AOF Budget Review
Friday, May 24, 2019

Kelsey Bergfeld, Coalition Manager | kbergfeld@communitysolutions.com
Subcommittee reports to full Senate Finance

“We were encouraged by the reports we heard in Senate Finance earlier this week, where the leadership of the Health and Medicaid Subcommittee highlighted additional investments and policies that build upon the work the Governor and the House have done. We fully support their inclusion of additional dollars for foodbanks, additional investments in Adult Protective Services, increasing publicly funded childcare eligibility to 150 percent of the federal poverty level, implementing a coordinated, multi-agency approach to addressing infant and maternal health and committing to address issues concerning multi-system youth and preventing custody relinquishment,” said Tara Britton, Co-Chair of AOF.
“However, news from the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics shows in 2018, six of Ohio’s 10 most common jobs paid wages so low that a family of three would need to use food assistance to make ends meet signifies any recent growth of the economy is likely attributed to increasing low wage jobs that do not support the basic needs of individuals, much less support a family,” said Steve Wagner, Co-Chair of AOF. “Though we are heartened by the attention paid to these issues, the basic needs and support systems of children and families have been ignored for too long, and our most vulnerable have fallen further away from the quality of life we would expect in a state as prosperous as Ohio. We must follow through on the Governor’s commitment to help those who have been left behind.”

Full Statement
AOF recommends the Senate include the following policies in the operating budget to truly improve the lives of children and families now, and for generations to come:

Make the state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Refundable: Ohio’s nonrefundable EITC does very little to help Ohio’s lowest income workers. The Transportation Budget removed the income cap and tripled the amount of the credit from 10% - 30%, but tax modeling from the Institute for Taxation and Economic Policy shows it will only help an additional 1% of Ohio’s poorest families.

Only refundability helps the lowest wage workers. Most do not pay income tax, but do pay a larger portion of their income in state and local sales taxes than higher income workers. The EITC balances that tax inequality and helps these families take care of their basic needs and stay on the job by using their refund to make car repairs, pay child care costs, and buy food.

Increase the Ohio Works First benefit level: The number of Ohioans receiving OWF has declined to just under 94,000 people statewide. Nearly 90 percent are children. Many of these children are living with grandparents or other family members, some as a result of the opioid epidemic. For many families receiving OWF, it is their only source of income.

Declining caseloads over time mean that Ohio’s TANF moneys are not being fully utilized to support poor families resulting in a surplus each fiscal year. OWF payments only increase by a small cost of living adjustment each year that provides little more than a few additional dollars each month. For these reasons, we are asking that at least 50 percent of TANF moneys that remain at the end of each fiscal year be used to increase the cash assistance provided to recipients of benefits under the OWF program in the following fiscal year.
Increase investment in SNAP Education and Training (E&T): Most able-bodied adults receiving SNAP (food stamp) benefits are subject to an Employment and Training (E&T) requirement. The availability and quality of these programs varies greatly across the counties. Given pending state legislation and a federal rule that will subject many more Ohioans to education and training requirements, it is imperative to ensure that adequate capacity and quality job training and support services exist for all Ohioans across the state.

The federal government currently provides an opportunity for the state and any provider of E&T programming to receive a 50 percent reimbursement from the federal government. This is called the SNAP E&T 50/50 program. The money is uncapped, and any drawn-down funds can be reinvested and submitted again for reimbursement. In Ohio, existing non-profits, workforce development agencies, community colleges and other entities provide these services and could benefit from the 50 percent reimbursement.

Unfortunately, these entities are not taking advantage of this opportunity because Ohio has not fully incorporated SNAP E&T 50/50 into the state or county plans and does not have the infrastructure established to administer these federal funds. As a result, many SNAP recipients across the state have faced a shortage of meaningful, quality training programs and other essential supports needed to secure and retain a living-wage job.

In order to fully utilize available federal dollars to expand access and capacity for quality E&T programs, we urge the Senate to invest $4 million in GRF per year to spur development of SNAP 50-50 eligible training initiatives and provide support to the state and county JFS agencies to build and coordinate the administrative infrastructure needed to manage the program. This investment will give older or struggling workers a second chance to develop the skills they need in the new economy.
What’s Next?

• Week of May 28th-Full Finance Committee hearings
  • Sub-bill/1st round of Senate changes by the end of the week
• Week of June 3rd-Omnibus/2nd round of Senate changes
• Week of June 10th-Full Finance Committee vote and full Senate vote
• June 20th-June 26th-Conference Committee
• June 26th or 27th- Senate vote on Conference Committee Report
Gina Wilt
Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio
Ohio’s Housing Needs

• Nearly 400,000 households spend over half their income on rent (1 out of 4 renters)
• Of the 10 most common jobs in Ohio, only two pay enough for a 2BR apartment
• Over 70,000 Ohioans accessed homeless services in 2017
• Homelessness increased 20% in 5 years
• Nearly 30% are children, including 3,000 infants
The Trust Fund provides grants and loans for a wide range of activities:

• Homeless services (shelters, supportive housing, rapid rehousing)

• Home repair/accessibility upgrades for low-income seniors, people with disabilities

• Construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing
Increasing Need, Decreasing Revenue

Ohio Housing Trust Fund Annual Collections

Homeless Population & OHTF Funding

- Homeless Ohioans
- OHTF Homeless Allocation

Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio | 175 S. Third St. Suite 580 Columbus, OH 43215
Housing Trust Fund Expansion

Potential amendments to the Biennial Budget would:

1. Convert per-page recorder filing fee to flat fee
2. Increase per-page fee
3. General Revenue Fund appropriation

*** FOCUS is on the very simple per-page fee increase***
State Advocacy Campaign – Ohio Housing Trust Fund

Campaign organizers include:
- COHHIO
- Ohio CDC Association
- Enterprise Community Partners
- Habitat for Humanity Ohio
- NeighborWorks Collaborative of Ohio
- National Church Residences
- Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing
- Finance Fund
TODAY IS THE DAY

Who is your State Senator?

Go to [ohiosenate.gov](http://ohiosenate.gov) and enter in your zip code to find out!

Are they on Finance committee?

E-mail them at: sd00@ohiosenate.gov

Ask them to support Schuring’s OHTF amendment.

**Politics are local!**

-Distinguish Yourself and explain how housing intersects with the work you do

-Compelling outreach with a unified message on how the OHTF can help your community

-OHTF can SOLVE problems

-This is win-win proposal!
Mental Health and Addiction Services

Will Petrik, Budget Researcher
Policy Matters Ohio is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization.

Our mission is to create a more vibrant, equitable, sustainable and inclusive Ohio through research, strategic communications, coalition building and policy advocacy.
THE CHALLENGE

• 4,854 individuals died from drug overdose deaths in 2017

• That same year, we lost 1,751 people to suicide

• We send too many people in a crisis (suicide or overdose) to the emergency room or to jail.
HOW OHIO HAS RESPONDED

• Medicaid expansion has been essential to provide services to hundreds of thousands of Ohioans struggling with mental illness and addiction

• The previous state budget increased support for recovery services, public health, and recovery housing
NEW LEADERSHIP

• Governor DeWine created the RecoveryOhio to “better assist those who are struggling to recover and help them lead high-quality, productive lives.”

• The RecoveryOhio Advisory Council developed 75 recommendations to strengthen Ohio’s prevention, treatment, and recovery systems.
## House-passed State Budget

### Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>FY 2018-19 Appropriation</th>
<th>FY 2020-21 Appropriation</th>
<th>Increase over the biennium</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OhioMHAS</td>
<td>$1,459,915,103</td>
<td>$1,719,377,714</td>
<td>$259,462,611</td>
<td>17.80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ohio Department of Education

- $550 million in the Governor’s budget for “Student Wellness and Success”
- An additional $125 million over the biennium in the House-passed budget

Ohio Department of Medicaid

- Maintains Medicaid expansion
- Devotes an additional $511 million over the biennium (in state and federal funds) toward recovery-related initiatives.
### House-Passed State Budget

**Ohio Department of Medicaid - New Initiatives (All Funds)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiative</th>
<th>FY2020</th>
<th>FY2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home visiting</td>
<td>$13,400,000</td>
<td>$33,700,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linking pregnant moms to services</td>
<td>$0.0</td>
<td>$10,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-month enhanced postpartum care</td>
<td>$0.0</td>
<td>$15,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother/baby care for women with an opioid use disorder</td>
<td>$5,200,000</td>
<td>$10,400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral health services in schools</td>
<td>$5,000,000</td>
<td>$10,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expand telehealth services</td>
<td>$5,000,000</td>
<td>$10,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establish multi-system youth services</td>
<td>$10,000,000</td>
<td>$10,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to autism services</td>
<td>$0.0</td>
<td>$28,100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance use disorder waiver authorization</td>
<td>$2,500,000</td>
<td>$5,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral health care coordination</td>
<td>$204,900,000</td>
<td>$133,100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$246,000,000</td>
<td>$265,300,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UPDATE ON PARITY

• What is parity and why is it important?

• Ohio scored an F in parity in a recent report by the Kennedy-Satcher Center for Mental Health Equity

• How can we ensure parity compliance?
AOF'S BUDGET PRIORITIES

- Fully fund and preserve the Medicaid expansion
- Maintain proposed targeted investments for mental health and addiction services.
Policy Matters Ohio

THANK YOU