Advocates for Ohio’s Future
Political and Field Call

Featuring:

Susan Ackerman, Senior Budget and Fiscal Analyst at the Center for Community Solutions

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

Bill Sundermeyer, Associate State Director of Advocacy, AARP Ohio

Lisa Hamler-Fugitt, Executive Director of the Ohio Association of Second Harvest Foodbanks (OASHF)

Deborah Nebel, Director of Public Policy at Linking Employment, Abilities and Potential (LEAP) and a member of the Ohio Olmstead Task Force
Highlights of HB 153 (State Budget Proposal, FY 2012-2013)

Susan Ackerman
Senior Budget and Fiscal Analyst

Center for Community Solutions
HB 153 - Conference Committee Highlights

GRF spending will increase by $111.7M from FY 2011 to FY 2012 and by $1.6B from FY 2012 to FY 2013 - but looks are very deceiving

• If you pull out Medicaid spending – The GRF budget decreases by $999M from FY 2011 to FY 2012 and increases by $353M from FY 2012 to FY 2013 (so GRF spending in FY 2013 is still almost $700M less than we were spending in FY 2011)

• Medicaid spending that had been counted as non-GRF revenue is moved to the GRF (Aging, MH, and ODADAS) – this change increases GRF spending by almost $1.2B over the biennium – no additional people served, no additional dollars spent – just an accounting change

• Medicaid spending is up because more and more people lost insurance coverage during the last recession. In FY 2010 and FY 2011, Medicaid caseloads grew by 8.4% and 5.6% respectively. Unemployment remains high and Medicaid caseloads are expected to continue to grow throughout this biennium, although at lower rates. (amplifying the need to reform health care)

• In this deep reduction GRF debt service payments will increase by $273M over the biennium

• Education funding through the foundation formula decreases by about $160M per year compared to FY 2011

• Regent funding through the state share of instruction decreases by about $250M per year compared to FY 2011 – many schools have announced tuition increases to help make up the difference
Conference committee added $99M in GRF (state and federal share) over the Senate version – this includes some additional funding for nursing homes, PASSPORT, mental health.

- **PASSPORT** – Governor proposed a cut of $160M all funds over the biennium - $95M all funds was restored. Funding increases over FY 2010-2011 levels but this program is facing an expected 14% growth in caseload. Holds monthly per member costs flat at FY 2011 levels; retains a 3% cut in provider rates, and makes cuts to AAAs operations.

- **Mental Health** – We’re spending a lot of money to treat people too late in their illnesses. Even though the House, Senate, and Conference Committee added modest amounts to the county subsidy lines, this system still loses ground. In FY 2011, state spending on the “community” line items totaled $415.4M. This grows to $440.2M in FY 2012 before falling to $423.6M in FY 2013.

- 2 important things to remember federal enhanced FMAP funds end tomorrow – so state investment will not go as far in FY 2012 and FY 2013 as it did in FY 2011. The Governor has also proposed $242M in cuts to the Medicaid MH benefit over the next biennium. Advocates have been successful at lessening the impact of some of these cuts- but to really improve health through better care, we need more not less MH Medicaid services.
This budget continues more than decade long tradition of asking people to do more with less and the end is not in sight. If you think this budget is bad, hold on to your seat:

- A number of tax proposals were added to the budget that will continue to lower the revenue base going into the next biennium (estate tax, InvestOhio)

- There will be another budget in a year – folks are calling this a “mid-biennium review.” If the past is any indication of the future – be prepared for more cuts

- There are more than 5,000 pages of policy changes in this budget, yet there is very little detail on what is planned. Remain alert and skeptical.
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 PCSAO
Local Government cuts another big concern

• Will have a huge impact on local health and human services / local delivery system

• Especially in counties without human service levies - LGF provides $$ for HHS services in these counties
Child Welfare

- 10% cut in child welfare subsidy
- 7 M restored for adoption assistance (from Executive Budget)
- 3.7 M restored in Kinship Permanency Incentive program
- $20 M in TANF going to county JFS offices for PRC
- $2 M each year in TANF for youth transitioning out of foster care into independent living
Mental Health

• Glad we got $11M back in 505 line for Mental Health—*but we need a lot more*

• Glad to have language (thanks to Rep. Amstutz) for children in the Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice systems: they do not have to use new mental health utilization process.

• Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation program lost funding. $5M over the biennium.
Child Care

- Quality day care $$ used to preserve enrollment to keep parents from losing child care, and ECMH was part of that.
- Quality dollars used to pay for child care slots

Child Care eligibility

- changes from 150% to 125% of poverty
- Child care provider rates cut
Lisa Hamler-Fugitt
Executive Director

Ohio Association of Second Harvest Foodbanks

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Ohio Housing Trust Fund

- Senate Finance Committee had attempted to divert $10 million from the Ohio Housing Trust Fund to county recorders.

- Through working with the Administration and key Senate leadership, the $10 million was restored for affordable housing.
Second Harvest Foodbanks

- Ohio Association of Second Harvest Foodbanks:
  - House Finance Committee increased funding by $1 million per year.
    - Status: $12.5 million in 2012 and 2013
    - Unfortunately, no increase in the Senate
    - Requested: $17 million per year in funding.

- Amendment offered in Senate Finance:
  - 5% voluntary payroll deduction for legislators earmarking the $$ to the OASHF
  - Provision removed in Conference Committee
  - OASHF position is "you don’t mandate charity"
Rising Food and Fuel Costs, Severe Weather Conditions

- Estimated to lose 22.5 million pounds of food over the biennium
- 26% shortage to meet the rising demand for food
- As we continue to see wage stagnation and growing levels of poverty, the 26% number is expected to go up
- In 2012, we expect an overall reduction of 25% of federal food through the emergency food assistance program, government Commodities Program, and the Senior Commodity Supplemental Food Program
The Governor acknowledged that Hunger is a problem in Ohio.

When he struck the deal with the casino (Rock Ohio Caesar)—made a commitment to see some of the settlement funds go to support foodbanks.

Both houses passed HB 277 which creates the Casino Operator Settlement Fund, which will go towards:

- Workforce Development, Economic Development, Job Creation
- Education, training
- Foodbanks
Bill Sundermeyer,
Associate State Director of Advocacy

AARP Ohio

http://www.aarp.org/states/oh/
Nursing Facilities and In-Home Care

- Assisted living providers will be at the 2011 levels (other providers will receive 3% cuts)
- Nursing Facilities increase of between $30 and $32 Million (from the Governor’s proposal)
- PASSPORT—$36 Million increase (from the Governor’s proposal)
- Home care providers took a 3% cut
- Independent home care providers took an additional 20% cut
- 1st time the Home-Based Care received a greater increase (from March through June) than the Nursing Facilities
Deborah Nebel,  
Director of Public Policy  
Linking Employment, Abilities and Potential (LEAP)  
http://www.leapinfo.org/Home.asp
In-Home Care and Assisted Living for people under 60

- In-home care for people under 60 did not fair as those over 60 (seniors)
- Extend home first provision was in the Senate version: nursing facility diversion program (get PASSPORT or Assisted Living if at risk of unnecessary nursing home placement)
  - Home First provision was taken out in Conference Committee
Waiver Programs and Waiting Lists

• Ohio Home Care Waiver—waiting list of 750
• DD Waiver—waiting list of 27000
• *Budget does not adequately address the waiting list issue*

• If and when aging and disabilities waivers are combined (PASSPORT waiver, Transitions waiver, and Ohio Home Care waiver combined into one waiver)
  • Then there will be a Home First provision *for all populations*
Other Policy Changes

• Commitment by the Administration to rebalancing to 2013
  • Goal of home based care for 50% of recipients 60 and older and 60% of recipients under 60

• Unified Long Term Care systems advisory group was established—focused 4 nursing facilities subgroups: capacity, quality, incentive payments, eligibility for Medicaid, reimbursement
  • Will consumer groups be at the table when deals are cut?
Questions?
Contact Us

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