

Coalition for Healthy Communities



Meet the Candidate Tool Kit

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Coalition for Healthy Communities

Meet the Candidate Parity Advocacy Toolkit

Mental Health Parity sponsors Senator Spada and Representative Peterson have been working closely with the Coalition for Healthy Communities Parity advocates to ensure that every effort is made to enlist the support of legislators so that the House and Senate leadership will permit votes on SB 116 and HB 180. As the legislative agenda for the coming year is being set, we are being led to believe that if we can secure the support of enough legislators we will have a chance to have votes in both the Senate and the House.

As part of the strategy to make Mental Health Parity a priority for the members of the Ohio General Assembly, we are asking that the Grassroots Advocates in every legislative district in the state organize a presence at **Candidate Forums** in every community in the state. With the 2006 elections scheduled for November, all 99 Members of the Ohio House and half of the 33 Members of the Ohio Senate will have to face the voters. Ohio's Primary election is scheduled for May 2nd and is our first good chance to talk to candidates about the need to end the discrimination in the state's insurance laws by passing Mental Health Parity.

As part of the comprehensive **Mental Health Parity Advocacy Campaign** developed by the Coalition for Healthy Communities, local advocates are being asked to assist in the education of state legislators and the candidates seeking these positions on the need to eliminate this onerous discriminatory practice. With the primary election season approaching, it is the intention of the Coalition to ensure that the issue of Mental Health Parity is addressed with every candidate running for a term in the Ohio Legislature during the upcoming primary season.

Therefore, mental health parity advocates are being recruited in communities across the state to participate in a plan that will utilize the community candidate forums scheduled in the weeks preceding the election on May 2nd, 2006.

This toolkit has been designed to assist in this process.

Who are the candidates?

The deadline to file for partisan candidates is February 16th and the county Board of Elections will certify those candidates' petitions on February 23rd. To find out who your local legislative candidates are, you can contact you local Board of Elections office after February 24th. (See list of contact information for the County Board of Elections on page 11.)

When and where are the *Meet the Candidates* forums held?

Finding the dates and locations of the local candidate forums will require making some calls and watching the local newspapers. You may find the staff at the local Board of Elections office to be helpful regarding the sponsors and possibly the details of these events. Many community groups are involved in this effort, such

as the League of Women Voters and other service groups. It may also be helpful to contact the candidates' staff for these schedules.

♣ Local League of Women Voter's Chapter

The League of Women Voter's hosts candidates nights around the state for every level of elected office. Check with your local league to find out about upcoming events near you.

You can find contact information for your local League chapter by visiting <http://www.lwvohio.org/> or calling 1-877-598-6446.

♣ Local Media

Local newspapers often publish community calendars including information about candidates' forums. The information for the major newspapers in Ohio is below but you should also be sure to check your local weekly newspapers and radio stations. (See list of contact information for the local media on page 33.)

♣ Political Parties

Political parties often sponsor debates or forums during contested primaries and distribute information about events for the general election.

To find your local political party visit:

The Ohio Democratic Party at <http://www.ohiodems.org/> or call 614-221-6563

The Ohio Republican Party at <http://www.ohiogop.org/> or call (614) 228-2481

♣ Local Libraries

Find out if your local library system is hosting or sponsoring candidate's nights or forums.

To find contact information for the libraries in your area visit <http://winslo.state.oh.us/publib/libdir.html> .

♣ County Board of Elections

For a listing of all County Board of Elections, see page number 11.

How can you take advantage of the *Meet the Candidates* forums to educate the candidates on mental health parity?

Carefully select several mental health parity advocates from your area to attend each of these events. Representatives from the ADAMH/CMH Board (staff and/or board members) and treatment agency (staff and/or board members) as well as family/consumer advocates should all be considered. Other potential parity advocates could be representatives from local Crisis Intervention Team law enforcement programs, Mental Health Courts, and school programs.

Advocates should be recruited for their willingness to speak out on this issue and their ability to “stay on message” when the opportunity is presented at the candidate forum. This venue calls for a thoughtful, targeted presentation and therefore some advocates would be better suited for this opportunity than others.

Arrive on time or a little early so that you can get a seat close enough to the front that you will be seen and can be acknowledged during the audience participation period. Dress appropriately for an event attended by a state legislator or candidate.

When given the opportunity to ask a question, address the legislator by their title (Senator or Representative) and the candidates as Mister or Ms.

Start by introducing yourself and your affiliation: “Good Evening. My name is Betsy and I am a member of NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness.”

Questions should be posed in such a way as to make it impossible to take an opponent’s stance on the issue. **“Can you tell us what your feelings are on SB 161/HB 180, Mental Health Parity which would make it illegal for insurance companies to discriminate against families fighting the effects of a serious mental illness? Ohio is one of only 14 states in the nation that still allows insurance coverage to unfairly limit the amount of services available to families that are coping with these devastating diseases.”**

Be prepared to respond to the following reactions that might be offered by the candidate:

Candidate Reaction: “It is too expensive for employers”

Your response: “This legislation is written in such a way as to ensure that it will not increase premiums by more than 1%. If premiums increase by more than 1% as a result of this legislation, there is a provision in the bill that would permit ‘opting out’ of the requirements.”

Your response: “When citizens of this county are denied treatment for a serious mental illness because their employer-provided benefits are capped, they are forced to access the publicly funded services provided by the (name of the ADAMH/CMH Board), which are supported by local tax dollars.”

Your response: “Studies have found that access to mental health services can offset general medical costs, decrease absenteeism, and reduce the psychiatric disability claims made by employees and offset court and prison costs. The Chevron Corporation, for example, found that it saved \$7 for every dollar it spent on an employee assistance program offering mental health resources, according to a 1997 report. And researchers at Johns Hopkins University found that insurance plans with the highest financial barriers to mental health treatment experienced a greater number of disability claims related to mental illness.”

Candidate Reaction: ‘It would cost jobs, forcing employers to reduce staffing’

Your response: “With support and good health insurance, people who might otherwise suffer in isolation and self-doubt, who might lose jobs, who might lose families, will be better able to seek help and benefit from modern medication and supportive service. With such treatment, they can remain on the job, they can avert crises, and they can get the support they need to maintain their lives in a stable and productive way.”

Your response: “A study done recently in the state of Washington finds that: ‘Social cost savings include: fewer disability and unemployment insurance claims, fewer lost workdays, increased productivity, inappropriate use of the criminal justice system to house the mentally ill, fewer homeless people and teenage runaways, less family breakdown and impoverishment.’”

Candidate Reaction: ‘It would cause employers to drop insurance coverage’

Your response: “At one time, a common argument against implementation of mental health parity centered on the fear that employers would drop employee health insurance completely in response to a mandate. Based on the evidence, this fear is unfounded. Employers have realized that workers value their health benefits to the extent that it plays a crucial role in employee recruitment and retention.”

Your response: “In Vermont, which has the longest history with state parity laws, parity did not cause employers to drop coverage or switch to self-Insured Products. Of the employers offering insurance coverage when parity went into effect (January 1, 1998), just 0.3 percent (accounting for 0.07 percent of Vermont employees) reported dropping coverage because of parity. Similarly, there was no evidence that a significant number of employers chose to self-insure to avoid the parity mandate.”

Candidate Reaction: ‘It is a health care mandate’

Your response: “Mandates are nothing more than laws and laws are enacted every year regarding workplace conditions and employment

conditions. This law would do nothing more than remove a discriminatory practice that is allowed to exist in Ohio.”

Your response: “This legislation would eliminate an existing discriminatory practice, denying equal benefits for families coping with the devastation of a biological brain disorder. Previous laws in this country were passed to eliminate discriminatory practices that targeted age, race and gender. This discrimination must be ended just as those practices were addressed with mandates by previously-passed legislation in our country.”

In each case, “Actually, several recent studies have shown that not to be the case. I will get a copy of that study to your office.”

How to respond if you are not sure of the correct answer.

Remind advocates that they should stick to this format without exception. Do not “shoot from the hip.” To nearly all negative reactions, “I am aware of several independent studies that prove that not to be the case. Unfortunately, the lobbyists from the business and insurance associations have issued a lot of incorrect information to validate their opposition to a law that would eliminate this discriminatory practice. I will get you copies of the studies that I am aware of that discredit those claims.”

Never answer a question you are not sure of the answer. Always promise to get the answer and follow up with the information requested.

At the conclusion of the question opportunity – say “Thank You” to the Candidate.

What needs to be done as follow-up to this event?

Follow up with a letter to the Candidate thanking them for their interest in the issue and reiterating our position (include sample letter.) Promise to get the information (if any) they requested. Restate what you believe the candidate’s position is on mental health parity and ask for a response to your letter.

SAMPLE LETTER TO CANDIDATE

Date

The Honorable (Legislator's Name) *or* (Candidate's Name)

Address

City, State Zip

Dear Representative *or* Senator *or* Mr. *or* Ms:

I would like to thank you for taking time to address (name of candidate's forum group) in order for the voters in this community to better understand the issues and how you view them. As an advocate for access to mental health treatment services, I appreciate your willingness to learn about the problems that families are facing in trying to get the services they need for their loved ones.

(If appropriate) I have enclosed the information you requested during our discussion and would hope that you contact me if you have any further questions about this important issue.

(Restate their position on mental health parity, such as: I was heartened to hear that you support the passage of mental health parity; *or* I hope that you will allow me to get you more information so that you can support mental health parity; *or* I am sorry that you feel that working families in Ohio should not be allowed the same access that is afforded the citizens of 34 other states and the families of all state employees in Ohio.)

Please reply to this letter to let me know (that you support mental health parity and will vote to pass it when the opportunity is presented; *or* what information I can give you that will help you see how the passage of mental parity is the right thing to do for the citizens of the community you wish to represent.)

Sincerely,

Name

Address

Phone number

Mental Health Facts:

- Mental illnesses are biologically based brain disorders. They cannot be overcome through "will power" and are not related to a person's "character" or intelligence.
- Mental disorders fall along a continuum of severity. The most serious and disabling conditions affect 250,000 to 500,000 adults (2.6 – 5.4%) and 100,000 to 180,000 children ages five to seventeen (5 – 9%) in Ohio.
- Mental disorders are the leading cause of disability (lost years of productive life) in the North America, Europe and, increasingly, in the world. By 2020, Major Depressive illness will be the leading cause of disability in the world for women and children.
- Mental illnesses strike individuals in the prime of their lives, often during adolescence and young adulthood. All ages are susceptible, but the young and the old are especially vulnerable.
- Without treatment the consequences of mental illness for the individual and society are staggering: unnecessary disability, unemployment, substance abuse, homelessness, inappropriate incarceration, suicide and wasted lives; The economic cost of untreated mental illness is more than 100 billion dollars each year in the United States.
- The best treatments for serious mental illnesses today are highly effective; between 70 and 90 percent of individuals have significant reduction of symptoms and improved quality of life with a combination of pharmacological and psychosocial treatments and supports;
- Early identification and treatment is of vital importance; By getting people the treatment they need early, recovery is accelerated and the brain is protected from further harm related to the course of illness.
- Stigma erodes confidence that mental disorders are real, treatable health conditions. We have allowed stigma and a now unwarranted sense of hopelessness to erect attitudinal, structural and financial barriers to effective treatment and recovery. It is time to take these barriers down.
- In addition, 4 of the 10 leading causes of disability in the U.S. and other developed countries are mental disorders--major depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, and obsessive-compulsive disorder.
- In 2000, 29,350 people died by suicide in the U.S.
- More than 90 percent of people who kill themselves have a diagnosable mental disorder, commonly a depressive disorder or a substance abuse disorder.
- In 2000, suicide was the 3rd leading cause of death among 15 to 24 year olds.
- Four times as many men as women die by suicide; however, women attempt suicide 2-3 times as often as men.

Mental Health Parity Facts:

- Discriminatory reimbursement for the treatment of mental illness only perpetrates the stigma of mental illness.
- Discriminatory reimbursement for the treatment of mental illness discourages individuals from securing treatment and ultimately is a very high cost to our workplace and to society.
- Employers that wish to provide mental health parity for their employees find that it is either not available because the law allows this discrimination or extremely expensive because the law allows other employers to perpetrate this discrimination.
- Poor insurance reimbursement drives people to Medicaid and the publicly-funded treatment system.
- (find a way to get the answers below for each county.)

How many people in the County/Board area receive services?
How much is spent in the public MH system in the County/Board Area?

- Inpatient care is fraught with denials for admission, especially adolescent admissions. Psychiatrists encounter much more difficulty getting days or visits approved than other specialty colleagues.

County Board of Elections Contact information

ADAMS COUNTY

215 North Cross St., Room 103
West Union, OH 45693
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (937) 544-2633
Fax: (937) 544-5111
E-mail: adams@sos.state.oh.us

ALLEN COUNTY

204 N. Main St.
Lima, OH 45801
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 223-8530
Fax: (419) 222-0311
E-mail: allen@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.allencountyohio.com/boa.php

ASHLAND COUNTY

110 Cottage St.
Ashland, OH 44805
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 282-4224
Fax: (419) 282-4260
E-mail: khowman@ashlandcounty.org
Web site: www.ashlandboe.com

ASHTABULA COUNTY

8 West Walnut St.
Jefferson, OH 44047
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (440) 576-6915
Fax: (440) 576-1445
E-mail: djay@velocity1.net
Web site: www.electionsonthe.net/oh/ashtabula/

ATHENS COUNTY

15 S. Court St., Room 130
Athens , OH 45701
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 592-3201
Fax: (740) 592-3262
E-mail: athens@sos.state.oh.us

AUGLAIZE COUNTY

209 S. Blackhoof, Room 205
Wapakoneta, OH 45895
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
(Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday)
8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
(Wednesday)
Telephone: (419) 739-6720
Fax: (419) 739-6721
E-mail: jburklo@auglaizecounty.org
Web site: www.auglaizecounty.org/elections.htm

BELMONT COUNTY

Bank One Building
3201 Belmont St., Third Floor
PO Box 127
Bellaire, OH 43906
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 676-1025
Fax: (740) 676-0459
E-mail: BdofElections@cs.com

BROWN COUNTY

Administration Building
800 Mt. Orab Pk.
Georgetown, OH 45121
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (937) 378-3008
Fax: (937) 378-6457
E-mail: brown@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.electionsonthe.net/oh/brown/

BUTLER COUNTY

Government Services Building
315 High St., 10th Floor
Hamilton, OH 45011-6016
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (513) 887-3700
Fax: (513) 887-5535
E-mail: butler@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.butlercountyohio.org/

CARROLL COUNTY

Courthouse
119 S. Lisbon St., Suite 102
Carrollton, OH 44615-1489
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (330) 627-2610
Fax: (330) 627-5387
E-mail: carroll@sos.state.oh.us

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

1512 South U.S. Hwy 68, Suite L100
Urbana, OH 43078-9288
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (937) 484-1575
Fax: (937) 484-1578
E-mail: champaig@sos.state.oh.us

CLARK COUNTY

25 W. Pleasant St.
PO Box 1766
Springfield, OH 45501-1766
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (937) 328-2491
Fax: (937) 328-2603
E-mail: clark@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.clarkcountyohio.gov/boe/

CLERMONT COUNTY

76 S. Riverside Dr.
Batavia, OH 45103
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (513) 732-7275
Fax: (513) 732-7330
E-mail: clermont@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.clermontelections.org/

CLINTON COUNTY

46 S. South St., 1st fl.
Wilmington, OH 45177
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (937) 382-3537
Fax: (937) 383-3538
E-mail: vote@cinci.rr.com
Web site: www.electionsonthe.net/oh/clinton/

COLUMBIANA COUNTY

41 N. Park Ave.
Lisbon, OH 44432
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (330) 424-1448
Fax: (330) 424-6661
E-mail: columbia@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.electionohio.com/columbiana/

COSHOCTON COUNTY

724 S. Seventh St., Rm 100
Coshocton, OH 43812
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 622-1117
Fax: (740) 623-6524
E-mail: coshocto@sos.state.oh.us

CRAWFORD COUNTY

130 N. Walnut St., Suite A

Bucyrus, OH 44820-2383

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

(Monday thru Friday)

Telephone: (419) 562-8721

Fax: (419) 562-2235

E-mail: crawford@sos.state.oh.us

Web site: www.crawford-co.org/BrdofElections/default.html

CUYAHOGA COUNTY

2925 Euclid Ave.

Cleveland, OH 44115-2497

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

(Monday thru Friday)

Telephone: (216) 443-3200

Fax: (216) 443-6633

E-mail: cuyahoga@sos.state.oh.us

Web site: www.cuyahogacounty.us/boe/

DARKE COUNTY

300 Garst Ave.

Greenville, OH 45331

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

(Monday thru Friday)

(Closes at Noon - Thursdays in June, July and August only)

Telephone: (937) 548-1835

Fax: (937) 548-2820

E-mail: darkeboe@yahoo.com

Web site: www.electionsonthe.net/oh/darke/

DEFIANCE COUNTY

1300 E Second St., Suite 103

Defiance, OH 43512

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

(Monday thru Friday)

Telephone: (419) 782-8543

Fax: (419) 782-5773

E-mail: defiance@sos.state.oh.us

Web site: www.defiance-county.com/electionboard.html

DELAWARE COUNTY

140 N. Sandusky St.
Delaware, OH 43015
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 833-2080
Fax: (740) 833-2079
E-mail: delaware@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.co.delaware.oh.us/boe/

ERIE COUNTY

2900 Columbus Ave.
Sandusky, OH 44870
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 627-7601
Fax: (419) 626-0034
E-mail: erie@sos.state.oh.us

FAIRFIELD COUNTY

951 Liberty Drive, Suite 100
Lancaster, OH 43130-3875
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 687-7000 or (614) 837-0765
Fax: (740) 681-4727
E-mail: fairfiel@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.electionohio.com/fairfield

FAYETTE COUNTY

133 South Main St., Ste. 404
Washington Court House, OH 43160
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 335-1190
Fax: (740) 333-3574
E-mail: fayette@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.electionohio.com/fayette

FRANKLIN COUNTY

280 E. Broad St., 1st floor
Columbus, OH 43215-4572
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (614) 462-3100
Fax: (614) 462-3489
E-mail: franklin@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.franklincountyohio.gov/boe/

FULTON COUNTY

525 N. Shoop Ave.
Wauseon, OH 43567
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 335-6841
Fax: (419) 337-2363
E-mail: fulton@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.fultoncountyoh.com/boardelect.htm

GALLIA COUNTY

Courthouse
18 Locust St., 2nd Floor
Gallipolis, OH 45631-1292
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 446-1600
Fax: (740) 441-2049
E-mail: gcboe@aceinter.net

GEAUGA COUNTY

Courthouse Annex
215 Main St. - Suite 1A
Chardon, OH 44024-1238
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (440) 285-2222 Ext 4010
Fax: (440) 285-0959
E-mail: voter@mail.core.com
Web site: www.co.geauga.oh.us/departments/board_elec.htm

GREENE COUNTY

651 Dayton-Xenia Rd.
Xenia, OH 45385
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (937) 562-7470
Fax: (937) 562-7477
E-mail: tsmith@co.greene.oh.us
Web site: www.co.greene.oh.us/elections.htm

GUERNSEY COUNTY

627 Wheeling Ave., Suite 101
Cambridge, OH 43725
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 432-2680
Fax: (740) 432-6784
E-mail: guernsey@sos.state.oh.us

HAMILTON COUNTY

824 Broadway
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (513) 632-7000 or 632-7015
Fax: (513) 579-0988
E-mail: hamilton@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.hamilton-co.org/boe/

HANCOCK COUNTY

209 West Main Cross St., Suite 103
Findlay, OH 45840
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 422-3245
Fax: (419) 424-7293
E-mail: bdelections@co.hancock.oh.us
Web site: hancockboardofelections.com/

HARDIN COUNTY

One Court House Sq., Suite 170
Kenton, OH 43326
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 674-2211
Fax: (419) 674-2213
E-mail: hardin@sos.state.oh.us

HARRISON COUNTY

Courthouse
100 W. Market St.
Cadiz, OH 43907
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 942-8866
Fax: (740) 942-8531
E-mail: harrison@sos.state.oh.us

HENRY COUNTY

1813 Oakwood Ave
Napoleon, OH 43545
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 592-7956
Fax: (419) 592-7957
E-mail: henry@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.henrycoelections.com/

HIGHLAND COUNTY

119 Governor Foraker Pl.
Hillsboro, OH 45133
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (937) 393-9961
Fax: (937) 393-5854
E-mail: highland@sos.state.oh.us

HOCKING COUNTY

1 E. Main St.
PO Box 109
Logan, OH 43138
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 380-8683 or 380-0203
Fax: (740) 380-3712
E-mail: hocking@sos.state.oh.us

HOLMES COUNTY

75 East Clinton St., Suite 108
Millersburg, OH 44654
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (330) 674-5921
Fax: (330) 674-5978
E-mail: holmes@sos.state.oh.us

HURON COUNTY

County Administration Building
180 Milan Ave.
Norwalk, OH 44857
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 668-8238
Fax: (419) 668-8710
E-mail: kabrady@accnorwalk.com

JACKSON COUNTY

Courthouse
226 Main St., Suite 2
Jackson, OH 45640
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 286-2905
Fax: (740) 288-3631
E-mail: jackson@sos.state.oh.us

JEFFERSON COUNTY

117 N. Third St.
Steubenville, OH 43952-4499
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 283-8522
Fax: (740) 283-8640
E-mail: jcboe@sbcglobal.net
Web site: www.electionsonthe.net/oh/jefferson/

KNOX COUNTY

117 E. High St., Ste 210
Mt. Vernon, OH 43050
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 393-6716
Fax: (740) 393-6717
E-mail: knox@sos.state.oh.us

LAKE COUNTY

105 Main St.
PO Box 490
Painesville, OH 44077-0490
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (440) 350-2700 or 800-899-5253 ext 2700
Fax: (440) 350-2670
E-mail: elections@lakecountyohio.org
Web site: www.lakeelections.com/

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Veterans Square
111 S. Fourth St.
Ironton, OH 45638
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 532-0444 or 533-4320
Fax: (740) 533-2730
E-mail: lawrence@sos.state.oh.us

LICKING COUNTY

County Administration Building
20 S. Second St.
Newark, OH 43055
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 349-8683
Fax: (740) 345-8548
E-mail: licking@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.lcounty.com/boe/

LOGAN COUNTY

Courthouse
101 S. Main St., Rm 4
Bellefontaine, OH 43311-2075
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (937) 599-7255
Fax: (937) 599-7270
E-mail: elections@co.logan.oh.us
Web site: www.co.logan.oh.us/elections/

LORAIN COUNTY

1985 North Ridge Road East
Lorain, OH 44055-3344
Telephone: (440) 326-5900 or 5901
Fax (440) 326-5931
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
E-mail: lorain@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: lorainboe.erienet.net

LUCAS COUNTY

One Government Center, Suite 300
Toledo, OH 43604-2250
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 213-4001
Fax: (419) 213-4069 or (419) 213-4092
E-mail: lucas@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: co.lucas.oh.us/

MADISON COUNTY

117 W. High St., Suite 102
London, OH 43140
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 852-9424
Fax: (740) 852-7131
E-mail: madison@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.co.madison.oh.us/

MAHONING COUNTY

2801 Market St.
Youngstown, OH 44507
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (330) 783-2474
Fax: (330) 783-2801
E-mail: TMcCabe@MahoningCounty.org
Web site: www.electionohio.com/mahoning/

MARION COUNTY

222 W. Center St.
Marion, OH 43302
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 223-4090
Fax: (740) 223-4099
E-mail: marion@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.marionelections.com/

MEDINA COUNTY

4210 N Jefferson St., PO Box 506
Medina, OH 44258
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (330) 722-9278
Fax: (330) 722-9299
E-mail: medina@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.co.medina.oh.us/election/elect.htm

MEIGS COUNTY

117 E. Memorial Dr.
PO Box 688
Pomeroy, OH 45769-0688
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12 Noon and 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 992-2697
Fax: (740) 992-2645
E-mail: meigsboe@frognet.net

MERCER COUNTY

101 N. Main St., Rm 107
Celina, OH 45822
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Monday)
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Tuesday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 586-2215
Fax: (419) 586-2748
E-mail: mercer@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.mercercountyohio.org/elections/

MIAMI COUNTY

Courthouse
215 W. Main St.
Troy, OH 45373
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (937) 440-3900
Fax: (937) 440-3901
E-mail: miami@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.co.miami.oh.us/elections/

MONROE COUNTY

Courthouse
101 N. Main St., Rm 15
Woodsfield, OH 43793
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 472-0929
Fax: (740) 472-2517
E-mail: monroe@sos.state.oh.us

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

451 W. Third St.
PO Box 8705
Dayton, OH 45481-8705
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (937) 225-5656
Fax: (937) 496-7798
E-mail: mcboe@montcnty.org
Web site: www.mcboe.org/

MORGAN COUNTY

155 E. Main St., Rm. 157
McConnelsville, OH 43756
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.- 12 Noon
& 1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 962-3116
Fax: (740) 962-3099
E-mail: morgan@sos.state.oh.us

MORROW COUNTY

619 West Marion Rd.
Mt. Gilead, OH 43338
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 946-4026
Fax: (419) 946-9861
E-mail: morrow@sos.state.oh.us

MUSKINGUM COUNTY

205 N. Seventh St.
Zanesville, OH 43701-3709
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 455-7120
Fax: (740) 455-7178
E-mail: muskingu@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: boe.muskingumcounty.org

NOBLE COUNTY

190 Court House
Caldwell, OH 43724
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday)
9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. (Thursday)
Telephone: (740) 732-2057
Fax: (740) 732-6577
E-mail: noble@sos.state.oh.us

OTTAWA COUNTY

8444 West State Route 163, Suite 101
Oak Harbor, OH 43449-8885
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 898-3071
Fax: (419) 898-3146
E-mail: ottawa@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.co.ottawa.oh.us

PAULDING COUNTY

105 E. Perry St.
Paulding, OH 45879-1412
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - Noon & 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 399-8230
Fax: (419) 399-8250
E-mail: paulding@sos.state.oh.us

PERRY COUNTY

121 W. Brown St.
PO Box 187
New Lexington, OH 43764
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 342-2134
Fax: (740) 342-4787
E-mail: perry@sos.state.oh.us

PICKAWAY COUNTY

141 West Main St., Suite 800
Circleville, OH 43113
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 474-1100 or 474-8077
Fax: (740) 477-2991
E:Mail: pickawayboe@dragonbbs.com
Web site: www.electionsonthe.net/oh/pickaway/

PIKE COUNTY

230 Waverly Plaza, Suite 1100
Waverly, OH 45690
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 947-2039 or 947-4512
Fax: (740) 947-5973
E-mail: pike@sos.state.oh.us

PORTAGE COUNTY

449 S. Meridian St., Rm. 101
Ravenna, OH 44266
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (330) 297-3511
Fax: (330) 297-3518
E-mail: portage@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.electionohio.com/portage

PREBLE COUNTY

Courthouse
101 E. Main St.
Eaton, OH 45320-1758
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (937) 456-8117
Fax: (937) 456-2986
E-mail: pselect@infinet.com
Web site: www.electionsonthe.net/oh/preble

PUTNAM COUNTY

245 E. Main St., Ste. 102
Ottawa, OH 45875-1957
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 523-3343
Fax: (419) 523-3417
E-mail: putnam@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: putnum.noacsc.org/county/

RICHLAND COUNTY

77 N. Mulberry St. - 1st Fl.
Mansfield, OH 44902
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 774-5530
Fax: (419) 774-5534
E-mail: boardofelections@mansfieldohio.net
Web site: www.richlandcountyoh.us/boe.htm

ROSS COUNTY

475 Western Ave.
PO Box 1663
Chillicothe, OH 45601
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 775-2350
Fax: (740) 775-2383
E-mail: rossboe@horizonview.net
Web site: www.electionsonthe.net/oh/ross/

SANDUSKY COUNTY

2020 Countryside Dr.
Fremont, OH 43420
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 334-6180
Fax: (419) 334-6184
E-mail: sandusky@sos.state.oh.us

SCIOTO COUNTY

602 Seventh St., Rm 105
Portsmouth, OH 45662
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 353-4178
Fax: (740) 355-8363
E-mail: scioto@sos.state.oh.us

SENECA COUNTY

71 S. Washington St., Ste. 1101
Tiffin, OH 44883-0667
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 447-4424
Fax: (419) 443-7925
E-mail: seneca@sos.state.oh.us

SHELBY COUNTY

County Annex Building
129 E. Court St.
Sidney, OH 45365
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (937) 498-7207
Fax: (937) 498-7326
E-mail: shelby@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.co.shelby.oh.us/ElectionBoard.asp

STARK COUNTY

201 Third St. NE
Canton, OH 44702-1296
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (330) 451-8683
Fax: (330) 451-7000
E-mail: boe@co.stark.oh.us
Web site: www.boe.co.stark.oh.us

SUMMIT COUNTY

470 Grant St.
Akron, OH 44311-1157
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (330) 643-5200
Fax: (330) 643-5422
E-mail: summit@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.summitcountyboe.com

TRUMBULL COUNTY

2947 Youngstown Rd., SE
Warren, OH 44484
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (330) 369-4050
Fax: (330) 369-4160
E-mail: kelly@tcvote.com
Web site: www.electionohio.com/trumbull/

TUSCARAWAS COUNTY

Court House Square
101 E High St.
PO Box 69
New Philadelphia, OH 44663
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (330) 343-8819
Fax: (330) 343-3125
E-mail: tuscaraw@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: boe.co.tuscarawas.oh.us

UNION COUNTY

Union County Services Center
940 London Ave., Suite 1000
Marysville, OH 43040-1621
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (937) 642-2836
Fax: (937) 642-2823
E-mail: union@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.electionsonthe.net/oh/union/

VAN WERT COUNTY

120 E. Main St.
Van Wert, OH 45891-1428
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 238-4192 / Fax: (419) 238-7145
E-mail: vanwert@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.vanwertcounty.org/elections/

VINTON COUNTY

112 N. Market St.
McArthur, OH 45651
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 596-5855
Fax: (740) 596-1907
E-mail: vinton@sos.state.oh.us

WARREN COUNTY

406 Justice Dr., Rm 323
Lebanon, OH 45036-2314
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (513) 695-1358
Fax: (513) 695-2953
E-mail: johnsr@co.warren.oh.us
Web site: www.co.warren.oh.us/bdelec/

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Courthouse
205 Putnam St.
Marietta, OH 45750
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (740) 374-6828
Fax: (740) 374-7698
E-mail: washingt@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: www.electionohio.com/washington/

WAYNE COUNTY

200 Vanover Street, Suite 1
Wooster, OH 44691-4849
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (330) 287-5480
Fax: (330) 287-5686
E-mail: votewayne@sssnet.com
Web site: wayne.sssnet.com

WILLIAMS COUNTY

228 S. Main Street
Bryan, OH 43506
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 636-1854
Fax: (419) 636-2975
E-mail: williams@sos.state.oh.us
Web site: co.williams.oh.us

WOOD COUNTY

1 Court House Sq.
Bowling Green, OH 43402
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 354-9120
Fax: (419) 354-1730
E-mail: dhazard@co.wood.oh.us
Web site: www.co.wood.oh.us/boe/

WYANDOT COUNTY

109 S. Sandusky Ave., Rm 12
Upper Sandusky, OH 43351
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
Telephone: (419) 294-1226
Fax: (419) 294-6437
E-mail: wyandot@sos.state.oh.us

Local Media Contact information

Akron Beacon Journal

<http://www.ohio.com/mld/beaconjournal/> or (330) 996-3000 (Newsroom)

Canton Repository

<http://www.cantonrep.com> or 330-580-8300 (main)

Cincinnati Enquirer

<http://news.enquirer.com/apps/pbcs.dll/frontpage> or 513-768-8600 (main)

Cincinnati Post

<http://news.cincypost.com> or (513) 352-2000 (main)

Dayton Daily News

www.daytondailynews.com or (937) 225-2161 (main)

Cleveland Plain Dealer

www.cleveland.com or (216) 999-5000 (main)

Columbus Dispatch

www.dispatch.com or (614) 461-5000 (main)

Toledo Blade

www.toledoblade.com or (419) 724-6300 (main)

CANDIDATE FORUM WORKSHEET

Candidate's Name _____

Office Candidate is Seeking _____

Name of Event _____

Location of Event _____

Candidate's views on Parity Legislation _____

Is any follow-up required by the Coalition for Healthy Communities? Yes No

If yes, please explain: _____

Your contact information: Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

**Please fax to:
NAMI-Ohio (614) 224-5400**