: Allen, Ashtabula, Athens, Butler, Carroll, Champaign, Clark, Darke, Delaware, Geauga, Hardin, Hocking, Logan, Madison, Morrow, Putnam, Union and Williams counties.

As with all of the existing CEBCO products, your county can choose any of the stand alone

programs separately or in conjunction with any of the other CEBCO offerings include: medical, drug, dental, life, employee assistance plan, and vision coverage. Harnessing group buying power is a key benefit of CEBCO. For more information on the CEBCO Program please contact Maggie Neely, Managing Director, Health and Wellness Programs, at (614) 221-5627, (888) 757-1904 or [mneely@ccao.org](mailto:mneely@ccao.org).

#### REQUESTS TO CCAO NOMINATING COMMITTEE DUE NOVEMBER 3, 2008

On September 19, 2008, Olen Jackson, Morrow County Commissioner and CCAO Nominating Committee Chair, sent each county commissioner a memo detailing CCAO nominating procedures for 2008.

The Committee will nominate individuals for the offices of president, first vice president, second vice president, secretary and treasurer. It will also recommend seven members to serve two year terms on the CCAO Board in 2008 and 2009.

The seven members whose terms to the Board

expire this year include: David Dhume, (Madison), Ray Feikert (Holmes), Gerald Potter (Hardin), Peter Lawson Jones (Cuyahoga), Nancy McKeen (Erie), Mary Walker (Clermont) and Ron Widener (Miami).

The nine members appointed by President Troy whose one year terms to the Board expire at the end of this year include: Mike Crabtree (Scioto), Brian Hill (Muskingum), Ben Konop (Lucas), Edward Kuenzli (Wyandot), Cheryl Noah (Wayne), Margery Paeltz (Brown), Gary Starner (Hocking), Roger Tackett (Clark) and Dan Polivka (Trumbull).

Finally, the CCAO Nominating Committee Request Form and Candidate Questionnaire must be submitted by November 3, 2008 as follows:

1. Olen Jackson, Morrow County Commissioner, 80 North Walnut Street, Suite A, Mt. Gilead, OH 43338 no later than November 3, 2008 or email at [morrowco@rrohio.com](mailto:morrowco@rrohio.com)
2. A copy should also be sent to: CCAO, 37 West Broad Street, Suite 650, Columbus, Ohio 43215, **ATTN: KATHY DILLON-NOMINATING COMMITTEE** or email at [kathydillon@ccao.org](mailto:kathydillon@ccao.org).

### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RING

In 1986, CCAO authorized the creation of an official ring for county commissioners. The ring was designed at the request of current and former county commissioners under the guidance of CCAO. To order a ring, please contact Mike Miller at Miller's Jewelers in Mansfield at (419) 522-2793 or [www.millersjewelry.com](http://www.millersjewelry.com). It takes about six weeks for delivery of the rings.

### **COUNTY ACTIVITIES**

#### WANTED: YOUR COUNTY NEWS

Do you have information to report about your county? Has an official or employee received special recognition? Has the county received an award? Do you have a new program that you would like to share information about? Do you want information from another county to help you with an issue or program? Send your information

to Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org) or fax (614) 221-6986.

### **STATE ACTIVITIES**

#### EPA OPENS E-BUSINESS CENTER

The Ohio EPA has opened a new web-based business center where companies and consultants can file reports and permit applications and pay applicable fees. The new e-business center currently allows filing of air and wastewater discharge permits, and will be expanded to cover other categories in the future.

"Regulatory agencies like Ohio EPA recognize that today's competitive environment makes it critical to provide ways to speed business transactions," OEPA Director Chris Korleski said. "Our new eBusiness center will make it faster and cheaper to do business with Ohio EPA, while lowering our costs as well."

To use the site, companies can create secure validation sets that allow them to file paperwork and submit payments. For more information go to [www.epa.state.oh.us](http://www.epa.state.oh.us).

#### BEHAVIORAL HEALTH WORKGROUP SUBMITS FINAL WORK

The Ohio Department of Mental Health (ODMH) and the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services (ODADAS) organized the System Finance Principles and Process Team. The Team was charged with developing a set of principles to guide funding decisions that support consumer access, choice, and need. County commissioners David Dhume (Madison) and David Pepper (Hamilton), along with CCAO Policy Analyst Beth Tsvetkoff, represented the commissioners on the Team.

Recently, ODMH released the final work product of the behavioral health team. In that work, the team listed the most important principles that guide behavioral health, as well as variables and considerations under each of those principles. ODMH and ODADAS likely will use this work to

help guide them in future funding reforms for Ohio's behavioral health system. If you would like a copy of this final work, please contact Beth Tsvetkoff, CCAO Policy Analyst, at (614) 220-7996, (888) 757-1904 or [btsvetkoff@ccao.org](mailto:btsvetkoff@ccao.org).

## FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

### FOOD STAMP PROGRAM RENAMED

On June 18, Congress enacted The Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 (FCEA) reauthorizing the Food Stamp Program. Section 4001 of the Act officially changed the name of the program to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) effective October 1, 2008. The United States Department of Agriculture, Food, and Nutrition Service (FNS) has instructed states to either adopt the federal name "SNAP" or use a different name other than Food Stamps.

On July 28, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS), Office of Family Stability, announced its intention to adopt a different name for Ohio's Food Stamp program and extended an opportunity to all county departments of job and family services to participate in a contest to solicit ideas and names to consider.

A joint state and county workgroup reviewed 29 submissions and narrowed the list down to three potential new names, and ODJFS executive staff made the final selection. The new name of Ohio's Food Stamp Program effective October 1, 2008, will be the "Food Assistance Program".

In its announcement, ODJFS explained that "Food Assistance Program" more simply conveys the intent of the program and will cause less confusion to our customers, advocates, and the general public. However, only the name of the program is changing. The name change does not affect the program regulations, requirements, issuance, eligibility for, or use of benefits. County departments should continue to use existing application forms, brochures, informational materials, and certification handbook. But, ODJFS asked that the departments begin to refer to the program as the Food Assistance Program, or "food assistance".

ODJFS offered special thanks to the following counties for their participation: Allen, Jefferson, Noble, Richland, and Tuscarawas.

### HUD RELEASES FORMULA, GRANT ALLOCATIONS AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR ADDITIONAL CDBG FUNDS

On September 26, 2008, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the funding formula and grant allocations for the \$3.92 billion Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) addition for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP). This funding was included in the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (HERA).

States received a minimum of \$19.6 million each. Approximately 99 counties and consolidated governments will receive direct funding allocations. The minimum threshold for a city or county to receive a grant directly is \$2 million. Any state receiving more than \$19.6 million should be distributing portions of these additional funds to local areas. HUD developed a formula methodology based on the HERA legislation parameters and utilizing national foreclosure data sources.

Grantees have until December 1, 2008 to submit proper documentation to HUD amending their current CDBG plans on how they plan to spend money. Grantees have 18 months to obligate funds (upon receipt) and four years to spend fully. Also, ten percent of grant funding can be used for administrative costs. To view the Federal Register Notice with formula allocations and application procedures go to <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/communitydevelopment/programs/neighborhoodspg/nsnotice.pdf>. Grant recipients, funding allocations, and other information about the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) are posted on the HUD website at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/communitydevelopment/programs/neighborhoodspg/>.

HUD is hosting a Summit on Housing in Washington, DC on October 7-8, 2008. The summit will focus on the Neighborhood Stabilization Program funding and best practices on foreclosure prevention.

HUD will also host regional summit in Columbus (date to be determined) after the Washington, DC summit. (Contact: Daria Daniel, NACo Associate Legislative Director, at (202) 942-4212 or [ddaniel@naco.org](mailto:ddaniel@naco.org))

## **NACo ACTIVITIES**

### WHEN THEY CAN'T TALK: LIVES ARE LOST

The National Association of Counties (NACo) is pleased to announce that a new publication that covers what public officials need to know about interoperable communications is now available. This full-color, 16-page brochure succinctly describes challenges that local responders deal with when communicating with each other, across disciplines and jurisdictions. The brochure is available in PDF form on NACo's website at [http://www.naco.org/Template.cfm?Section=New\\_Technical\\_Assistance&template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=28702](http://www.naco.org/Template.cfm?Section=New_Technical_Assistance&template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=28702). A limited number of printed copies are available on request. For more information, contact Rocky Lopes, Project Manager – Community Services, at (202) 661-8841 or [rlopes@naco.org](mailto:rlopes@naco.org).

## **AWARDS**

### OCMA ANNUAL AWARDS

The Ohio City/County Management Association (OCMA) Annual Awards Program honors communities and their administrators for their creative contributions to professional local government management. The program also strives to increase public awareness of the value of professional local government management. The association recognizes the outstanding work performed by elected officials, appointed managers, local government staff, educators, and citizens who work together to address the most pressing issues facing today's communities.

The award categories include:

- Career Achievement Award
- Career Development / Mentoring Award
- Citizen Participation Award
- Innovation in Local Government Award
- Profile in Courage Award

Nomination must be received at OCMA by December 1, 2008. For more information contact Cindy Holodnak, Secretariat, Ohio City/County Management Association, c/o John Glenn School of Public Affairs, The Ohio State University, 150 Page Hall, 1810 College Road, Columbus, OH 43210, (614) 292-7731, [Holodnak.1@osu.edu](mailto:Holodnak.1@osu.edu) or <http://ocmaohio.org>.

## **CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS**

### SERB ACADEMY 2008

The State Employment Relations Board (SERB) will be hosting the "SERB Academy 2008" on October 21-22, 2008 at the Kings Island Resort and Conference Center, 5691 Kings Island Drive, in Warren County (Mason). Who should attend? Anyone who needs to know the basics of Ohio's Public Employees' Collective Bargaining Law, administrative rules governing the process, and SERB procedures.

Registration fee: \$300 per person (includes all sessions, course materials, continental breakfasts, breaks, and luncheons.) Registration deadline: October 10, 2008. Space is limited. For more information contact SERB Research and Training, 65 East State Street – Floor 12, Columbus, OH 43215-4213, (614) 466-2963, [tjohnson@serb.state.oh.us](mailto:tjohnson@serb.state.oh.us) or [www.serb.state.oh.us](http://www.serb.state.oh.us).

### OHPELRA FALL SEMINAR

The Ohio Public Employer Labor Relations Association (OHPELRA) will present their fall seminar, "Staying Ahead of the Curve as the Laws Keep Changing: FMLA, ADA, and New Bargaining Laws" on October 24, 2008 at the Columbus Police Academy, 1000 North Hague Avenue, in Columbus. Sessions will address the following questions: How will you comply with the new FMLA rules? What changes are proposed for the ADA? What does the proposed federal public-safety bargaining bill mean for Ohio?

Registration fee: \$155 per person - OHPELRA members or \$255 per person – non-members (includes all sessions, course materials, breaks, and lunch.) For more information contact Laura

Joy Campbell, OHPELRA Treasurer, Butler County Department of Personnel, 315 High Street – Floor 6, Hamilton, OH 45011-6061, (513) 887-3595, fax (513) 785-5199, [campbellj@butlercountyohio.org](mailto:campbellj@butlercountyohio.org) or [www.ohpelra.org](http://www.ohpelra.org).

### LABOR RELATIONS I & II

On October 23 & 24, 2008, Clemans, Nelson & Associates will present a two-day seminar, Labor Relations I and Labor Relations II, at the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 North High Street, in Columbus. Both programs start with registration at 8:00 a.m. and adjourn at 4:00 p.m.

Labor Relations I provides public officials and their statutory legal advisors with a comprehensive analysis of some of the most important issues in the collective bargaining process. In these tough economic times, it has never been more important for public sector employers to educate themselves on the contract issues that could negatively affect their bottom lines. We will provide strategies for dealing with such topics as alternative work schedules, minimum manning, health insurance and Insurance Committees, Wellness Programs, and determining the "TRUE" cost of contract provisions.

Labor Relations II will focus on critical, extrinsic factors affecting contract negotiations in some of the roughest economic times in decades. It addresses some "extremely" important court and arbitrator decisions that could have a huge impact on your collective bargaining process. We will explore articles of labor agreements that deal with drug testing, residency requirements, and layoffs, and offer strategies and language that works.

The registration fee is \$189 per program, or register for both seminars for \$325. Register before October 9, 2007 or mention CIDS and receive a 10 percent discount. If you register three people, a fourth can attend for free. For more information, a program agenda, or to register contact: Karen Metzger, Program Manager, at (800) 282-0787 or [www.clemansnelson.com](http://www.clemansnelson.com).

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

### WSD ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Clermont County is seeking a highly motivated professional to manage the Wastewater Division of the Clermont County Sewer District. The Wastewater Division employs 40 staff members and operates 10 treatment plants serving 37,000 customers in southwest Ohio. This high growth community provides excellent benefits including a cafeteria style health care plan and participation in the OPERS retirement program.

The ideal candidate will possess a degree in environmental science or a related environmental field. Fiscal management and strong budgetary skills are essential. Requires a valid Ohio Class 3 Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator's license. Minimum of ten years experience in the wastewater treatment/collection field with five years in a managerial/supervisory position.

Requires strong public relations skills. Must be enthusiastic, team oriented and possess leadership skills to direct a strong technical work force. Experience with electronic data management and work order tracking preferred. Salary hiring range \$55K to \$67K annually DOQ.

Application deadline: **4:30 p.m. on October 10, 2008**. The position will remain open until filled. To apply go to [www.co.clermont.oh.us](http://www.co.clermont.oh.us) and click on careers or call (513) 732-7110 for additional information. EOE.

### URBAN/REGIONAL PLANNER

The Stark County Regional Planning Commission is accepting applications for an Urban/Regional Planner. The successful candidate will prepare technical components of major work elements of comprehensive planning and planning administration programs, including the following: land use planning and analysis, environmental planning, housing and economic data analysis. Responsibilities also include reviewing and preparing recommendations regarding proposed zoning amendments and compliance of new subdivisions and developments with applicable subdivision regulations and state law. A working

knowledge of GIS and computer applications preferred. Qualifications: Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in a planning-related field in urban/regional planning. A minimum of two years professional planning experience required or equivalent combination of education and experience. Salary Range: \$30,000-\$40,000. Send resume and cover letter stating qualifications, experience and salary history to Stark County Regional Planning Commission, 201 3rd Street NE, Suite 201, Canton, OH 44702-1211, Attn: Bob Nau, Executive Director, or Fax to (330) 451-7990, **by noon, Friday, October 17, 2008.** EOE.

**PLANNER 2**

The Wayne County Planning Department is seeking qualified candidates for full-time Planner 2. This professional position will develop and implement special projects and activities; establish and implement educational programs regarding land use, zoning and alternative development

options; conduct research and data gathering; and provide technical assistance to various entities.

Qualifications: Undergraduate degree in planning, public administration and/or related field and two years related experience. Salary available upon request. An application for employment may be obtained at the Wayne County Planning Department, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, County Administration Building, 428 W. Liberty St., Wooster, OH 44691. Applications will be received through **October 17, 2008 until 4:30 p.m. 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](http://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](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org).