Ohio Youth Leadership Regional Forums

Are you a High school Junior or Senior with a Disability Interested in Self-Advocacy & Leadership Development?

Ohio Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) is a week-long career leadership training program, held during the summer, for 11th and 12th grade high school students with disabilities.

At YLF you will:
- Learn about choosing a career
- Learn about available resources and assistive technology
- Identify existing barriers to personal and professional success and develop plans to overcome those barriers
- Interact with professionals with disabilities who serve as mentors and role models
- Develop a personal leadership plan, which includes specific action steps to follow when you return to your community
- Gain the power to reach your goals in education, employment and community leadership
- Develop a social network with your peers

Ohio is contracting with the Ohio Statewide Independent Living Council (OSILC) for the provision of regional Youth Leadership Forums.

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Programs provided by Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) are funded, in whole or in part, with federal grants awarded by the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). For purposes of the Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program, including Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS), OOD received 78.7% of its funding through the DOE VR grant. In Federal fiscal year (FFY) 2020, OOD received $103,352,949 in federal funds. Funds appropriated by the State covered 21.3% of the total costs, or $27,966,859. Of these federal funds, $15,495,942 is set aside for Pre-ETS. For purposes of the Supported Employment (SE) Program, the DOE SE grant funded 90% of the costs for the Supported Employment for Youth with a Disability Program up to the grant amount and 100% of the costs of regular Supported Employment program costs up to the grant amount. In FFY 2020, OOD received $369,584 for SE Youth with a Disability, and State appropriated funds paid the remaining 10%, or $41,065 of the total costs.

In FFY 2020, OOD received $369,584 in regular SE grant funds. For purposes of the Independent Living Services for Older Individuals Who are Blind (ILB) Program, the federal grant received from DOE in FFY 2020 paid 90% of the total costs incurred under the program. In FFY 2020, OOD received $1,148,413 in federal grant funds. Funds appropriated by the State paid the remaining 10% or $127,601 of the total costs incurred under the ILB program. For purposes of the Independent Living (IL) Program, the federal grant received from HHS paid 90% of the total costs incurred in FFY 2020. In FFY 2020, OOD received $841,721 in federal grant funds. Funds appropriated by the State paid the remaining 10% or $71,302 of the total costs incurred under the IL Program.