



JOHN R. KASICH

GOVERNOR • STATE OF OHIO

Communication Department

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KASICH PRESENTS GOVERNOR'S AWARDS FOR EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE

COLUMBUS—In honor of Public Service Appreciation Week, Governor John R. Kasich and Ohio Department of Administrative Services Director Bob Blair today recognized the work of outstanding state employees by presenting them with the first-ever Governor's Award for Employee Excellence. The awards honored 35 employees from 10 different state agencies, boards and commissions and were presented Friday morning in the State Room of the Ohio Statehouse.

State employees who received the Governor's Award for Employee Excellence were as follows:

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF AGING HONOREE: Beverly Laubert

As the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Laubert led her team in the development and implementation of the evidence-based quality measures that nursing homes will need to achieve in order to receive a full Medicaid reimbursement. She was also a leader in the creation of the state's new quality incentives website, which serves as a resource to assist nursing home providers in achieving the 20 person-centered quality incentives outlined in SB 264.

OFFICE OF BUDGET & MANAGEMENT (OBM) HONOREES: Kurt Kauffman & Robin McGuire Rose

Kauffman and Rose served as lead OBM staff on the state working group that was tasked with creating the Liquor Enterprise Franchise Transfer Agreement. This agreement is a unique and highly complex transaction that lays out the terms and conditions that govern the transfer of the Liquor Enterprise from the Dept. of Commerce to JobsOhio in the form of a grant of an exclusive, non-transferable 25-year franchise.

OHIO STATE BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY HONOREES: Joann Byerly, Tonya Cox, Marcy Cunningham, Andrew Ewing, Cathy Franklin, Amanda Hill, Sandra Lee, Joan Lewis, Larie McKenney, Toni Williams Moore, Lori Pearson, Kyra Tyler, Marsha Tyo, Karen Wallace & Beth Wasko

By implementing a new way to issue licenses, this team created a 100 percent cost savings program, and empowered the board to contain costs while improving overall efficiency and productivity.

MULTI-AGENCY AWARD

DEPT. OF INSURANCE HONOREES: Wendi Boggs & Cheryl Reed

DEPT. OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES HONOREES: Jeffrey Pierce & Robert Roach

OBM HONOREE: Robert Cooperman

This team helped streamline personnel processes with the creation of a new Personnel Action Approval Request (PAAR) database. The new electronic system replaces the former manual process, which was costly, wasteful and inefficient.

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES HONOREES: Shaun Bracely, Bethanne Curry, Jennifer Johnson, Terisa Monroe, Gregory Niehoff, Nicole Northrup, Sandra Richendollar & Kara Wentz

The ODJFS team consolidated numerous, lengthy documents required for assistance renewal into one, 20-page booklet. The new document saves \$57,210 annually for an overall cost savings of 63 percent.

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH HONOREE: Diane McAllister

As Pharmacy Director for Twin Valley Behavioral Healthcare and Appalachian Behavioral Healthcare of the Ohio Department of Mental Health, McAllister led efforts to improve patient care and safety related to medication management, while simultaneously improving efficiency and reducing costs.

OHIO REHABILITATION SERVICES COMMISSION HONOREE: Omoteji Adeyemon

Adeyemon served as the Business Project Manager for the AWARE Case Management System Project – a \$2.5 million project. The AWARE system now enables counselors to access case files from anywhere and interact with users in a convenient and efficient manner. Under Adeyemon's leadership, the project was implemented on time and on budget.

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES HONOREE: Danny Eakins

Eakins worked with multiple agencies to develop the veterans' component of the Governor's Jobs Plan. Most notably, he developed a strategy that addresses each category of veteran pertaining to employment in our state.

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES HONOREE: Katie Needham

Since 2009, as Superintendent, the Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facility has continued to reduce the number of serious incidents from 2,687 in 2009, to 1,205 in 2010, and a substantial drop to 901 in 2011. This past January, she implemented a facility improvement plan which challenged the youth to go an entire month without an incident.

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