



OHIO SIBS

ANNUAL ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS-2014

It is the mission of Ohio SIBS to be recognized as the unified voice and partner for Ohio adult siblings of people with developmental disabilities and their families. Ohio SIBS will provide advocacy, education, leadership and supports that will promote enhanced quality of life, improved public policy, and increased services and supports for adult siblings (of people with developmental disabilities) and their families.

- Planned the **14th Annual Conference** to be held on Nov. 7-8, 2014, in Columbus, Ohio
- Coordinated and managed the **Legislative Advocacy Day** at the Statehouse, providing education and support to people with disabilities and their families to advocate with legislators
- Planned and facilitated “**Sibs Looking Forward: Weekend Retreat About Transition**” for students with disabilities and their siblings
- Participated as an invited active member on several Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) Work Groups, including:
 - **Strategic Planning Leadership Group**, identifying benchmarks for the DD Service System in Ohio
 - Panel reviewing **Health and Safety Systems**
 - Review of **Licensure Rules**
 - Revision of **Quality Measures**
 - Review of **Provider Certification Rule**
- Participated as an active member on the **Developmental Disabilities-Practice Based Research Network (DD-PBRN)** affiliated with Case Medical School and the Cleveland Clinic to look at best practice in clinical/medical care; increasing clinicians’ comfort, knowledge and care of people with DD
- Created, shared and have available **resources for siblings** on topics including; how to become an independent provider, how to discuss the future with parents
- **Educated professionals and families** through conferences and events across the state about the importance of the sibling perspective and how to engage siblings/family members
- Developed and presented **webinars** with the Sibling Leadership Network and the Department of Developmental Disabilities
- Began examining the **branding of Ohio SIBS** and how to optimize the use of social media
- Explored and pursued additional sources of **funding** to support work and activities
- Utilized **social media** to share information, updates on issues of interest, opportunities to share concerns and inform about activities of Ohio SIBS
- Provided **support and information** to individuals