



Advocates for Ohio's Future

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GOVERNOR'S MID-BIENNIAL REVIEW A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

The following may be attributed to Gayle Channing Tenenbaum, co-chair of AOF:

"Advocates for Ohio's Future supports Governor Kasich's commitment to bring more Ohioans into the workforce and to strengthen the state's economy. We need to work to maintain vital public services – including food, housing, health care, mental health, and child care – to enable all Ohioans to access employment opportunities and take advantage of the recovery."

"We applaud the Administration's proposal for a single eligibility solution for all public assistance programs. This will allow direct service agencies and caseworkers to focus more time on serving Ohio's children, families, seniors and people with disabilities and spend less time on bureaucratic processes."

"We also support the Administration's increased support for mental health and addiction assistance, including an additional \$3 million for community mental health services, \$10 million to be used to invest in housing for individuals with mental illness, and \$1.05 million to fund opiate treatment services."

The following may be attributed to Mark Davis, co-chair of AOF:

"Advocates for Ohio's Future appreciate the Governor's support to build on the reforms in last year's budget bill to implement big changes in long-term care, health care, and behavioral health. As changes are introduced, there must also be ample opportunity for genuine stakeholder input from consumers, their families, and the community at large."

"We support "Employment First" for Ohioans with developmental disabilities. It was great to see Governor Kasich's passion about giving people with disabilities the same opportunities for employment as others. He sincerely understands how important it is for people with developmental disabilities to have a good paying job."

"Not all Ohioans will be able to work and prosper right away. As the economy improves, a fair share of any additional revenue should go to health, human services and early care & education."

"The statements from the Administration are encouraging as they continue to work to ensure the safety net is there for Ohioans. We are reserving final judgment however, until we have seen the proposed language. Throughout this process, we will continue to work with the Governor and the legislature on strengthening Ohio's health, human service, and early care & education programs."

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Advocates for Ohio's Future is a statewide coalition of 270 local and statewide organizations that works to maintain vital public services – health, human services, and early care & education – at a level that meets people's basic needs and protects our state's most vulnerable populations.