

# WEEKLY FOCUS

**Ohio** | Opportunities for Ohioans  
with Disabilities

Kevin L. Miller, Executive Director

February 13, 2015

*The mission of the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency is to ensure individuals with disabilities achieve quality employment, independence and disability determination outcomes.*

## Biennial Budget Process Continues

As noted in the previous issue, Governor John Kasich announced his executive budget recommendations last week which marked the formal start of Ohio's biennial budget process. This week saw the introduction of the executive budget in the form of a bill (you can read all 2,783 pages by clicking this link: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-64>).

The Finance Committee of the Ohio House of Representatives held hearings this week on the bill and I was pleased to participate in a hearing focused on the Office of Health Transformation and the agencies included in that cluster. Greg Moody, Director of the Governor's Office of Health Transformation, led the testimony and was joined by John Martin, Director of the Department of Developmental Disabilities, Tracy Plouck, Director of the Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services, Bonnie K. Burman, Director of the Department of Aging, John McCarthy, Director of the Department of Medicaid, Cynthia Dungey, Director of the Department of Job and Family Services, Rick Hodges, Director of the Department of Health, and myself.

Director Moody and the other directors' did a great job outlining the transformational reform efforts included in this budget and the positive impact they will have on millions of Ohioans. As we know, fundamental change is hard and even painful at times, but is necessary if we are to deliver the level of service and care Ohioans deserve.

I have begun meeting with legislators in anticipation of our March 5th testimony before the Health and Human Service Subcommittee of House Finance. I have been sharing with them the significant progress we have made in delivering our services to more people in a more timely and cost effective manner and the initiatives included in the budget to help us build on this success. The Representatives have been impressed with the progress we have made and are excited about the positive impact we can make in their districts and communities.

I will continue to keep you updated as this process continues.

## Creating Opportunity Award Recipients:

### Walmart



*From left to right: Walmart Market Manager Matt Burke, Westerville Walmart Store Manager Jennifer Wingo, Lewis Center Walmart Store Manager Andrew Bounds, and OOD Business Relations Manager Jon Hackathorn.*

### Parkview Center



*From left to right: Social Services Director Randee Bumbera, Executive Director Kimberlee Weiss, Therapy Dog Pippin, Director of Clinical Services Millie Butts, and Northwest Area Manager Curt Morman.*

# OOD Goes Red For Women

It's not just a man's disease.

**1 in 3 women die of heart disease and stroke, but it can be prevented.**



*Crosswoods staff were excited to show their support for National Wear Red Day!*



*OOD staff were asked to wear red to support the fight against heart disease in women.*



*(Dayton Office) Human Resources and Fiscal Management staff posted Wear Red Day Tribute Cards sharing their inspiration/motivation to live a heart-healthy lifestyle.*



*Dayton staff members wearing red in support of the American Heart Association Go Red Campaign for women!*

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## State of the State in Wilmington

Governor John Kasich has asked the General Assembly to convene a special joint session in Wilmington, Ohio on February 24 at 7:00 p.m. for the annual State of the State address. In preparation for the Governor's address, state agencies will be holding events in the Wilmington area during the day highlighting programs and organizations having a positive impact on their communities.

Like we did last year in Medina, OOD will be partnering with other state agencies as well as local businesses, governments, and organizations to highlight the work that we do and its impact on the Wilmington area. Stay tuned for more information on these events in future issues of the Weekly Focus.

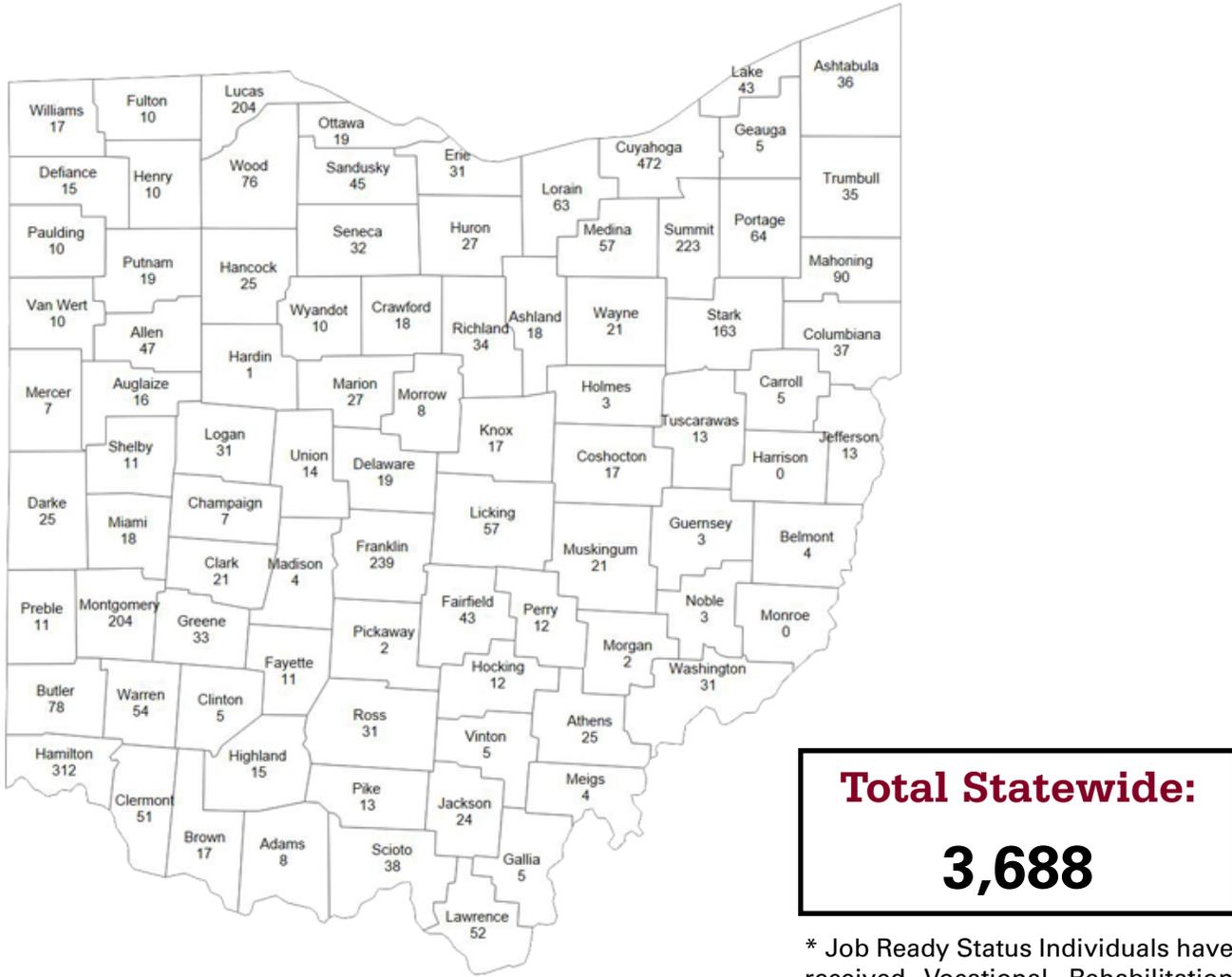
If you would like to attend the State of the State address there is a lottery for tickets. To sign up, please visit: <http://governor.ohio.gov/Contact/2015StateoftheStatetickets.aspx>

## OOD Receives CCC Gold Bar

Thanks to the tremendous effort and contribution of OOD staff, we were able to raise \$99,879 of the \$2.8 million raised for the 2014 statewide Combined Charitable Campaign (CCC). We surpassed our goal of 309 payroll deductions and \$93,750 raised. Last year's efforts earned the agency a gold bar which means we met our monetary goal.

Congratulations to Co-Chairs Andrew Meador and Brad Reynolds for coordinating such a successful Combined Charitable Campaign and we thank each and every OOD staff member for helping to make last year's CCC campaign the most successful.

## Individuals in Job Ready Status by County



\* Job Ready Status Individuals have received Vocational Rehabilitation services and are ready and seeking employment.

For more information or questions on stories in this publication, please call the Office of Communications at 614.438.1474.

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