John L. Martin was first appointed as director of the Ohio Department of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (ODMRDD) in January 2007. Following the efforts of many Ohio self-advocates, it was renamed the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) in 2009. Governor John Kasich reappointed Martin as director of DODD in 2011.

Martin has emphasized leadership transformation in several areas for the department, including increased collaboration with stakeholders, upgrading technology infrastructure, and making data-driven decisions to better align resources and programs for long-term sustainability. He has led core initiatives, such as creating more opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities to live and work in their communities; developing the Positive Culture Initiative (PCI); supporting shared services and collaboration models among county boards; and consolidating all DD programs under DODD to reduce confusion for those who use these services.

Director Martin came to the department from the Toledo area and knows the DD community first-hand, not only as the father of a young adult son with disabilities, but also as the former executive director since 1984 of Sunshine Inc. of Northwest Ohio, a non-profit organization serving people with DD and their families.

In 1995, Martin became the first executive director of MRDD Solutions, a for-profit subsidiary of Sunshine Inc. that provides software to more than 100 agencies in 18 states. Director Martin also served on the board of the Ohio Provider Resource Association (OPRA) and served as a representative on the Family Advisory Council for (then) ODMRDD from 2003 to 2005.

Martin received a Bachelor’s degree in Special Education from Illinois State University and a Master’s degree in Community Psychology from Temple University.

Please Join Us!
Wednesday, January 30, 2013
12 – 1 PM in 230 McCampbell Hall
1581 Dodd Dr. Columbus, OH 43210