



Sunset Review Committee

Citizen's Advisory Councils
Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

July 30, 2024

Chairman Wilkin, Vice Chair Hillyer and members of the Sunset Review Committee, my name is Kyle Moore, and I am the Legislative Liaison for the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today on the Citizen's Advisory Council.

The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) operates eight Developmental Centers (DCs) across the state which serve approximately 600 people. Ohioans with developmental disabilities who have complex care needs and require intensive behavioral or medical services receive residential support at these centers. The centers provide temporary residential placement, offering programs that teach skills needed to live in a less intensive, community setting. Each developmental center has a Citizen's Advisory Council.

Councils advise their respective developmental center and DODD on various functions of the DC such as reviewing budgets, programs, and services; participating in long-term planning of the DC; and developing and maintaining community relationships. The council will also bring any matter that it considers important to the attention of the director of DODD. Citizen's Advisory Councils are often community spokespersons, sharing updates on the developmental center and building relationships with the broader community.

Citizen's Advisory Councils are established in Ohio Revised Code 5123.092 and 5123.093. They are made up of seven members each, who are appointed by the Director of DODD for three-year terms. Members are to include parents or other relatives of DC residents, community leaders, professionals in relevant fields, and persons who have an interest in or knowledge of developmental disabilities.

Councils meet at least six times per year, or more as needed. Members serve without compensation and DODD does not incur expenses related to their work.

DODD is supportive of Citizen's Advisory Councils and the benefit they add to our system by allowing families and community members to be involved in the operations of their local developmental center. Therefore, DODD respectfully recommends the continuation of Citizen's Advisory Councils.



Thank you for the opportunity to provide an overview of the important work of Citizen's Advisory Councils. I would be happy to answer any question you may have.