

The Call Has Been Issued!

For the past 25 years, OACB has been committed to enhancing the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities. In so doing, we have learned that the best advocacy comes from the grassroots level. As a result, we developed the *Call2Action* program to recruit motivated and involved volunteers who are available to bring their concerns to state officials and legislators. Our commitment is to train, inform, organize and assist these volunteers in order to ensure their highest level of effectiveness.

When the program began in 2006, our main concern was educating a new Governor, a new Director at the *Ohio Department of MRDD*, and a new *General Assembly* about the many issues surrounding our citizens with developmental disabilities. Today, our concern and advocacy shifts to the current financial crisis the *State of Ohio* is facing. As we prepare to face the 2010-2011 biennium budget process, we are desperately working to stop any additional cuts from occurring to state funding in areas affecting individuals with developmental disabilities. We will also be seeking legislation to remove administrative burdens so that our system maximizes the resources available for services.



Volunteer Orientation / Training Sessions!

OACB has scheduled **several regional sessions** (we call them **Call2U**) around the *State of Ohio*, which are planned to conclude just before the first sessions of the *General Assembly*.

Please accept this invitation to attend **any** of these **FREE** meetings and get involved in **Call2Action**. Sessions will be short, focused, substantive, practical; they are targeted to equip you to effectively advocate on behalf of Ohio's *County Boards of MRDD*, and the people they serve.

Here is the *Call2U* Schedule:

- **Welcome & Introduction**
- **How to be an Effective Advocate**
- **How to Influence Your Legislator**

You will also receive a comprehensive reference notebook that you can use to organize and guide your efforts as a **Call2Action** volunteer.

*****Call2U locations listed on reverse *****

Here are the confirmed **Call2U** Locations:

January 10 – Franklin County Board of MRDD

2879 Johnstown Road, Columbus, OH 43219. PH 614-475-6440

1-3 p.m.

**State Representative Ted Celeste will be on hand
to answer questions and give suggestions**

January 12 – Franklin County Board of MRDD

2879 Johnstown Road, Columbus, OH 43219. PH 614-475-6440

5-7 p.m.

**State Representative Carlton Weddington will be on hand
to answer questions and give suggestions**

January 16 – Lorain County Board of MRDD

1091 Infirmary Road, Elyria, Ohio 44035. PH 440-329-3734

2-4 p.m.

**State Representative Matt Lundy will be on hand
to answer questions and give suggestions**

January 26 – Lucas County Board of MRDD

1154 Larc Lane, Toledo, Ohio 43614. PH (419) 380-4000

1-3 p.m.

**State Representative Barbara Sears will be on hand
to answer questions and give suggestions**

February 7 – Warren County Board of MRDD

410 S. East Street Lebanon, Ohio 45036. PH 513-695-1652

10 a.m. to Noon

**State Representative Shannon Jones will be on hand
to answer questions and give suggestions**

**We are in the process of scheduling six additional Call2Action meetings.
Once they are confirmed, we will send out an updated schedule as soon
as possible to help with your planning schedules.**

Space is limited at each location, so we'd appreciate an RSVP specifying at which location you plan to join us to either loda@oacbmRDD.org or (614) 431-0616.

*****Call2U locations listed on reverse *****

Call2U Locations

Please utilize local contacts for location information/directions only – all other inquiries should be directed to Linda Oda at OACBMRDD at (614) 431-0616