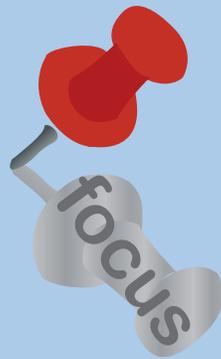


WEEKLY



November 15, 2013

Ohio | Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

Kevin L. Miller, Executive Director

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

Two More High Performance Units Added In DDD

Building on the success of the first high performance adjudicative unit established last year, two more units are forming today in the Division of Disability Determination (DDD).

The adjudicators and supervisors involved in these units are volunteers and have agreed to process three more claims per week than the 12-13 that are normally assigned. The units provide all coverage for claims in their unit versus putting the claims in the office-wide coverage queues. They will continue to participate in the office-wide coverage queues for other units and areas.

Leading the two new units will be Supervisors Amy Coverdale and Rita Graham. We thank them and their newly formed teams in advance for taking on this ambitious role that provides excellent customer service

for the Ohioans who come to OOD for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) determinations.

OOD Excellence in Service Award Nominations

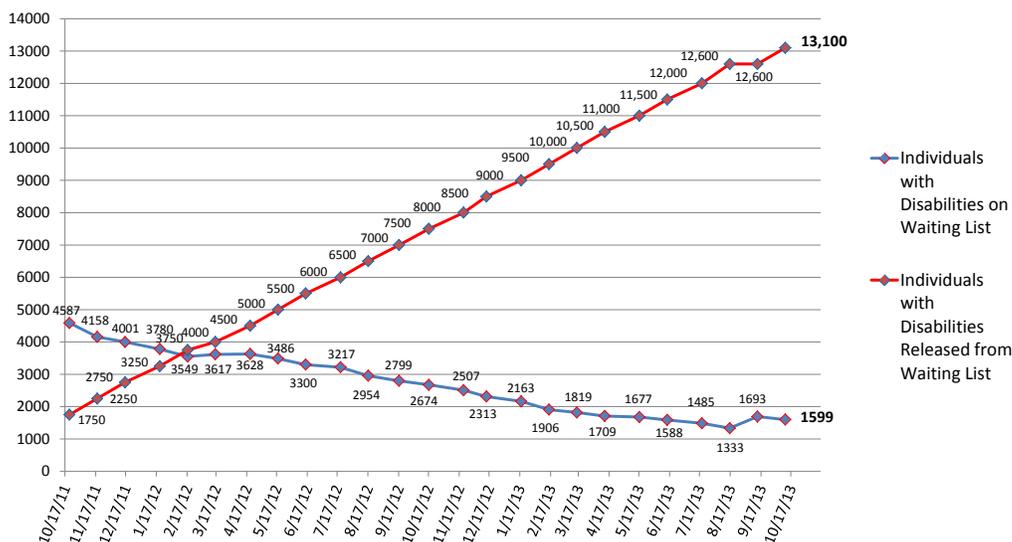
Have you taken time to recognize an OOD employee or team who has gone above and beyond for our consumers, claimants and our agency? If not, please consider doing so today.

Employees can be nominated by other employees or themselves. Up to six individuals or groups may be selected to receive an award and award recipients will receive one day off (8 hours) with pay and a \$25 gift card. This award was designed in coordination with the DDD and BVR/BSVI Director's Advisory Groups. The first Award selection was held in May 2013 and was a great success!

We have made some changes based on your recommendations. For example, the nomination form is now shorter and more user friendly! The OOD Fall Excellence in Service Awards Ceremony is planned for December, 2013 (day to be announced at a later date). Please submit your nominations to Kathy Boss at Kathleen.Boss@ood.ohio.gov no later than November 20, 2013. Nomination forms can be located on the OOD intranet.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Boss at 614-438-1247.

Number of Individuals with Disabilities on Waiting List



Holiday Food Basket Drive Continues



Throughout the month of November, OOD will be participating in the Mid-Ohio Foodbank's Holiday Food Basket Campaign. This holiday season you can help provide meals for those struggling in your community. Every \$1 received can provide four meals.

This week witnessed the breakfast sale. I want to thank everyone who participated in the breakfast sale that helped raise \$285 for the Mid-Ohio Foodbank. That equals 1,140 meals for hungry Ohioans! Without your help, this would not have been possible.

On November 21 there will be a pie sale at DDD for the Holiday Food Basket Campaign. If you are willing and able to donate a pie or other treat, your contribution would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Paula Stoffel at ext. 1456 or Paula.Stoffel@ssa.gov if you are able to help or for more information.

There are several ways to get involved in this campaign in the next week:

1. Bring in food items and drop off in each area to help fill the Mid-Ohio Foodbank pantries. Baskets have been set out for you to donate items.
2. Tax-deductible donations are needed to help purchase fresh produce, meat, dairy and bread. Each year, 36% of the food distributed is fresh produce. You can drop off your donations to volunteers in the 400 building or Abbie Frase in HR of the 150 building.
3. With a \$5 donation, you can wear jeans any TWO Thursdays from October 31 through November 28. Donations can be given to volunteers in the 400 building or Abbie Frase in HR in the 140 building. When donating, please indicate which two Thursdays you will be wearing jeans.

For more information or questions on stories in this publication, please call the Office of Communications at 614.438.1476.

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