



Regular Board Meeting

August 28, 2025

Donzella Administration Building – 1275 Lakeside Avenue E, Cleveland, OH 44114

and broadcasted live via Zoom – 5:30 pm

1. Opening

A. Convene

The organizational meeting was called to order by President, Steve Scheidt at 5:30pm.

B. Roll Call

Members present: Allison Frazier, Lisa Hunt, Mozelle Jackson, Alaina McCruel, Steve Scheidt, Cynthia Schulz, Sara Steimle

2. Minutes

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the regular meeting of the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities held June 26, 2025, a copy of which is made a part of the permanent record of this meeting, be accepted as directed by the President, without objection, and approved as published.

Motion by Lisa Hunt, second by Cynthia Schulz.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Lisa Hunt, Mozelle Jackson, Alaina McCruel, Steve Scheidt, Cynthia Schulz, Sara Steimle

3. Donations

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities gratefully accepts one monetary donation of \$75.00 and twenty equipment donations of unspecified value to the OT/PT Lending Library.

Motion by Mozelle Jackson, second by Cynthia Schulz.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Lisa Hunt, Mozelle Jackson, Alaina McCruel, Steve Scheidt, Cynthia Schulz, Sara Steimle

4. Financial Statements

RESOLVED, that the Operating Fund Statement and the Statements of Revenue and Expenditures - Planned and Actual for the year-to-date periods ending June 30, 2025 and July 31, 2025, be accepted and filed for audit; the payment of vouchers for the periods June 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025 and July 1, 2025 to July 31, 2025 be ratified; and that all statements and voucher summaries are made a part of the permanent record of this meeting.

Motion by Steve Scheidt, second by Sara Steimle.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Lisa Hunt, Mozelle Jackson, Alaina McCruel, Steve Scheidt, Cynthia Schulz, Sara Steimle

Superintendent Gibbs gave a summary of the financial statements for June and July noting significant variances. We opened June with a cash balance of \$146,007,235. Our total revenues were \$1,419,201, and our expenditures were \$5,693,888 For a cash balance ending of \$141,732,548.

We opened July with a cash balance of \$141,732,548. Our total revenues were \$1,138,408, and our expenditures were \$39,743,893 For a cash balance ending of \$103,127,135.

5. Announcements

President, Steve Scheidt turned the meeting over to Superintendent, Dr. Amber Gibbs who gave the following announcements:

- The Cleveland Guardians Annual Disability Pride Night was attended by members of our staff and community on July 18. Cuyahoga DD also provided our Mobile Sensory Space and our universal changing table at the event. The Guardians also paid special tribute to our former Good Life Ambassador, Breanna Sprenger, by honoring her parents on the field. Board President Steve Scheidt also attended the event giving it high praise. Board member Sara Steimle added that the staff at Progressive Field mentioned that this night is one of their favorite events of the season and they appreciate the visibility of our DD population.
- Our Passport to Fun at the Aquarium event was held on July 31. Passport to Fun events replace last year's Family Fun Fairs. This year's events will be held in public places. This event at the Cleveland Aquarium featured many Cuyahoga DD information tables and was attended by around 350 people. The next Passport to Fun event will be held at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo on September 7.
- RePlay for Kids hosted an event that several of our Early Intervention and Therapy Services staff members participated in on August 7. RePlay for Kids provided ride-on cars free of charge to 8 families currently served by our EITS program. EITS staff members worked with RePlay for Kids' engineering staff to make adaptations to the cars for the children. The next event will take place on October 14.
- Cuyahoga DD Physical Therapists held a Training for Providers event on the use of adapted mobility equipment on August 7. The event was attended by over 15 providers who learned how to improve safety and independence via the newest technology in mobility devices.
- Our annual Employee Recognition Brunch was held at Windows on the River on August 14. Employees who achieved 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 35 years at Cuyahoga DD were honored.
- The Kennedy Center hosted the LEAD (Leadership Exchange in Arts and Disability) Conference in Cleveland from August 18 to August 22. This is a global conference that aims to increase the number of arts experiences and environments throughout the world. Several artist residents from Future Ink Graphics (one of Cuyahoga DD's Community Grant recipients) were on hand to present their artwork, which allows them to be seen first for their talents, not their disabilities.

6. Discussion Topic

Presentation: Funding the Future – Dr. Amber C. Gibbs, CEO & Superintendent

Presentation slides are attached to these minutes.

7. Status Reports

Superintendent Gibbs had no comments.

8. New Business

A. Renew North Coast Community Homes Property Management Contract

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities approves hereby and authorizes the Superintendent to enter into a one-year contract renewal with North Coast Community Homes for property management services at 12 unlicensed, waiver-funded homes owned by Cuyahoga DD, for the period beginning October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026 for a total estimated cost not to exceed \$99,000; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is authorized hereby to take any and all actions necessary to carry out these transactions.

Motion by Lisa Hunt, second by Alaina McCruel.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Lisa Hunt, Mozelle Jackson, Alaina McCruel, Steve Scheidt, Cynthia Schulz, Sara Steimle

Superintendent Gibbs explained that this is the third year of an agreement with North Coast Community Homes, to provide property management for the 14 homes that Cuyahoga DD owns that are not licensed.

B. Renew Vocational Rehabilitation Services Agreements with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities and Vocational Guidance Services

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities approves hereby and authorizes the Superintendent to take the following actions:

- 1) Enter into a renewal agreement with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) of Columbus, Ohio for vocational rehabilitation and employment services for the period beginning October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026;
 - 2) Provide local matching fund payments to OOD in an amount not to exceed \$428,470.55 which will be reimbursed by Vocational Guidance Services (VGS) of Cleveland, Ohio to Cuyahoga DD less \$100,833.64 to generate \$1,609,279.07 in federal funds;
 - 3) Enter into a subcontract agreement with Vocational Guidance Services (VGS) of Cleveland, Ohio for the period beginning October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026 to administer vocational Rehabilitation and employment services for individuals;
 - 4) Provide Monthly pass through payments from OOD to VGS in an amount not to exceed \$463,900.00 for administrative costs associated with the performance of the agreement; and,
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is authorized hereby to take any and all actions necessary to carry out these transactions.

Motion by Steve Scheidt, second by Sara Steimle.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Lisa Hunt, Mozelle Jackson, Alaina McCruel, Steve Scheidt, Cynthia Schulz, Sara Steimle

Superintendent Gibbs and Chris Carpenter (Community Development Strategic Analysis Manager) described how the various pass-through payments are administered between OOD, VGS and Cuyahoga DD.

She also noted that last year we had many candid discussions concerning customer service, vis-a-vis whether they were providing satisfactory customer service based on Cuyahoga DD's investment. Last year's surveys were 80% positive but have been steadily improving and are now in the "high eighties".

C. Renew Microsoft Enterprise License Agreement

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities approves hereby and authorizes the Superintendent to enter into a contract with Dell, Inc., of Round Rock, Texas to renew Microsoft's Enterprise License Agreement. The agreement includes the use of Office 365 and supporting software for the period of September 1, 2025, to August 31, 2026, for a total sum not to exceed \$326,000; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is authorized hereby to take any and all actions necessary to carry out these transactions.

Motion by Lisa Hunt, second by Mozelle Jackson.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Lisa Hunt, Mozelle Jackson, Alaina McCruel, Steve Scheidt, Cynthia Schulz, Sara Steimle

Superintendent Gibbs explained that most of Cuyahoga DD's staff uses Microsoft (such as Microsoft 365 and Microsoft Power BI). This is the third year of this contract. Mike Lively (Director, IT) added that Microsoft is HIPAA compliant.

D. Purchase Computer Hardware from CDW Government

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities approves hereby and authorizes the Superintendent to purchase laptop computers and other technology equipment and licenses from CDW Government, LLC during the period September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026 for a sum not to exceed \$350,000; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is authorized hereby to take any and all actions necessary to carry out these transactions.

Motion by Cynthia Schulz, second by Steve Scheidt.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Lisa Hunt, Mozelle Jackson, Alaina McCruel, Steve Scheidt, Cynthia Schulz, Sara Steimle

Superintendent Gibbs explained how all staff member's devices are on a standard three-year refresh cycle. The sums listed reflect state-planned government pricing of the hardware.

E. Approve Sale of Vacant Residential Property

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities approves hereby and authorizes the Superintendent to sell 5 residential properties that are currently vacant or will be vacant in the near future at fair market value on the open market; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is authorized hereby to take any and all actions necessary to carry out these transactions.

Motion by Steve Scheidt, second by Mozelle Jackson.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Lisa Hunt, Mozelle Jackson, Alaina McCruel, Steve Scheidt, Cynthia Schulz, Sara Steimle

Superintendent Gibbs explained that we have maintained these homes and allowed individuals to live in these homes as unlicensed waiver homes. In all 5 cases we have worked with providers to access capital funding to replace the homes and now we will be selling all 5 residential properties.

F. Approve Sale of Licensed Homes to Private Providers

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities approves hereby and authorizes the Superintendent to sell 3 licensed waiver homes to the provider agencies who operate those homes. Total proceeds estimated to be \$1,087,000; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is authorized hereby to take any and all actions necessary to carry out these transactions.

Motion by Cynthia Schulz, second by Alaina McCruel.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Lisa Hunt, Mozelle Jackson, Alaina McCruel, Steve Scheidt, Cynthia Schulz, Sara Steimle

Superintendent Gibbs explained that Providers will be buying the residential properties from Cuyahoga DD instead of replacing the homes as in the previous agenda item.

8. Comments from the Floor

There were no comments from the floor.

9. Adjournment

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities hereby adjourns to Executive Session for the purpose of considering the disposition of public property.

Motion by Cynthia Schulz, second by Lisa Hunt.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Lisa Hunt, Mozelle Jackson, Alaina McCruel, Steve Scheidt, Cynthia Schulz, Sara Steimle

Time adjourned: 6:49pm

10. Reconvene

A. Roll Call

Members present: Allison Frazier, Lisa Hunt, Mozelle Jackson, Alaina McCruel, Steve Scheidt, Cynthia Schulz, Sara Steimle

Time reconvened: 7:41pm

11. Adjournment

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities hereby adjourns.

Motion by Mozelle Jackson, second by Steve Scheidt.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

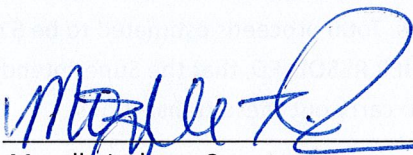
Aye: Allison Frazier, Lisa Hunt, Mozelle Jackson, Alaina McCruel, Steve Scheidt, Cynthia Schulz, Sara Steimle

Time adjourned: 7:42pm

Next Meeting – September 18, 2025, at 5:30 pm, Donzella Administration Building, 1275 Lakeside Ave E, Cleveland, OH 44114 and broadcast via Zoom. Zoom link will be shared on the Cuyahoga DD website at cuyahogadd.org at least three days prior to the meeting.

Certified by:

Stephen Scheidt, President



Mozelle Jackson, Secretary



C U Y A H O G A C O U N T Y Board of Developmental Disabilities

Regular Board Meeting August 28, 2025

M. A. Donzella Administration Building and via Zoom

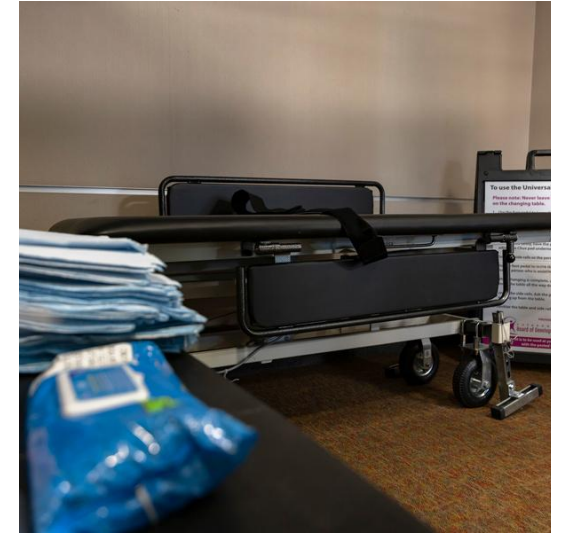
Stephen Scheidt, Board President

Allison Frazier, Board Vice President

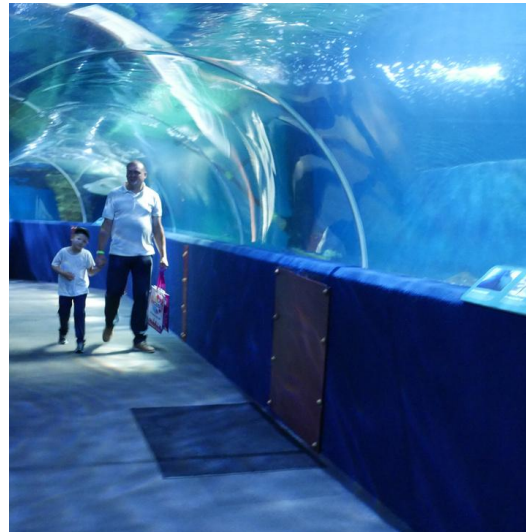
Mozelle Jackson, Board Secretary

Board Members: **Lisa Hunt, Alaina McCruel, Cynthia Vrsansky Schulz, Sara Steimle**

7.18.25 Guardians Disability Pride Night



7.31.25 - Passport to Fun at the Aquarium



CUYAHOGA COUNTY
Board of Developmental Disabilities

8.7.25 - RePlay

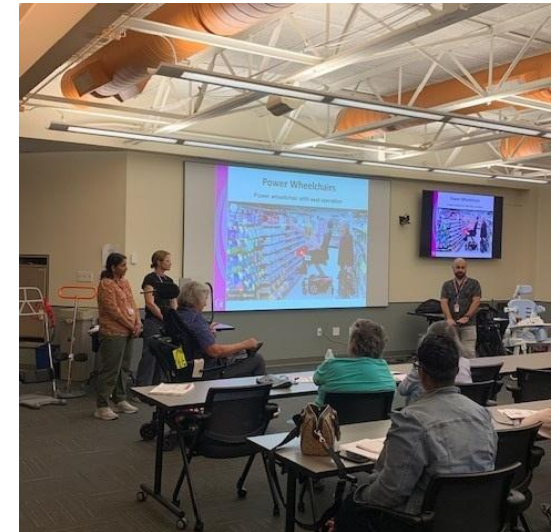
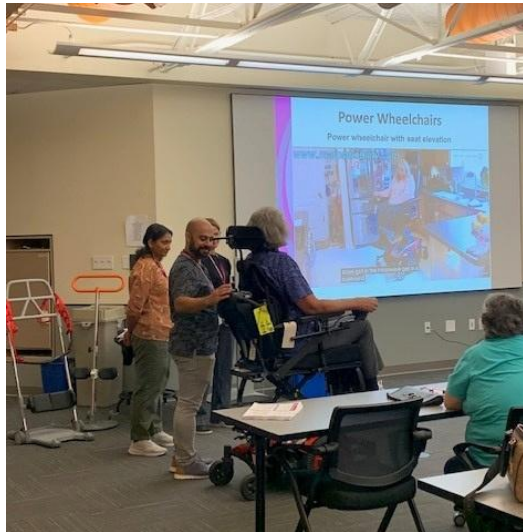
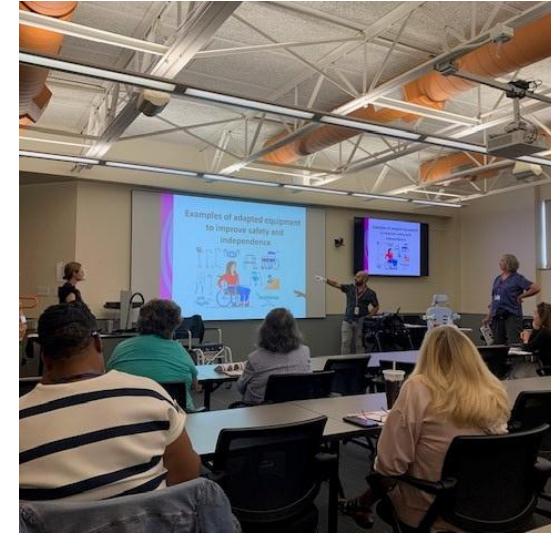


CUYAHOGA COUNTY
Board of Developmental Disabilities

8.7.25 - Cuyahoga DD Physical Therapists Training for Providers



CUYAHOGA COUNTY
Board of Developmental Disabilities



8.14.25 - Employee Recognition Brunch



8.18-22.25 - Kennedy Center LEAD Conference



Purpose

To investigate the fiscal sustainability of County Boards of DD and the State of Ohio's delivery system by

- Examining the current fiscal landscape
- Defining core fiscal challenges
- Generating action areas

The three-day workshop was facilitated by OACB and included:

- 18 participants representing small, medium, large, and extra-large counties
- Superintendents, Business Managers, SSA Directors, and Board Members. This group included people served and family members.
- DODD staff as consultants



Overview

- In-depth review of state and county board fiscal data
- Identification of system stressors
 - Revenue/funding
 - Expenditures/service costs
 - Discussion of threat level/ranking
- Not new ideas
- High-level overview of pressures facing DD service system



Revenue Stressor:

Statewide Property Tax Vulnerability

- STRONG pressure to reform or eliminate property taxes in Ohio
 - Citizen reform efforts
 - Efforts driven by legislators
 - Governor's task force recommendations
 - Media coverage
- Concerns:
 - Lack of understanding of all services funded by property tax levies
 - Increasing property valuations and economic pressures
 - No safety net for DD services if property taxes are eliminated



Revenue Stressor: Cuyahoga Property Tax Vulnerability

- In 2025, levy funding makes up 79% of Cuyahoga DD's total expected revenue
- Current year revenue is expected to be under-budget
 - County administration attributes this to delinquencies
- Funding from the current levy will never exceed \$117M, regardless of increasing property values
- One continuing levy – no backup
- Many countywide levies



Expense Stressors - Statewide

Federal level

- Medicaid FMAP uncertainty (% federal government pays towards Medicaid)
- Risk to various aspects of Medicaid, including
 - SNAP
 - Service rates
 - Provider taxes
- Already experiencing the impact of increased federal requirements in our county



Expense Stressors – Statewide

State level

- DD service funding is limited to two-year commitments because of the budget cycle
- Potential change in DODD's priorities and commitments based on administration in office
- Currently, DODD is a large contributor to DD Medicaid waivers. In Cuyahoga alone:
 - Over \$50M in state funds have been allocated toward Cuyahoga waiver costs in 2025, and
 - Approximately 450 Cuyahoga waivers are partially or fully funded by the state

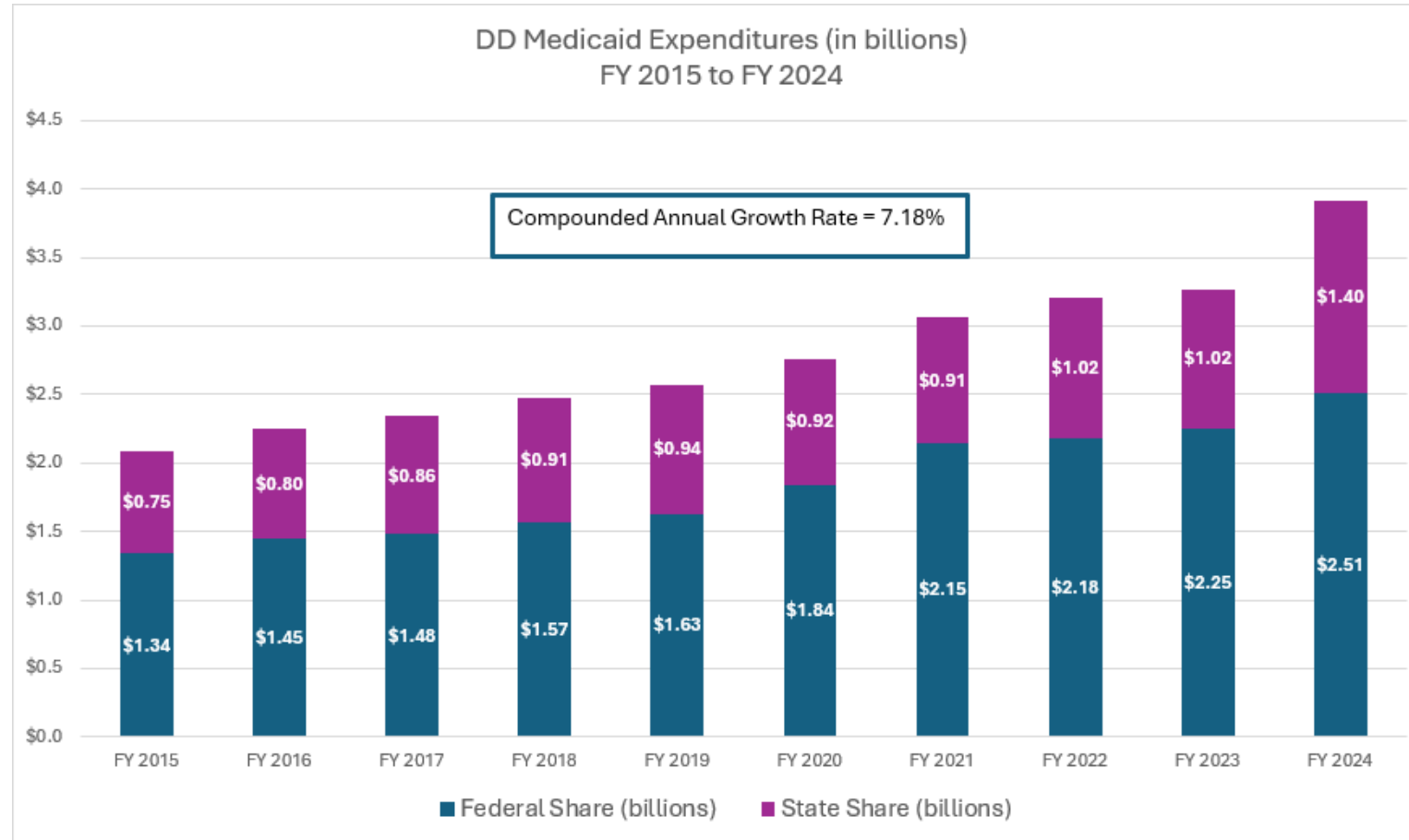


Expense Stressors – Statewide

State level

- Waiver costs are increasing at a pace that is not sustainable and is outpacing state and county revenue.
- Complex needs = high staffing ratios, increased risk, strain on community resources
- People in the ABD (aged/blind/disabled) category have higher costs than other Medicaid populations





In Ohio, Medicaid spending is outpacing the growth of the General Revenue Fund.

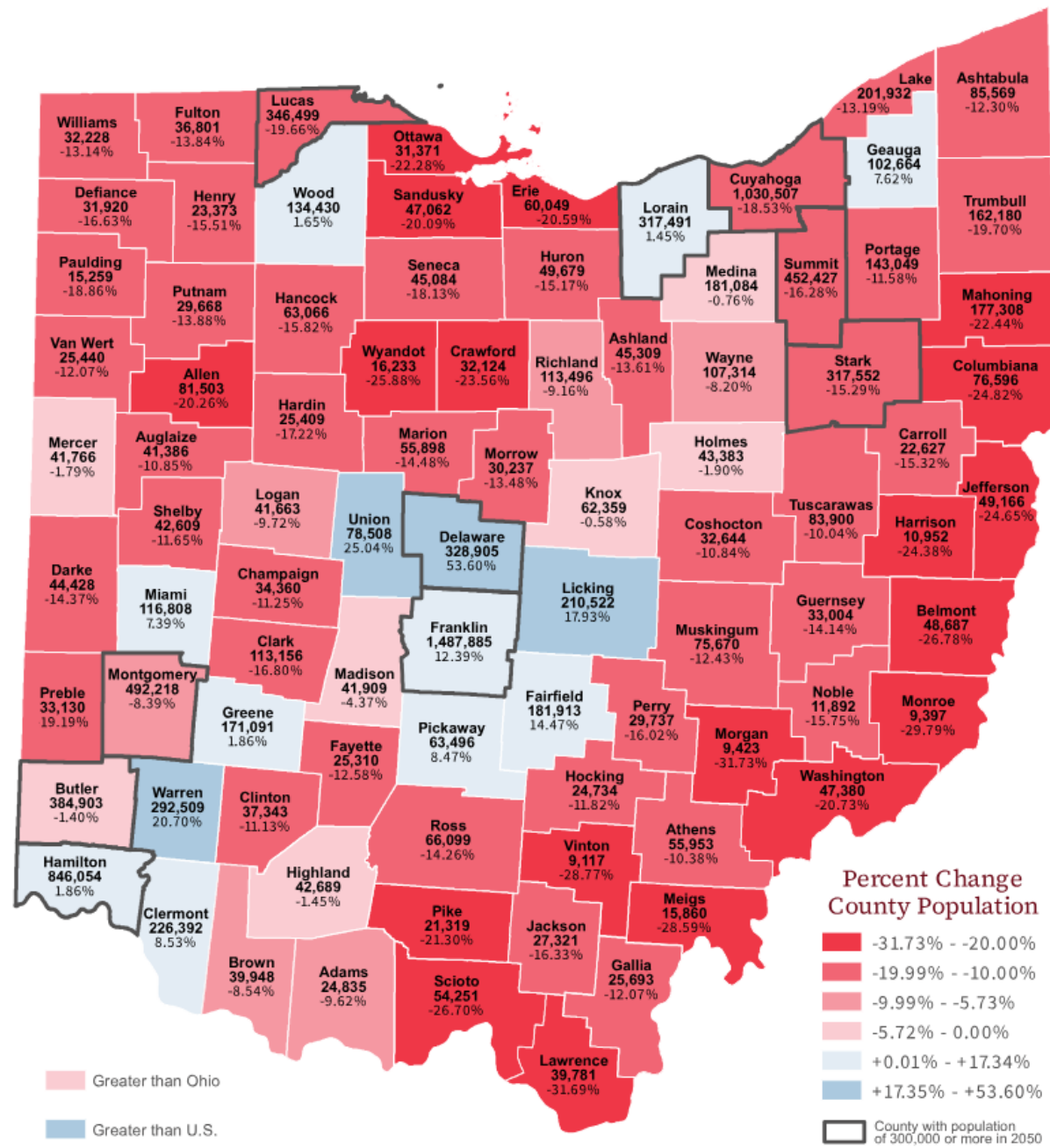


Expense Stressors – Statewide

County level

- Pressure from partner systems to fill funding and service gaps, such as:
 - Multi-system youth
 - Services to children (schools and families)
 - People with complex service needs (dual diagnosis, trauma, family instability, mental health needs, substance use)
- Increasing number of people to be served
- Population decline expected in most counties





Expense Stressors - Cuyahoga

- Large counties with resources/ infrastructure draw people with high needs
- High numbers of providers require increased administrative support
- Increased need for specialization related to system complexity and a large workforce
- Increased requests for services at all ages
- Large number of non-mandated services
- Reluctance to use community resources when available – preference for Cuyahoga DD to provide support



Action Areas

- Comprehensive reviews of high-cost services
- Improved assessments and standardized service recommendations
- Simplification of waiver services
- Examination of statewide crisis response, including developmental centers and other services for people with very complex needs
- Increased collaboration between county boards and state re: provider certification and support
- Communication/education to legislators and voters

