



CIDS

County Information and Data Service

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OCTOBER 9, 2009

DATES TO REMEMBER

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| OCTOBER 23, 2009 | CCAO HUMAN SERVICES & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS |
| OCTOBER 23, 2009 | CCC/EAPA REGIONAL MEETING, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS |
| OCTOBER 29, 2009 | CCAO COUNTY & LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM & COLLABORATION TASK FORCE |
| DECEMBER 6-9, 2009 | CCAO/CEAO ANNUAL WINTER CONFERENCE, HYATT REGENCY, COLUMBUS |

ASSOCIATION NEWS

129th CCAO/CEAO ANNUAL WINTER CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the 129th CCAO/CEAO Annual Winter Conference and Trade Show to be held December 6-9, 2010 at the Hyatt Regency, 350 North High Street, in Columbus. Register for the conference by November 13 to get the pre-registration discount. Everyone attending the conference must register, even if you are attending meetings only. Registration materials and a draft agenda are on the CCAO website at www.ccao.org. Click on the story on the front page.

CCAO/CEAO General Session – Monday afternoon, December 7

- State General Fund & Transportation Budget Challenges: Where Do We Go From Here? *We all know that the economy has impacted both state and county budgets. But where do we go from here? Where are we for the rest of this biennium and what is the outlook for the next state budget? How has the federal stimulus money helped us and what happens when this money and other one time monies are not longer available? What are the state budget implications to counties?*

CCAO Sessions – Monday, December 7

- Workers' Compensation Options for Counties
- Transition to Law Library Resource Boards
- Counties Facing Financial Challenges: Understanding What Fiscal Emergency Means
- When Bad Things Happen to Good Counties
- Wellness on a Budget
- Local Impact of the State Budget on Human Services

- CCAO Legislative Update
- Area 7 Consortium Meeting

CCAO Sessions – Tuesday, December 8

- OSU Extension Restructuring Update: Dialog with the Director
- Pension Reforms: Proposed Changes in PERS, Age & Service, and Vesting
- CCAO Deferred Comp Plan Updates and Enhancements
- Network of Care™
- Budget Seminar for Small Counties
- CCAO Annual Meeting and Election of Officers

CCAO/CEAO Session – Wednesday, December 9

- Public Records Training

The headquarters hotel is the Hyatt Regency, 350 North High Street, in Columbus. Rate: \$139 single/double. Reservation deadline: November 14. To reserve a room call (888) 421-1442, (402) 592-6464 or <http://columbusregency.hyatt.com/groupbooking/cmhrc2009ccas>.

REQUESTS TO CCAO NOMINATING COMMITTEE DUE NOVEMBER 3

In mid-September, Daniel Troy, Lake County Commissioner and CCAO Nominating Committee Chair, sent each county commissioner a memo detailing CCAO nominating procedures for 2009. A copy of the nominating memo and procedures are located on the CCAO website at www.ccao.org. Click on the story on the front page.

The Committee will nominate individuals for the offices of president, first vice president, second vice president, secretary, and treasurer. It will also recommend eight members to serve two-year terms on the CCAO Board of Trustees in 2010 and 2011. The eight members whose terms to the Board expire this year include: Mike Adelman (Huron), Sam Bassitt (Allen), Nick Kostandaras (Summit), Deborah Lieberman (Montgomery), Joe Moroski (Ashtabula), Richard Myers (Henry), Otto Nicely (Defiance), and Bill Young (Geauga).

The nine members appointed by President Metzger whose one-year term to the Board expires at the end of this year include: Steve Arndt (Ottawa), Thomas Graham (Jefferson), Brian Hill (Muskingum), Peter Lawson Jones (Cuyahoga), Gary Lee (Union), Ann Obrecht (Wayne), Bob Peterson (Fayette), Penny Traina (Columbiana), and Tom Wheaton (Carroll).

Finally, the CCAO Nominating Committee Request Form and Candidate Questionnaire must be submitted by November 3, 2009 to Daniel Troy, Lake County Commissioner, 105 Main Street, PO Box 490, Painesville, OH 44077-0490. In addition, mail a copy to CCAO, 209 E. State Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215, in an envelope marked: NOMINATING COMMITTEE – ATTENTION: KATHY DILLON. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Nominating Committee Chair Daniel Troy at (440) 350-2745, or CCAO Executive Director Larry Long at (614) 221-5627.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH: DEVELOPING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING

Attached to this issue of CIDS is a copy of *Behavioral Health: Developing a Better Understanding* published by the Ohio Association of Behavioral Health Authorities. This one-page newsletter discusses Medicare prescription drug coverage and discount assistance. For more information, please contact the Ohio

Association of Behavioral Health Authorities at 33 North High Street – Suite 500, Columbus, OH 43215, (614) 224-1111, fax (614) 224-2642, or www.oacbha.org.

CCAO SERVICE CORPORATION NEWS

ROLLOUT OF NEW CCAO SERVICE CORPORATION ENERGY PROGRAM – ELECTRICITY SAVINGS

As you recall, the CCAOSC initiated its natural gas procurement program in 2000 that has collectively saved 29 counties over \$7.4 million. Recent modifications in the natural gas program increased the participation to over 40 counties! With the recent modifications of the natural gas program, the one question that was repeatedly asked by the various county commissioners: “Can you do this with electricity?” Based upon recent Public Utilities Commissioner of Ohio (PUCO) rulings and relatively low wholesale electric costs, we can now answer “YES”!

The County Commissioners Association of Ohio Service Corporation (CCAOSC) is forming a new program to assist counties on securing lower cost electricity. The CCAOSC has partnered again with Palmer Energy to help manage this electric program. While we will initially focus on counties located in the FirstEnergy area of the state, we fully expect to include counties served by Columbus & Southern and Duke-Ohio shortly thereafter.

To make this a successful program, we need to start collecting data from all counties. The independent energy professionals of Palmer Energy will collect, evaluate, and determine the most advantageous way to bid the members electricity requirement. Like natural gas, we anticipate that pooling the electricity needs of all participating counties will show greater savings to the entire group.

To get started, each county needs to complete and return a response form that will enable the CCAOSC to secure the necessary electric consumption, demand, cost, and other information, needed to attain quotations from the various potential suppliers. For more information go to www.ccao.org and click on the article on the front page. If you have questions or would like to schedule a consultation please contact either Kirkland Mizerek, Vice President of Palmer Energy at (419) 539-9180 or kmizerek@palmerenergy.com or Tom Strup, CCAO Deputy Director of Operations, at (614) 220-7078 or tstrup@ccao.org.

IN MEMORIUM

RICHARD E. JONES

Former four-term Meigs County Commissioner Richard Earl Jones died on September 1. A life-long resident of Meigs County, Jones’ public service career included serving on Pomeroy Village Council; Pomeroy Village School Board as a member and clerk; Salisbury Township as clerk; Meigs Board of Education as 1st President; and as Meigs County Commissioner from 1977 to 1993. In addition, he ran for the Ohio House of Representatives.

His business career included working for the Farmers Bank and Savings Company as executive vice-president, Pomeroy National Bank as executive vice-president, and Athens County Savings & Trust as general manager. Jones played an instrumental role in the development and completion of many government and community projects throughout Meigs County.

CCAO extends heartfelt sympathy to his widow, Donna, and his family. Notes of sympathy may be sent to the Jones Family, 41098 Laurel Cliff Road, Pomeroy, OH 45769.

CCAO AFFILIATE NEWS

FINAL 2009 CCC/EAPA REGIONAL MEETING – OCTOBER 23

The final County Commissioners' Clerks and Engineer's Administrative Professional Association of Ohio (CCC/EAPA) Regional Meeting will be held on Friday, October 23, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the CCAO Offices in Columbus. The purpose of the meeting is to share information and network with other clerks. CCC/EAPA is comprised of county commissioners and engineers' office staff. All commissioners' clerks and engineers' administrative professionals are welcome to attend.

CCAO/CEAO will sponsor the lunch. Please email suggestions for agenda items to Carolyn Hauenstein, Clerk, Erie County Commissioners at chauenstein@erie-county-ohio.net. Bring any forms to share that may be useful to other counties.

COUNTY ACTIVITIES

FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS BREAK GROUND ON NEW DOG SHELTER & ADOPTION CENTER

This week, the Franklin County Commissioners broke ground at the site of the new Franklin County Animal Care and Control Dog Shelter and Adoption Center. The \$18 million facility has potential to temporarily house over 420 dogs while awaiting adoption. Construction on the Franklin County Animal Care and Control Dog Shelter and Adoption Center is scheduled to be complete by the end of 2010.

The design of the new Dog Shelter and Adoption Center addresses interconnected objectives of the Animal Shelter and Animal Control and highlights enhanced customer service, expanded clinical operations and educational outreach. The open design and space allocation will address current and future concerns such as reducing pet overpopulation through education and licensing, increasing adoptions by encouraging visitations from the community and real life rooms will encourage interactivity with dogs as areas for behavior testing.

A grassed area of over two acres will be dedicated to exercise and supervised play for animals. Two separate outdoor fenced areas will allow exercise areas for dogs and small graveled areas outside of each main animal house will allow for short-duration play and exercise.

The new design for the Franklin County Dog Shelter and Adoption Center is intended to meet high standards in environmental design. The LEED Silver certified building will have preferred parking for low-emitting, fuel-efficient vehicles, low-flow water efficient fixtures, a highly reflective "green" roof, fresh, filtered air and solar panels to reduce the energy demands of the building.

SUMMIT COUNTY APPROVES RESOLUTION SUPPORTING VIDEO SLOTS

At a special meeting last Monday, the Summit County Council approved a resolution expressing support to allow video lottery terminals at Northfield Park, and rejecting Issue 3, the statewide issue that would allow casinos to be built in Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati, and Toledo. Resolution number 2009-357 was sponsored by Summit County Executive Russell Pry, Council President Nick Kostandaras (Dist. 1), and Council Member Frank Comunale (Dist. 4).

Northfield Park, a harness racetrack in northern Summit County, has long advocated for video slots as a way to rejuvenate the local horse racing industry. Northfield Park officials, who haven't talked publicly about specific plans, have discussed a possible \$300 million to \$400 million gambling, hotel and retail complex that could create about 1,000 new jobs.

Councilman Crossland, who along with Councilwoman Gloria Rodgers voted against the resolution, called gambling a bad bet for individuals and the state. Crossland also opposes Issue 3. Other council members were supportive and said that Northfield Park has been a positive corporate citizen in the county. "The reality is we're looking at jobs in Summit County," said Councilman Frank Comunale, who voted in favor.

WANTED: YOUR COUNTY NEWS

Do you have news or activities about your county that you would like to share? Please e-mail the information to Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at mjneiman@ccao.org.

STATE ACTIVITIES

BWC BOARD CUTS PUBLIC EMPLOYER RATES, TIGHTENS GROUP RATING MARKETING RULES

Last week, the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) Board of Directors to cut premiums for about 3,800 Ohio cities, counties, townships, and schools by an average of 17% starting in January. BWC Administrator Marsha Ryan said the agency reviewed current workers' compensation insurance costs, payroll trends, decreasing claim occurrences and other economic factors and determined a 17% reduction was appropriate.

Rates for individual public employer taxing districts will vary based on their claims history. Some entities may see slight increases while others will experience decreases. Counties are expected to see a base rate reduction of 18%. The board is expected to vote on rule changes to set the actual rates for each public employer industry group at its November meeting.

While the reduction in base rates is good news, counties should also be aware that the BWC has recently reduced expected loss rates for public entities – as much as 30% - which can cause a county to become penalty rated when their claims costs have remained consistent.

In other business, the board modified rules to prohibit group rating program sponsors and their affiliates from advertising discounts higher than what can be realistically achieved. CCAO has always fully and accurately disclosed savings to group rating plan member counties. This rule change will not impact CCAO's practices, which have never been questioned by the BWC.

Board members also moved toward diversifying fixed income and equity investments in the State Insurance Fund. The board accepted Barclays Global Investors' proposal to serve as BWC's passive indexed manager for the fund's international equities, which represent 10% of invested assets, or about \$1.6 billion, the bureau said. The firm will manage all international equities benchmarked to the All Country World Index.

The Board of Directors also created the new Medical Services Committee to develop policy on medical and vocational rehabilitation services to benefit injured workers and employers.

FEDERAL STIMULUS WORKFORCE DOLLARS MUST BE SPENT SOON!

As many of you are aware, the federal stimulus included millions of new workforce development dollars for counties to use. However, the stimulus bill also tied this money to stringent spending timeframes of which counties and the state must observe.

Stimulus dollars came to counties in the following two pots: adult and dislocated worker dollars and youth dollars. The following is a breakdown of when these monies must be spent, with the vertical columns being the

two types of dollars and the horizontal columns being the deadlines for spending the specified percentage of dollars.

	October 31, 2009	January 31, 2010	June 31, 2010
Youth	70%	90%	100%
Adult and Dislocated Worker	40%	60%	100%

If counties do not spend the appropriate percentage of stimulus dollars by the dates above, the dollars will be lost, with no exceptions. Additionally, ODJFS is monitoring counties' spending to ensure that dollars are being spent in each area.

Workforce areas have many great uses for these dollars, and lack of worthwhile purposes should not impair an area's spending. Please keep in contact with your workforce development directors to make sure your county and area is on track to meet these deadlines.

ODADAS AWARDED STIMULUS FUNDS FOR DRUG COURTS

The Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services (ODADAS) has been awarded \$3.1 million in federal economic stimulus funding for the 82 drug courts that operate statewide. Drug courts are specialized dockets that focus on offender access to treatment and rehabilitation services. The department completely or partially funds 24 of the drug courts in Ohio.

Director Angela Dawson said the agency's primary goal is to sustain the existing courts and access to treatment services. The department is creating an application process for awarding local grants. More specifically, the grant application process will be through ODADAS since the drug courts that are eligible for the funds are completely or partially funded by the agency.

2010 COUNTY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

HOLIDAY	LEGAL HOLIDAY
New Year's Day	January 1
Martin Luther King Day	January 18
President's Day	February 15
Memorial Day	May 31
Independence Day	July 5
Labor Day	September 6
Columbus Day	October 11
Veteran's Day	November 11
Thanksgiving Day	November 25
Christmas Day	December 24

MINIMUM WAGE WILL STAY THE SAME IN 2010

Per Ohio's constitutional amendment adopted in 2006, the Department of Commerce announced the minimum wage amount for 2010. The minimum wage rate for 2010 will remain the same as the rate from 2009, which is \$7.30 per hour for non-tipped employees and \$3.65 per hour for tipped employees.

Additionally, the gross threshold for employers will remain the same. Thus, employers who gross more than \$267,000 per year will be subject to Ohio's Minimum Wage Law.

ISSUE 2 RALLY

On Wednesday, October 14, the Ohioans for Livestock Care campaign will be hosting a rally at the Ohio 4-H Center, 2201 Fred Taylor Drive, in Columbus. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. and the rally begins at 12:00 noon. Please join Governor Strickland and other supporters of Issue 2 as we explain to voters that Issue 2 is a proposal for all Ohioans. The CCAO Board of Trustees has endorsed Issue 2. An admission ticket is attached to this issue of CIDS. You must have a ticket for admission.

STATE ID REQUIREMENTS TO RISE

Starting this week, Ohioans seeking a number of types of state identification cards will be required to provide documents showing their current street addresses, the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles announced. The requirement, which became effective on October 8, applies to those looking for new or first-time driver licenses, state ID cards, and those who are making an address change. To obtain the ID, or update addresses, Ohioans will be able to provide any number of documents to provide proof of residence. To view a list of documents go to <http://publicsafety.ohio.gov/links/bmv2424.pdf>. The change is being implemented to increase security and reliability of BMV-issued documents, the agency said.

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU RELEASES AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY DATA

The American Community Survey (ACS) is a nationwide survey designed to provide communities a fresh look at how they are changing. It is a critical element in the Census Bureau's reengineered decennial census plan. The ACS collects information such as age, race, income, commute time to work, home value, veteran status, and other important data from the U.S. population. As with the official decennial census, information about individuals will remain confidential.

Data users can access this detailed demographic and housing data annually instead of waiting every 10 years for decennial census data, to help them make more accurate, timely and informed decisions. The ACS began in 1996 and has expanded each subsequent year. Full nationwide implementation began in January 2005 for housing units and in January 2006 for group quarters (GQ).

Starting with the 2005 ACS, 1-year estimates have been available for geographic areas with populations of 65,000 or more. In 2008, the first ACS 3-year estimates were released for geographic areas with populations of 20,000 or more. For small areas (less than 20,000 population), it will take 5 years to accumulate a large enough sample to provide estimates with accuracy similar to the decennial census.

Beginning in 2010, and every year thereafter, the nation will have these 5-year period estimates available, a resource that shows change over time, even for neighborhoods and rural areas.

For more information about the American Community Survey, go to <http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?lang=en>.

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

SYLLABUS

2009-036

Federal law addresses the question of when a subdivision, as defined in R.C. 135.181(A)(3) and which has a security interest in a pool of securities pledged under R.C. 135.181(B) by an institution designated as a public depository to secure the repayment of all public moneys deposited in the institution and not otherwise secured by law, may present a claim to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation for securities in the pool. Pursuant to 12 U.S.C.A. § 1821(d)(9), 12 U.S.C.A. § 1821(e)(12), and 12 U.S.C.A. § 1823(e)(1), such a subdivision may present such a claim for securities in the pool when the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, as receiver, is liquidating or winding up the affairs of the institution, provided that the subdivision's security interest in the securities meets the following two criteria: (1) it is legally enforceable and perfected; and (2) it is set forth in a written agreement that has been approved by, and recorded in the minutes of, the board of directors or loan committee of the institution and has been maintained continuously, from the time of its execution, as an official record of the institution.

Subject to the caveat that the questions addressed in this opinion are ultimately subject to determination by either the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or a court of law as matters of federal law under 12 U.S.C.A. § 1821(e)(12), a reading of Ohio law standing alone indicates that the security interest of a subdivision in a pool of securities pledged under R.C. 135.181(B) by an institution designated as a public depository to secure the repayment of all public moneys deposited in the institution and not otherwise secured by law is "legally enforceable" when the conditions set forth in R.C. 1309.203(B) are satisfied.

Subject to the caveat that the questions addressed in this opinion are ultimately subject to determination by either the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or a court of law as matters of federal law under U.S.C.A. § 1821(e)(12), a reading of Ohio law standing alone indicates that, pursuant to R.C. 1309.308(A), a subdivision that has a security interest in a pool of securities pledged under R.C. 135.181(B) by an institution designated as a public depository to secure the repayment of all public moneys deposited in the institution and not otherwise secured by law has a "perfected security interest" in securities in the pool when the subdivision's security interest in the securities attaches and all of the applicable requirements for perfection in R.C. 1309.310-.316 have been satisfied.

Subject to the caveat that the questions addressed in this opinion are ultimately subject to determination by either the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or a court of law as matters of federal law under 12 U.S.C.A. § 1821(e)(12), a reading of Ohio law standing alone indicates that the security interest of a subdivision in a pool of uncertificated securities deposited with a qualified trustee in accordance with R.C. 135.181(E) is (1) "legally enforceable" when the conditions set forth in R.C. 1309.203(B) are satisfied and (2) "perfected" by establishing "control" as defined in R.C. 1308.24.

SEMINARS/FORUMS

CLEAN FUELS OHIO: STRATEGIES & POLICIES FOR TRANSFORMING OHIO'S TRANSPORTATION FUTURE

Fresh off securing an \$11 million grant for alternative fuel deployment from the U.S. Department of Energy, Clean Fuels Ohio is holding five public forums across the state focused on sustainable transportation policy.

As a statewide non-profit dedicated to advanced transportation energy and efficiency, Clean Fuels Ohio is building a coalition and refining the policy agenda that will shape Ohio's transportation future. Funded by the Cleveland and George Gund Foundations, these forums are components of Clean Fuels Ohio's new transportation policy program titled "Driving Ohio Forward." The policy program is designed to educate citizens and decision makers on the transportation policy solutions that can grow Ohio's economy, reduce climate change, and improve overall energy security.

Ohio is a national leader in transportation logistics and its future will depend on transporting people and goods economically and sustainably. According to the Ohio Department of Development, Ohio ranks first out of 50 states based on the total value of outbound truck shipments (\$244 billion), third based on the total value of all inbound and outbound freight (\$907 billion) and fourth nationally in terms of total economic output from rail shipments (\$1.3 billion).

Recognizing the transportation sector's vital importance, Clean Fuels Ohio will use its upcoming Driving Ohio Forward forums to unveil three strategies and seven policies for transforming Ohio's transportation future. Centered on increasing vehicle efficiency, deploying cleaner non-petroleum fuels, and reducing vehicle miles travelled by expanding transportation choices, Clean Fuels Ohio's policy agenda draws from existing programs in neighboring and competing states.

The free Driving Ohio Forward forums are scheduled for Akron (October 13), Toledo (October 22), Dayton (October 27), Athens (October 29), and Columbus (November 18). To learn more about Clean Fuels Ohio's advanced transportation policy initiative, visit www.DrivingOhioForward.org.

HUMAN SERVICES IN TOUGH TIMES: STATE TAX & BUDGET WORKSHOP

Over the next several months, The Center for Community Solutions will hold a series of workshops around Ohio to provide a technical perspective on state budget and revenue issues. The initial workshops will be held in the eight major urban areas of Ohio and in Athens. After the first of the year, the program will be extended to all of the 80 remaining counties.

The workshops will take a look back at the SFY 2010-2011 budget and identify systems that are most under stress as a result of decisions made during the process. However, more important will be the presentations on maintaining human service and education spending in a recession, the results of tax reform (2005) and its effect on revenues, revenue increases from fees and gambling, and the long-term structural deficit and reliance on one-time revenues and their impact on the SFY 2012-2013 state budget.

From these presentations, tough decisions facing Ohio decision makers will be identified. Participants also will be given training in strategic advocacy to affect these decisions. Elected officials, county employees, human service providers and advocates, public policy directors, funders, and anyone desiring a better understanding of the state budget are invited and encouraged to attend.

Schedule (to date): October 28 - Dayton, November 4 - Athens, November 12 - Cincinnati, December 3 - Mahoning Valley, and December 8 - Toledo. There is no charge for the workshops. They are supported by funders of Community Solutions and local partnerships. For information on these programs and others as they are scheduled go to <http://tinyurl.com/ydt8yft> or contact David Howard, (216) 781-2944 x 406 or dhoward@CommunitySolutions.com.

SUMMIT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUSTAINABILITY – NOVEMBER 19

The Office of Auditor of State Mary Taylor will be conducting a "Summit on Local Government Sustainability: Strategies and Solutions in a Time of Fiscal Crisis" on November 19, 2009 at the Columbus Athenaeum, 42 North Fourth Street, in downtown Columbus. CCAO is one of the co-hosting organizations. Sessions begin

promptly at 9:30 a.m. and end at 4:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided. CCAO is one of the co-sponsors of the Summit.

Session topics include: The Outlook: Optimism or Luck?; Transfers, Advances & Manuscript Debt; Fiscal Watch & Fiscal Emergency Survival Guide; Leading Practices = Sustainable Results; Forecasting; Putting Your Financial Statement to Work; Commission on Local Government Reform & Collaboration; The Fund for Our Economic Future; Indicators of Fiscal Distress; and How Others Have Made the Tough Decisions.

Registration fee: \$15 (includes conference materials, lunch and break refreshments). Registration deadline: November 14. Payment must be made by check – no cash or credit cards. Class sizes are limited. Registration will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information: www.auditor.state.oh.us/ConferenceInformation/FiscalDistress/Default.aspx.

CLASSIFIEDS

CHILDREN SERVICES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Greene County Children Services (GCCS) is a progressive, accredited, child welfare agency, designated by law to provide for the care, protection, and placement of abused, neglected, and dependent children in Greene County. GCCS is state supervised and county-administered agency with 108 (105 permanent and 3 temporary) employees. GCCS helps provide the support many families need to offer their children safe and loving homes. We offer a spectrum of services from family assessment and support to temporary and permanent child placement through foster care, adoption, group home and independent living programs.

The Executive Director will oversee all aspects of the agency, including: operations; development, implementation, and monitoring of agency programs; procedures; budget; assuring statutory compliance and administering board policies. The Executive Director will be responsible for ensuring the overall mission of the agency is met by working effectively and proactively with community partners, as well as local, state and federal entities.

Qualifications: advanced degree from an accredited college/university, LSW/LISW or licensure eligibility preferred, at least seven years of experiences in children services or other human services related field, at least three years of senior management experience, or an equivalent combination of education and/or work experience, demonstrated leadership in the field of social services, ability to strengthen and cultivate relationships and work collaboratively with other organizations, stakeholders and community partners, skilled in strategic planning, action planning and implementing change, and knowledge of the delivery of Child and Family Services, including evidence-based best practices, trends and issues in the field of child welfare.

Competitive wages and benefits package commensurate with experience. Position will remain open until candidate is chosen. Apply at Greene County Search Committee, c/o Organizational Resources Group, 506 Lambourne Ave., Worthington, OH 43085-2417. 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 at mjneiman@ccao.org

MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE AND DISCOUNT ASSISTANCE

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND MEDICARE

When the word “Medicare” appears, most readers will instantly think of older adults only and wonder how Medicare applies to people who are not 65 and older. Professionals from County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Boards, service provider agencies, individuals who receive mental health and/or addiction services, and their family members should know the basics of Medicare, Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit, and the Low-Income Subsidy program. According to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid and the Social Security Administration, behavioral health clients are among the groups that most often do not enroll in Medicare Part D, and discount programs. For a population that often faces financial challenges, missing out on any healthcare discounts presents a lost opportunity to reduce out-of-pocket costs.

MEDICARE PART D PRESCRIPTION BENEFIT AND LOW-INCOME SUBSIDY

Most people who are covered by Medicare can save money on their prescription drug costs by enrolling in Medicare Part D – Medicare’s prescription drug coverage. To enroll in Part D, a person must join one of Medicare’s approved prescription drug plans. Prescription coverage through such plans is available either through a Medicare managed care plan or a stand-alone plan offering prescription coverage only.

Of greater importance, people on Medicare who have limited incomes and assets can save even more on their prescription costs by qualifying for the Low-Income Subsidy (LIS). Also known as “Extra Help” for Medicare Part D, the LIS is available through the Social Security Administration. Those who qualify can receive assistance paying the drug plan’s premium, deductible, and prescription copayments. In 2009, the extra help could be worth up to \$3,900.

Medicare Part D Low-Income Subsidy Qualifying Monthly Income and Total Asset Limits for 2009

For single people:

Monthly income...\$1,354

Total assets...\$12,510

For married couples:

Monthly income...\$1,822

Total assets...\$25,010

Please note: Single means the person is either not married or not currently living with a spouse; married means the couple lives together. Total assets are combined savings and do not include the value of the home where the person or couple lives, vehicles, personal possessions, burial plots, or irrevocable burial contracts.

Clients with Medicare whose monthly income and total assets are within the amounts shown above should complete the LIS application. Those who have more income and assets might not qualify for the extra help, but they can still save money on their prescription drug costs by joining a Part D plan.

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS AND WEBSITES

Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program (OSHIIP)	1-800-686-1578	www.ohioinsurance.gov
Ohio Department of Insurance Consumer Services	1-800-686-1526	www.ohioinsurance.gov
Medicare	1-800-MEDICARE	www.medicare.gov
Social Security Administration	1-800-772-1213	www.ssa.gov
Ohio Department of Aging	1-800-282-1206	www.goldenbuckeye.com
Ohio Medicaid	1-800-324-8680	www.jfs.ohio.gov
Ohio’s Best Rx	1-866-923-7879	www.ohiobestrx.org
Ohio Benefit Bank	1-800-648-1176	www.obb.ohio.gov

“DUAL ELIGIBLES” QUALIFY AUTOMATICALLY FOR THE LIS

People who are covered under both Medicare and Medicaid – or have Medicare and receive Supplemental Security Disability Income (SSDI) – are considered “dual eligibles.” Dual eligibles should receive the extra help automatically and aren’t required to submit an LIS application. It is a good idea to make sure that a client is receiving the discounts since this “automatic” enrollment has been known not to occur.

People who are severely mentally ill and receive SSDI should be in this dual eligible group. Once enrolled in a Medicare prescription drug plan, dual eligibles can switch to a better plan for their needs anytime during the year. The new plan is effective the first day of the month following the switch.

HOW TO APPLY FOR THE EXTRA HELP (LOW-INCOME SUBSIDY)

The U. S. Social Security Administration (SSA) determines who qualifies for the Medicare Part D Low-Income Subsidy. The application can be submitted to SSA in a number of ways. The fastest way to apply and determine eligibility is through the online application at the Social Security Administration website www.socialsecurity.gov.

If using the internet is not an option, an original of SSA’s paper application may be the next best way to apply. Using an original form allows Social Security to scan the document for a quicker determination. A photocopy of the form can be submitted; however, SSA cannot scan a photocopy, and its determination of the client’s eligibility will be delayed. Once deemed eligible, the client is covered as of the first day of the month following enrollment in a Medicare prescription plan.

GO TO OSHIIP FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PLANS AND THE EXTRA HELP

The Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program (OSHIIP) – a service of the Ohio Department of Insurance – is a resource for all people covered by Medicare.

OSHIIP can help people identify the Medicare prescription plan that’s best for them – a plan that covers their prescriptions and saves them the most money on Part D coverage. OSHIIP will also assist beneficiaries who wish to apply for the Part D Low-Income Subsidy. Clients can contact a local OSHIIP volunteer for personal counseling. Visit the Ohio Department of Insurance online at www.insurance.ohio.gov and click “Medicare Services” to view the OSHIIP page. Click “OSHIIP Services” to find local volunteers and sites across the state. Or call 1-800-686-1578 for help locating a volunteer in your community.

WANT TO BE AN OSHIIP COUNSELOR?

- New volunteers are always needed and welcome.
- OSHIIP has sites in most Ohio counties - call them about training classes.
- Contact OSHIIP if you want a Senior Health Insurance Information Program in your area. You may know of an organization that could serve as a sponsor.

2010 Open Enrollment Period

Nov. 15, 2009 - Dec. 31, 2009

Learn more at Medicare Check-Up Days.

For a complete listing of dates and locations, visit:

www.insurance.ohio.gov and click on “Medicare” and “OSHIIP’s Check-Up Events.”

What can policy makers, local officials, and community members do to help individuals and families?

- ✓ Consider becoming an OSHIIP volunteer, for information call, 1-800-686-1578.
- ✓ Help spread the word about programs like Medicare Part D so consumers know their options when it comes to affording medications.
- ✓ Support your local alcohol, drug addiction and mental health levies. Local levies fund other integrated services individuals often need in addition to medication to make recovery possible.

Sources:

Ohio Department of Insurance Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid

Social Security Administration

Ohioans for  Livestock
Care

COLUMBUS RALLY

October 14, 2009

**Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau
4-H Center**

2201 Fred Taylor Dr. | Columbus, OH 43210

DOORS OPEN — 11:30AM

**RALLY
BEGINS
12 NOON**

Keynote Speaker — Gov. Ted Strickland

Paid for by Ohioans for Livestock Care
Political Action Committee — John C. Fisher, Treasurer
280 North High Street, Columbus, OH 43215