Advocates for Ohio’s Future

Elevating the Value of Vital Public Services
Advocates for Ohio’s Future 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.

To that end, Advocates for Ohio’s Future supports a budget solution that protects vulnerable populations.
Goals

- Make vulnerable Ohioans a priority in our state budget
- Raise awareness of vital public services
- Human services = economic stability
- Build networks of supporters
- Highlight efficiencies
State Budget Overview
Health & Human Services

Losing Ground

Health & Human Services Spending: 1997 (as a share of Total GRF)
- Other, 29%
- JFS Medicaid, 31%
- Other HHS, 13%
- K-12 Education, 28%

Health & Human Services Spending: 2010 (as a share of Total GRF)
- Other, 26%
- JFS Medicaid, 36%
- Other HHS, 13%
- K-12 Education, 30%
# How Services Are Funded in the State Budget

**JFS Medicaid**  
(Entitlement services; currently 36% of GRF)

- Nursing homes
- Intermediate Care Facilities (developmental disabilities)
- Hospitals
- Physicians and other acute care
- Pharmaceuticals
- Managed care

**Other HHS**  
(Flat funding at $2B since 1997; 8% of GRF)

- PASSPORT
- Community Behavioral Health
- State-run institutions for developmental disabilities and mental health
- Home- and community-based programs for developmental disabilities
- Department of Health (BCMH and vaccines)
- Vocational rehabilitation services
- Child welfare and adoption assistance
- Eligibility determination
- Financial assistance (for those waiting for SSI)
- Child support enforcement
- TANF state match
The Last Budget Slashed the Safety Net

- $196 M to mental health and addiction services
- $25 M for persons with developmental disabilities
- $63 M to protect children and elderly from abuse
- $34 M for adopted children with special needs
The Next State Budget

- $6 to $8 billion shortfall
- 20% across-the-board cuts needed to balance the budget with cuts alone
- Deep cuts will eliminate some state programs and severely limit the ability of others to deliver services
- Resources from The Center for Community Solutions
  - Thinking the Unthinkable
  - Financing Ohio’s Future: Human Services in Tough Times
Our Message: Improving on What’s Working

• Elevating the value of vital services
• Highlighting efficiencies: doing more with less
• **Fact Sheets** and **Talking Points**
• Looking for public hearing witnesses
How Organizations Can Help

• **Endorse** Advocates for Ohio’s Future
• Educate your board, staff, volunteers, and clients
• **Recruit** other agencies and organizations to endorse
• Invite AOF to community meetings to educate and build support
• Meet with elected officials
How Individuals Can Help

- **Sign up** for emails
- Find us on [Facebook](#)
- Participate in online [Action Alerts](#)
- Stay informed and gain skills through regular [webinars](#) and trainings
- Become an Area Coordinator
- Share your stories with us, your community, the media, and your elected officials!
Contact Us

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