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SOCOG Office Relocation

We have packed up our offices and moved to a new office! Yes, SOCOG recently moved to a new office location. Since May of 2006, Southern Ohio Council of Governments has called the VA Campus in Chillicothe home. This space provided an office for each employee. However, with many of our staff working in the field and having home based offices, there was no longer a need for such a large space. So the search began for a smaller office space. A building committee was formed and management staff looked at over 20 possible office locations. After many visits to sites, it was narrowed down to the three best offices that would meet our needs. The building committee toured the possible locations and all board members

agreed on the final choice. So preparation began for the move. Historical records were returned to county boards, furniture was evaluated for its continued need.



SOCOG's new office location in downtown Chillicothe.

Then furniture, electronics and all office supplies were packed up. The move occurred on May 23rd, with the next few days being used to get the new office

organized. After all the hard work, SOCOG has settled into the new office space. The new office is located at 126 East Second Street, Suite C, Chillicothe, Ohio 45601. This location provides ample parking and is in close proximity to training sites and is more accessible to other businesses and resources. SOCOG staff are very pleased with the new location and are thankful to everyone who assisted with the planning, the move and the settling in phase of the transition. Stop in when you get a chance to see our new "home" and our staff will provide you a grand tour and make you familiar with the new surroundings!

Web Development and Hosting

SOCOG offers website development and hosting services to Independent/Agency Providers and County Boards of Developmental Disabilities. Brag about your organization, make your mark or advertise your services to the vast number of people who may be looking for you,

your organization, or the services you offer! SOCOG offers affordable website design regardless of how large or small your organization may be. Our courteous and professional consultant will personally meet with you and your team to ensure your website is designed to represent

your organization according to your vision and your needs. Visit our website for more information and a price list for services. Get your name on the world wide web!

In the Spotlight!



Terri Thurman, MUI Secretary

Terri has been with SOCOG for 5 and 1/2 years as the MUI Secretary. Terri provides support to the Investigative Agents, as well as the Quality Services Supervisor. Terri is also starting to provide some support to the QA department and this will expand in the future. Terri was born and raised in Chillicothe. She resides in Chillicothe with her husband, Lee, with whom she will be celebrating her 6th anniversary on June 18th.

Terri has a son, Brad, 28 and a daughter, Tiffany, 26. She has five grandchildren and a sixth one on the way! Terri stated that she enjoys her job at SOCOG. She stated that her co-workers are really nice people and the work environment is relaxed and flexible. She states that "this is truly the best job I've had". Here are a few tidbits about Terri:

Favorites:

Food—Steamed snow crab legs

Movie—Titanic

Flower—Lilies

Color—Dark Blue

Sport to watch—OSU Football games

Favorite place to travel—Myrtle Beach, SC or Ft. Meyers, FL

Hobbies—Spending time with kids and grandkids and playing X-Box Live

Something we don't know about you—I have never been able to grow plants. I wasn't blessed with a green thumb!

SOCOG offers a variety of services to county boards and providers.

SOCOG Services

In addition to web hosting services and trainings, SOCOG offers a variety of other services to county boards and providers. Quality services is a very important part of the work that we complete. We offer Quality Assurance and Medication Administration Quality Assurance reviews. MUI investigations are completed by our trained investiga-

tive agents. We are a Provider Billing Agent and can provide this service to independent and agency providers. Provider Compliance reviews are completed in conjunction with the Department of Developmental Disabilities. Behavior Support Services also are available, which include assistance with behavior plan development, technical assistance, as well as

trainings. Supported Living Services are offered in the form of performing the financial function for the counties and working with the PAWS for county boards and providers. See our website for more details and information regarding all of the services offered at Southern Ohio Council.

MSS Provider Training



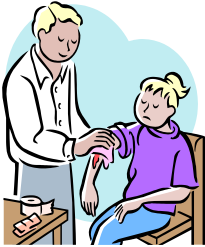
The Department of Developmental Disabilities has begun to introduce MSS. The Medicaid Services System is an umbrella system made up of applications that are used to project costs and authorize ser-

vices. This system includes the Cost Projection Tool (CPT), Service Rates and Codes (SRC), Prior Authorization (PA), Services Payment Authorization (SPA), Daily Rate Application (DRA), and Payment Authorization of Waiver Services (PAWS). The system is being implemented in phases.

SOCOG offers a 2-hour course on MSS directed toward independent providers. This course will show them the basics of the system and what their role is in the process. Visit our website for more information about this 2-hour course, the schedule of classes and the cost involved.

First Aid/CPR/AED Classes

There are many trainings that an independent provider must



have to become eligible for certification to provide waiver services. One of those requirements is to obtain and maintain valid First Aid/CPR/AED certifications. With that

in mind, SOCOG began offering First Aid /CPR/AED classes in March of 2011. Currently, the classes are scheduled once a quarter. The course takes between 5 and 6 hours to complete. After successful completion of the course, participants will receive a two year certification in first aid and CPR/AED through the American Red Cross. The cost of the course is \$65.00 if you pre-register and \$75.00 at the door the day of the training. There is a minimum of 6 participants in a class, so if you

did not pre-register, you may want to call ahead of time to ensure the class is still scheduled. For more information regarding this class, you may visit the website at www.socog.org or call Lori Lippert at 740-775-5030.

Current classes are scheduled in June, October and December. Check the website for actual dates for classes.

Announcements/Acknowledgments

- Congratulations to Jane Burdette, Behavior Support Specialist for her upcoming marriage in July. We wish her the best of luck for a happy future!
- Terri Thurman, MUI Secretary, is happy to announce that she is expecting her sixth grandchild in December. Congrats Grandma Terri!
- Good luck to Amy Cartwright, Executive Director, as she continues to pursue her Master's Degree in Public Administration.
- Congratulations to Kelly Dubai, IA, Bethany Williams, IA and Jennifer Goodwin, Quality Services Supervisor on their upcoming first wedding anniversaries.
- Kathy Sharp, IA, has been very busy with her children. Son Justin qualified for districts in swim. Daughter Allyssa has won recent dance competitions and was selected as an All-Star Dancer and will dance in New York! Congrats to the entire family!

Workforce Development and Training Services

SOCOG is committed to providing ongoing quality trainings to providers and county board staff. SOCOG offers a variety of training classes. Below are a few of them.

Provider 101—This is an 8-hour course that provides the needed training for a new independent provider to obtain certification.

SSA 101—This is designed for new

County Board SSAs. (8 hours)

MUI Training—This is a 2-hour annual requirement for providers and county board staff. It reviews the MUI rule and requirements of the rule.

Rights—This 1-hour course is also required annually for providers and county board staff.

Behavior Support—Provides an

overview of behavior interventions. (1 hour)

Universal Precautions—Basics of prevention for safety and sanitation. (1 hour)

Med Administration—14 hour course and 2-hour refresher.



Visit www.socog.org for a complete list of trainings and the current training schedule.



**126 East Second Street
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Chillicothe, Ohio 45601**

**Phone: 740-775-5030
Fax: 740-775-5023**

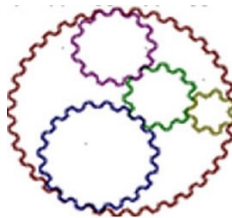
**Office hours - M-F
8:00AM-4:00PM**

The Southern Ohio Council of Governments was formed in March 1996 and began services in March 1997. The Council was created by Superintendents of County Boards of Developmental Disabilities in southern Ohio. The Council is a government entity created under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code, representing 15 County Boards of Developmental Disabilities. The Council provides administrative supports for County Boards in Adams, Athens, Brown, Clinton, Fayette, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Pickaway, Pike, Ross, Scioto and Vinton Counties.



SOCOg Mission Statement

- Do things together we can't do effectively and efficiently alone
- Offer members a trusted source of external expertise and feedback



June 2011