Advocates for Ohio’s Future
Political and Field Call

Featuring:

Gayle Channing Tenenbaum, co-Chair of Advocates for Ohio’s Future, Senior Policy Associate for Voices for Ohio’s Children, and Director of Policy and Govt Affairs at PCSAO

Larke Recchie, Executive Director of the Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging (o4a)

Cathy Levine, Executive Director of Universal Health Care Action Network of Ohio and Co-Chair of Ohio Consumers for Health Coverage

Nora Nees, Director of Child and Senior Nutrition of the Ohio Association of Second Harvest Foodbanks (OASHF)
HB 153 (State Budget, FY 2012-2013)

Cathy Levine

Co-Chair of Ohio Consumers for Health Coverage (OCHC), Executive Director of Universal Health Care Action Network of Ohio (UHCAN-OH)
Good Policy in House and Senate versions of HB 153

Policy Approach of the Office of Health Transformation:

- Promotes better care, better health and lower costs

Budget calls for:

- Improved care coordination
- Integration of behavioral and physical health care
- Balancing of long term care
More Good Policy in the 2012-13 Budget

• Preserves Medicaid Eligibility
• Preserves Access to Medicaid’s “Optional Services” -dental and vision
• Elevates Behavioral Health Financing to the State
Budget doesn’t support the policy

Increases or improvements in services accompanied by disinvestments in the “front door” or delivery system

• Inadequate funding for Passport and AAA’s

• Behavioral Health
  • $15 million needed in mental health community line
  • $13.5 million needed in addiction services community line in 2012 and 2013
Budget doesn’t support the policy

Good Policy Goal:
• Calls for modernizing Medicaid payment rules to reward value instead of volume

Language Concern:
• Contrary to modernized payment - caps the % of HMO premiums that can be withheld subject to achieving quality benchmarks.
• We can’t afford to pay without receiving quality measures.
Food: Adequate access is a critical health issue

- Inadequate access to nutritious food is connected to rising diabetes and obesity
- Malnutrition is a risk factor for poor health
- Food insecurity is a stressor leading to other health problems
Additional Revenue Should be prioritized for...

- Health Homes Initiative
- Food and Housing
- Long term care for the elderly and people with disabilities
- Mental health
- Drug and addiction services
- Early Care & Education
- Child Welfare
HB 153 (State Budget, FY 2012-2013)

Gayle Channing Tenenbaum

Co-Chair of Advocates for Ohio’s Future, Senior Policy Associate for Voices for Ohio’s Children, and Director of Policy and Govt Affairs at PCSA0
Meeting with Governor Kasich

- Emergency Food
- Ohio Housing Trust Fund
- Mental Health
Senate Supported
Several Areas

- Ohio Housing Trust Fund
- Help Me Grow
- Adoption subsidies, kinship programs
- Home and Community based care
Editorial: “Does budget proposal address Ohio's needs? No: By slashing services, it makes Ohio less desirable for businesses”
http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/editorials/stories/2011/06/12/fejes-0911-art-g07d09o1-1.html

“Budget Plan Spares Rich of the Worst”

“Cuyahoga County will lay off 14 of its Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services Board.”
Invest New Revenue in Safety Net Services

- Emergency Food
- Mental health and addiction services
- Early Childhood Programs
- Local Government Social Services
- Home-based care for seniors and people with disabilities
The Aging Network: HB 153 for Aging

Larke Recchie, Executive Director of the Ohio Association of Area Agency on Aging (o4a)
PASSPORT and Aging waivers:

Progress:
- Senate added $15 M to PASSPORT
- Represents a $30 M increase including the $15 M from the House budget

Not there yet:
- $42 million still needed from Conference Committee to restore funding levels for:
  - service utilization
  - provider rate cuts
  - PASSPORT agency operating costs
Is an under 60 JFS NF waiver and a future combined waiver

- Allows people at imminent risk of nursing home placement get onto programs from a waiting list
- Added in Senate amendments, hang on in conference committee
Challenges

• Adequate funding to meet diversion and transition goals

• Adequate funding for Adult Protective Service (APS) providers

• Funding cuts for non-Medicaid services Alzheimer’s programs and Senior Community Services (meals, transportation, etc...)

• How will a combined waiver affect senior and disabled consumers?
  • Stakeholder and legislative input
THANK YOU!

www.faircareohio.org
www.advocatesforohio.org

Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging
Nora Nees
Director of Child & Senior Nutrition

Ohio Association of Second Harvest Foodbanks

(614) 221-4336, ext 230
www.oashf.org
Hunger Doesn’t Take a Vacation

- 44% of Ohio’s children live in households that are eligible for free and reduced price school meals
- Only 12% of potentially eligible children participate in the SFSP
- Nationally 43% of emergency kitchens report they are serving many more children during the summer.
# TEFAP & WIC cuts

## Federal Fiscal Year 2012 Budget and Agriculture Appropriations

The House Appropriations Committee approved its fiscal year 2012 Agriculture Appropriations bill on May 31, 2011 and the full House was expected to vote today.

**August 2nd**

Deadline issued by Treasury Department to raise $14.3 trillion dollar federal debt ceiling without further borrowing

## TEFAP

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) provided 22% of all food distributed by the emergency food assistance network last year.

Potential cuts to the TEFAP entitlement and the loss of TEFAP bonus foods could cost Ohio at least **12 million pounds** of food while cuts to TEFAP Administration dollars will result in the loss of **$410,354.00**.

## WIC

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) serves **297,000** vulnerable Ohioans each year.

Cuts to the program could affect between **10,000 to 15,000** program participants already struggling to stretch formula and food vouchers the entire month.
The USDA's Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) provides a monthly box of food to 20,463 low income older adults in Ohio.

Cuts to the program contained in the House Agriculture Appropriations Committee bill could leave 4,205 of Ohio's vulnerable elderly without their monthly box of food.

Josephine, age 77, and her husband lived a simple life in St. Louis after their marriage. Mr. C. worked maintenance while Josephine was employed by several fruit shops before moving on to work in a cafeteria. Their low incomes did not allow for much savings and what little they did have was depleted when Mr. C. was diagnosed with cancer in 02.

Josephine is now 77 and faces constant medical issues — some of which include special dietary requirements. CSFP helps ensure that she doesn't go without.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Josephine's Financial Snapshot</th>
<th>$</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monthly Income:</td>
<td>650.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>(89.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>(45.00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>(12.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit cards</td>
<td>(70.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>(216.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remaining income for food, medical and all other:</td>
<td>$434.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• 2.1 million Ohioans served last quarter

• 30% of the State’s population income eligible

• Inflation in food, fuel, housing costs will send more to our lines

• Cuts to critical federal nutrition programs will send more to our lines
How You Can Help

Call the Governor and House and Senate Leadership:
Ask that they support our request for an additional $4.5 million per year ($9 million over 2012/2013 biennium).

This is a modest and humble request representing $1 per person, per month served by the emergency food assistance network.

Call Senator Brown and Senator Portman and ask that they vote AGAINST the House FY2012 Agriculture Appropriations legislation, which cuts funding for TEFAP commodities, CSFP, WIC and SNAP reserve funds. Cutting safety net programs is the wrong way to balance the budget.
Learn More and Stay Involved

• HHS news and Information: [http://www.advocatesforohio.org/health-human-services-news](http://www.advocatesforohio.org/health-human-services-news)


• Next Field and Political Webinar: Tues, June 28 10-11:00 a.m.

Register Here:
Take Action:

Please send the following message to members of the Conference Committee, House Speaker Batchelder, Senate President Niehaus, and the Governor’s Office:

• Any new revenue must be prioritized for health, human services, and early care & education programs

• Send an email to the Conference Committee through Advocates for Ohio’s Future’s action alert:
  • [http://go.advocatesforohio.org/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=7188](http://go.advocatesforohio.org/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=7188)
Take Action:

Sen. Chris Widener  Email: SD10@senate.state.oh.us  Phone: 614.466.3780
Sen. Shannon Jones  Email: SD07@senate.state.oh.us  Phone: 614.466.9737
Sen. Mike Skindell  Email: SD23@mail.d.sen.state.oh.us  Phone: 614.466.5123
Rep. Ron Amstutz  Email: district03@ohr.state.oh.us  Phone: 614.466.1474
Rep. John Carey  Email: district87@ohr.state.oh.us  Phone: 614.466.1366
Rep. Vern Sykes  Email: district44@ohr.state.oh.us  Phone: 614.466.3100
Questions?

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