



OCCAPS

Ohio Coalition for Adult
Protective Services

VISION

***An Ohio free of older adult
abuse, neglect, and exploitation.***

Mission Statement

Ohio Coalition for Adult Protective Services (OCAPS) is a statewide coalition that strives to enhance the provision of services to adults at risk of abuse neglect and exploitation through collaboration education and advocacy.

History of OCAPS

OCAPS was established in 1985, soon after passage of the Adult Protective Services (APS) law in Ohio. The Board of Directors represent multiple disciplines and systems united by a common interest in advancing Ohio's APS program and elder justice.

The primary principles of OCAPS were to:

- To fund the Protective Services Law for Adults**
- To promote additional public policy to protect vulnerable adults**
- To educate professionals and the public about elder abuse**
- To stimulate models for problem detection, prevention and treatment**

More than 30 years later OCAPS is the longest continuous state elder abuse network and its intended purpose it still relevant today.

Who We Are

OCAPS, the nation's longest continuous state elder abuse network, has accomplished much throughout the years, thanks to a shared vision and commitment to that vision.

Activities include the OCAPS Annual Conference, educational trainings and outreach to professionals and the general public, as well as advocacy for funding and legislative changes through testimony, letter writing campaigns, and meetings with elected and appointed public officials.

The Ohio Coalition for Adult Protective Services strives to maximize protections and dignity of older adults through collaboration, education and advocacy.

Conference

Communications

Membership
&
Development

Public Policy

Regional Affiliates

Deanna Green, Chairperson

Sylvia Pla-Raith, Immediate Past Chair

Melanie Hankinson, Treasurer

Maridell Couture, Chair , Public Policy Committee

Carol Dayton and Sue Daugherty, Co-Chairs, Membership and Development Committee

Natasha Pietrocola and Heidi Turner-Stone, Co- Chairs, Conference Committee

Kristina Allwood, Co-Chair, Communications Committee

Regional Affiliates

Regional Affiliates are regional partners to the Board of Directors who share the mission and purpose of OCAPS. They provide resources for advocacy, education and recommendations for consideration to the Board of Directors. Five Regional Affiliates have been established by OCAPS: Central, Northeast, Northwest, Southeast and Southwest.

Results of Statewide Survey conducted by OCAPS

- ▶ OCAPS conducted a statewide survey in August 2022 regarding service delivery. 60 counties responded.
- ▶ Major barrier to achieving positive outcomes for clients is the lack of community services and supports to help older adults live safe and healthy lives in their homes including workforce shortages in programs like PASSPORT to provide available services.
- ▶ Living safely at home is the preferred and optimal standard for older adults in our state with the additional benefit of saving state funds.
- ▶ Increased investment in the current biennium of \$48,000 to \$65,000 per county has enabled counties to: provide additional services to victims (e.g., housing assistance, first month's rent, food assistance, legal assistance, etc.), increased public outreach to increase awareness and education about APS services, and purchase of technology to improve efficiency of APS services.

Results Continued

- ▶ The cost of one FTE has increased since the \$65,000 figure was identified and is now between \$80-85,000 (including benefits.)
- ▶ Survey respondents stated they would use future additional on-going funding to increase services to victims (e.g., transportation to health care, housing assistance, guardian services, bed bug mitigation, first month's rent, food assistance, counseling, legal assistance and prescription drug assistance)
- ▶ Increase outreach to the public with education on identifying and reporting suspected abuse, neglect and exploitation; increase the numbers of older adults receiving services, hire additional APS staff, and increase training available for APS staff to collaborate with critical partners like local law enforcement.

Previous State APS Budgets

- ▶ SFY 2018-2019 state budget allocations \$2.74 million-\$30,000 per county
- ▶ SFY 2020-2021 state budget allocation \$4.23 million-\$48,000 per county
- ▶ SFY 2022-2023 state budget allocation \$5.72 million-\$65,000 per county

OCAPS Budget Priorities

- ▶ Proposed APS Total Line Item **-\$9.72M**
 - ▶ Increase the county Adult Protective Services line ALI 600-534, by \$4 million per SFY.
 - ▶ \$7.04M to be distributed as a flat \$80,000 per county, to recognize the increased cost of an FTE
 - ▶ The remainder will be distributed via a formula. (\$2.68M)
 - ▶ To assist counties meet the vast need for emergency services such as housing assistance, prescription drug assistance, transportation to medical care and food assistance for vulnerable older adults

Annual Conference – Save the Date



The Pathway to Success: Working Together with People, Purpose, and Passion

**38th Annual OCAPS Conference
August 11, 2023
OSU Fawcett Center - Columbus, Ohio**



Join the OCAPS Team



MEMBERSHIP RATES

Individual - \$50

Student/Retiree - \$25

Organizational Levels:

1-5 Staff - \$125

6-10 Staff - \$250

11-15 Staff - \$500

16+ Staff - \$750

Let's make a difference together!

Join Today!

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