

INSIDE
THIS ISSUE:

What is a Support Broker 2

SOCOG Offers Support Broker Training 2

New Staff 2

Online Credit Card Payments 3

Certification Process 3

Acknowledgements 3

Board Member Training 3

Contact Information 4

MUI Rule Revisions

The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) adopted revisions to the “Major Unusual Incidents (MUI) Rule” which was effective September 3, 2013. DODD worked with individuals, families, providers, constituents, and county boards to revise the rule clarifying certain categories and increasing efficiencies wherever possible. The new rule, now titled “**Addressing major unusual incidents and unusual incidents to ensure health, welfare, and continuous quality improvement,**” emphasizes improvements that focus on triaging incidents based on severity, providing the right amount of safety, verification and investigation, and reducing unnecessary worry, time, and effort on paper compliance that doesn’t impact outcomes.

The areas changed by the MUI Rule revisions include:

- Reorganizing incidents into three filing categories (A, B, and C category investigations.)
- Definition changes to the term “Unusual Incident (UI) and several types of incidents including Peer-to-peer, Verbal Abuse, and Missing Individual.

- Strengthening of the UI process. More incidents will be categorized as UI’s to assure the process effectively addresses these incidents.
- Revised communication and dispute resolution opportunities (i.e., information, appeal) for peer/guardian in a Peer-to-Peer case.
- Law enforcement notifications on criminal Peer-to-Peer cases. Local conversations to assure appropriate follow-up.
- Law Enforcement as an MUI – even when the individual is not receiving services.
- Known and Unknown Injury changed to one category called Significant Injury.
- Death categories broken into Suspicious/Accidental versus Natural
- Support Broker Self Waiver added to the MUI Rule.
- Notification requirements for Providers and Peer to Peer cases.
- Revised Incident Report and ICF Reporting Requirements
- Frequency of MUI Patterns and Trends Analysis

The various MUI Rule changes are covered in MUI training. SOCOG and County Boards have been busy providing MUI training sessions with more than 325 people attending in July and August. To find out the changes before your next annual MUI training, check out the information available online. DODD has prepared several new resources which provide details on changes from the previous version of the rule. These resources may be accessed at www.dodd.ohio.gov. Click on ‘Health and Safety Toolkit’ at the left on the homepage. Then click on “For County Boards”, “For Providers” or “For Individuals or Families.” Choose from the lists of resources including Information, Training, Forms, etc.

Ultimately, the MUI Rule continues the mission of ensuring the health and welfare of individuals served. The changes assist in the management of incidents and reducing the risk of future incidents thereby ensuring continued quality improvement of the developmental disabilities service delivery system.

New Staff



Tracey Perry, Investigative Agent, started in July covering Jackson, Gallia and Meigs Counties.



Melissa Gampp, SSA Assistant, started at Scioto County Board in August.



Rachel Lenegar, SSA Assistant, started at Scioto County Board in August.

What is a Support Broker?

A Support Broker is a new entity which exists to assist an individual in directing their own services and budget. A **Support Broker** is considered an agent of the individual, and assists with responsibilities regarding participant direction. A Support Broker's duties include assisting the individual with negotiating rates for independent providers (where applicable), helping the individual to select providers, and assisting with communication/coordination between the individual, their Service and Support

Administrator, and the Financial Management Services entity.

A Support Broker is chosen by the individual and may be paid or unpaid. All persons who wish to serve as a Support Broker, whether paid or unpaid, must successfully complete the Support Broker training established by DODD. All paid Support Brokers must be certified through DODD. In addition, a Support Broker must have at least an Associate Degree or two years of experience providing one-to-one support to someone with developmental disabilities.

Legal guardians, as well as family members who reside with the individual, may serve as Support Brokers -- but only on an unpaid basis. The following *cannot be* a Support Broker: County Boards; County Board employees; SELF waiver providers (and their employees); Contractors/related entities of SELF waiver providers. Whether paid or unpaid, before becoming a Support Broker, one must apply to become a Support Broker, using the DODD online 'Provider Certification Wizard.'

SOCOG Offers Support Broker Training for SELF Waiver

All Support Brokers must attend the Support Broker Certification training in order to be eligible to serve as a Support Broker. Paid Support Brokers must complete the certification process and be certified through DODD in order to bill for Support Broker Services.

SOCOG will be hosting the Support Broker Certification Training as part of a statewide effort to provide

participants a variety of locations in which to obtain the certification training. SOCOG will be providing the training on October 16, 2013 and again in April and October of 2014, with dates to be determined at a later time. The October 2013 training will be from 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. and will be held at the Jobs One Stop Building at 150 East Second Street, Chillicothe, Ohio 45601.

If you are interested in attending this training, you can register for the training by visiting the DODD website and choosing the training tab and then training and registration. There is no cost for this training.

If you have additional questions, you may contact Jennifer Goodwin at jgoodwin@socog.org or by calling 614-296-5410.

SOCOG Accepts Credit Card Payment Online

Southern Ohio Council of Governments now accepts online payment for training registrations and provider billing by credit card. Under **Services** choose “Pay Online” or under **Training** choose “How to Register/Pay Online.”

Online registration can only be done if paying by credit card. You can register for a full day (8 hours) of training at a cost of \$100 or individually for classes at a cost of \$20 each. If paying

by cash, check or money order, register by calling 740-775-5030, ext. 103.

Training and provider billing fees still may be paid in cash (in person only) or through the mail via check or money order made out to SOCOG and mailed to 126 East Second Street, Suite C, Chillicothe, OH, 45601.

The training schedule, course descriptions and fee schedule can be found under **Training** at www.socog.org.

County Board Staff

Many County Board staff are required to be certified. Staff who have positions as an Adult Services Worker or Supervisor, a Service and Support Administrator or SSA Supervisor or as an Early Intervention Specialist for the county boards of Adams, Athens, Brown, Clinton, Gallia, Jackson, Meigs and Scioto complete the certification process through Southern Ohio Council

of Governments. The forms (application and worksheets) are located on our website at www.socog.org under both Services and Resources. You also will find training documentation forms for Adult Services and SSAs for the required trainings as listed on the worksheets. Copies of the approved certificates are posted on our website (updated monthly).

Acknowledgements

- Jodi Arnett, Behavior Support Specialist is engaged to David Randy. A June 2014 wedding is planned.

- Allyssa Sharp, daughter of Kathy Sharp, Investigative Agent,

was selected sophomore attendant for homecoming court at Wheelersburg High School.

- Congratulations and thank you to Melissa Gamp

and Rachel Lenegar, SOCOG SSA assistants working at Scioto County Board of DD, for receiving a letter of commendation and appreciation from the Scioto

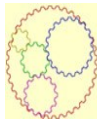
County Sheriff’s Office for their generosity and care in providing assistance to an individual with disabilities and health issues.

County Board Member Training

SOCOG will be offering training for its 15 county board’s board members on Wednesday, November 13, 2013 from 2:30 to 7 p.m. at the Wild Horse Café in Pomeroy, Ohio. Sessions for new board members will be held from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Set-up for din-

ner will occur from 4:30 to 5 p.m. and established board member training will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Speakers include Bridget Gargan, Executive Director, OACB, and Randy Beach, Consultant, OACB.

Attending board members can earn 4 CEUs if attending the full session or two hours if attending either the new board member or established board member training. Reservations can be made by contacting your county board superintendent.



Southern Ohio Council

A Council of Governments

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

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

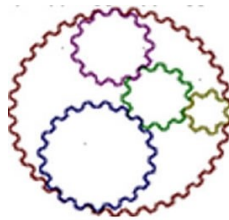
**Office hours - M-F
8:00AM-4:00PM**

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**



October 2013