

## Ohio Disability and Health Program



## National and Statewide Disability Organizations

### **ADA Ohio:** <http://www.ada-ohio.org/>

ADA Ohio is a statewide non-profit organization that provides information, technical assistance and training about the **Americans with Disabilities Act** (ADA) to individuals, businesses, state and local government agencies or municipalities.

### **The Alzheimer's Association:** <http://www.alz.org/>

If you encounter a person with dementia, the Alzheimer's Association can offer assistance. You can locate your local chapter at this site and contact them with any questions that you may have. A 24/7 national Helpline is also available: 1-800-272-3900

### **American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD):** <http://aaidd.org/>

AAIDD is a national organization that promotes progressive policies, sound research, effective practices, and universal human rights for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities

### **American Association of People with Disabilities:** <http://www.aapd.com>

The American Association of People with Disabilities seeks to organize the disability community to be a powerful voice for change politically, economically, and socially.

### **American Council for the Blind of Ohio:** <http://www.acbohio.org>

The American Council of the Blind of Ohio is a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for persons who are blind or visually impaired. Efforts are directed toward education, information, and other activities designed to enhance the life styles of people who are blind or visually impaired.

### **American Foundation for the Blind:** <http://www.afb.org>

American Foundation for the Blind is a nonprofit organization enabling blind or visually impaired people to achieve equality and access.

### **The Arc of Ohio:** <http://www.thearcofohio.org>

The mission of The Arc of Ohio is to advocate for human rights, personal dignity and community participation of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, through legislative and social action, information and education, local chapter support and family involvement.

### **Assistive Technology of Ohio:** <http://www.atohio.org/>

AT Ohio's mission is to help Ohioans with disabilities learn about or acquire assistive technology. Assistive Technology refers to devices, equipment or services that assist individuals with disabilities to function independently in the areas of work, home or school.



## Ohio Disability and Health Program

**Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN):** <http://autisticadvocacy.org/>

ASAN is a nonprofit organization run by and for Autistic people. ASAN was created to provide support and services to individuals on the autism spectrum while working to educate communities and improve public perceptions of autism.

**Autism Speaks:** <http://www.autismspeaks.org/>

Autism Speaks is an international autism science and advocacy organization, dedicated to funding research into the causes, prevention, treatments and a cure for autism; increasing awareness of autism spectrum disorders; and advocating for the needs of individuals with autism and their families

**Autism Treatment Network (ATN):** <http://www.autismspeaks.org/science/resources-programs/autism-treatment-network>

The ATN is a collaboration of medical centers dedicated to providing families with state of the art, multidisciplinary care. The ATN was established to provide a place for families to go for high quality, coordinated medical care for children and adolescents with autism and associated conditions.

**Brain Injury Association of Ohio (BIAOH):** <http://www.biaoh.org>

BIAOH is a statewide advocacy and education organization dedicated to improving services and supports to Ohioans with brain injury and their families, and to promoting prevention.

**Center for Universal Design (CUD):** <http://www.ncsu.edu/www/ncsu/design/sod5/cud>

CUD is national information, technical assistance, and research center that evaluates, develops, and promotes accessible and universal design in housing, commercial and public facilities, outdoor environments, and products.

**Champaign Residential Services, Inc. (CRSI):** <http://www.crsi-oh.com>

CRSI's mission and philosophy is to empower and support individuals with challenges to provide an opportunity to develop their maximum level of independence as they choose.

**Cleveland Sight Center:** <http://www.clevelandsightcenter.org>

Cleveland Sight Center is a multi-faceted nonprofit agency founded in 1906 serving people of all ages who are blind or visually impaired.

**Columbus Speech and Hearing:** <http://www.columbusspeech.org>

The mission of Columbus Speech and Hearing is to help all people improve communication and vocational independence for life. Columbus Speech and Hearing is the largest provider of outpatient speech and hearing services in Central Ohio.

**Deaf Services Center:** <http://www.dsc.org>

Deaf Services Center is the largest provider of community-based services for people who are deaf or hard of hearing in the state of Ohio.

**DifferentNeedz.com:** <http://www.differentneedz.com>

DifferentNeedz.com is the first and only dedicated website that allows the special needs community to buy and sell gently used medical equipment, therapy devices, adaptive toys and more online. DifferentNeedz.com provides an avenue for special needs individuals, families, institutions and foundations to acquire quality necessities for daily life at significantly reduced prices.



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### **Disability Network of Ohio – Solidarity (DNOS):** [www.dnos.org](http://www.dnos.org)

DNOS is a statewide nonprofit organization developed to promote an ongoing spirit of advocacy on behalf of people with all types of disabilities. DNOS is guided by a Board of Trustees and is run by and for people with disabilities. The mission of DNOS is to increase awareness of issues, policies, and concerns impacting Ohioans with disabilities and their families.

### **Disability Rights Ohio:** <http://www.disabilityrightsohio.org/>

Disability Rights Ohio provides legal advocacy and rights protection to a wide range of people with disabilities. This includes assisting individuals with problems such as abuse, neglect, discrimination, access to assistive technology, special education, housing, employment, community integration, and the use of service animals. Disability Rights Ohio is Ohio's federally mandated Protection and Advocacy System.

### **Disabled American Veterans:** <http://www.dav.org>

The 1.2 million-member Disabled American Veterans is a non-profit charity dedicated to building better lives for America's veterans with disabilities and their families.

### **Governor's Council on People with Disabilities (GCPD):** <http://www.gcpd.ohio.gov>

The GCPD is designed to work with the Governor and the legislature to promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities within Ohio.

### **National Association on Mental Illness (NAMI) Ohio:** <http://www.namiohio.org/>

The mission of NAMI is to improve the quality of life and ensure dignity and respect for persons with serious mental illness, and offer support to their families and close friends.

### **National Center for Accessible Media:** <http://ncam.wgbh.org/>

The National Center for Accessible Media is a non-profit research and development organization dedicated to achieving media access equality for people with disabilities.

### **National Council on Disability (NCD):** <http://www.ncd.gov>

NCD is an independent federal agency that provides advice to the President, Congress, and executive branch agencies to promote policies, programs, practices, and procedures that guarantee equal opportunity for all individuals with disabilities, regardless of the nature or severity of the disability and to empower individuals with disabilities to achieve economic self-sufficiency, independent living, and inclusion and integration into all aspects of society.

### **Nisonger Center:** <http://nisonger.osu.edu/>

The mission of The Ohio State University Nisonger Center is to work with communities to value and support the meaningful participation of people with disabilities of all ages through education, service and research. The Center provides assistance to people with disabilities, families, service providers and organizations to promote inclusion in education, health, employment and community settings.

### **Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging (o4a):** [www.ohioaging.org](http://www.ohioaging.org)

The o4a is a nonprofit, statewide network of agencies that provide services for the elderly, as well as advocate on behalf of older Ohioans. The Association addresses issues which have an impact on the aging network, provides services to members, and serves as a collective voice for Ohio's Area Agencies on Aging.



## Ohio Disability and Health Program

**Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities:** <http://www.oacbha.org/>

This organization represents the interests of Ohio's County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Boards at the state level.

**Ohio Association of County Boards Serving People with Developmental Disabilities (OACB):** <http://www.oacbddd.org/>

OACB is a non-profit organization specializing in providing information, continuing education, and legislative liaison to Ohio's 88 *County Boards of Developmental Disabilities*.

**Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence (OCALI):** <http://www.ocali.org/>

The Autism Center at OCALI provides a clearinghouse of information on research, resources and trends to address the autism challenge. The center offers a source for training, technical assistance, resources, and consultation to build program capacity and individual learning and growth.

**Ohio Department of Aging (ODA):** <http://aging.ohio.gov>

ODA develops a strategic framework, required by the federal Older Americans Act, to provide leadership that improves and promotes quality of life and personal choice for older Ohioans, adults with disabilities and their families and caregivers.

**Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD):** <http://dodd.ohio.gov>

The mission of DODD is continuous improvement of the quality of life for Ohio's citizens with developmental disabilities. DODD is responsible for overseeing a statewide system of supports and services for people with developmental disabilities and their families.

**Ohio Department of Health (ODH):** <http://www.odh.ohio.gov>

ODH works with 130 local health departments to protect and improve the health of all Ohioans.

**Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS):** <http://jfs.ohio.gov>

ODJFS offers a wide range of assistance to help Ohio's families find solutions to their temporary challenges.

**Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council (ODDC):** <http://www.ddc.ohio.gov>

The mission of ODDC is to create change that improves independence, productivity and inclusion for people with developmental disabilities and their families in community life.

**Ohio Department for Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS):** <http://mha.ohio.gov/>

The mission of OhioMHAS is to provide statewide leadership of a high-quality mental health and addiction prevention, treatment and recovery system that is effective and valued by all Ohioans.

**Ohio Legal Rights Services:** <http://www.olrs.ohio.gov>

The mission of Ohio Legal Rights is to protect and advocate, in partnership with people with disabilities, for their human, civil and legal rights.

**Ohio Self Determination Association (OSDA):** <http://www.ohiosda.org/>

OSDA promotes freedom for people with disabilities to plan their own lives and pursue the things that are important to them with the support of independent planning and support coordination.



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**Ohio State School for the Blind (OSSB):** <http://www.ossb.oh.gov>

The mission of OSSB is to work cooperatively with students, families, and the community to provide an effective, enjoyable educational experience through specialized, curriculum, equipment, materials, and individualized, disability-specific instruction to develop students' unique potential.

**Ohio Statewide Independent Living Council (OSILC):** [www.ohiosilc.org](http://www.ohiosilc.org)

OSILC is responsible for promoting the full access and independence of people with disabilities in the communities of their choosing. OSILC works to provide a statewide network of independent living services and supports so that people with disabilities can independently live, work, and participate in their communities.

**Paralyzed Veterans of America:** <http://www.pva.org>

Paralyzed Veterans of America works to maximize the quality of life for its members and all people with spinal cord injury/dysfunction as a leading advocate for health care, spinal cord injury/dysfunction research and education, veterans' benefits and rights, accessibility and the removal of architectural barriers, sports programs, and disability rights.

**People First:** <http://www.peoplefirstohio.org/>

People First of Ohio helps to set up local chapters of people with disabilities who are self-advocates. The chapters focus on helping others with disabilities become self-advocates. Self-advocates represent themselves by talking about their needs and rights with people in their communities.

**Visitability Strategy Group:** <http://www.visitabilityohio.org>

Visitability is a growing trend nationwide. The term refers to homes designed in such a way that they can be lived in or visited by people who have trouble with steps or who use wheelchairs or walkers.

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For additional information about the Ohio Disability and Health Program, please visit our website:

[www.nisonger.osu.edu/odhp](http://www.nisonger.osu.edu/odhp)

To view additional emergency preparedness and disability resources, please visit: [www.go.osu.edu/emergencyplanners](http://www.go.osu.edu/emergencyplanners)

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