



June 17, 2021

Our offices are closed on the weekend. If you think you'll need to access OCEAN during that time, make sure you are able to log in by 12 p.m. Friday.

For password resets, email [ocd@development.ohio.gov](mailto:ocd@development.ohio.gov). **DO NOT** submit a ticket to the **OCEAN Help Desk**.

## Upcoming Events and Grant Deadlines

(click underlined text for more information)

### Upcoming OCD Grant and Application Deadlines

No new items

### OCD Meetings and Training Events

No new items

### Other Training and Professional Development Events

July 28 – 29, 2021      [OCCD Virtual Summer Meeting](#)

## New and Updated Items

### COVID-19 Items

- [HUD Notice CPD 20-07: Conducting ER pursuant to 24 CFR Part 58 for activities undertaken in response to COVID-19](#)

### Administrative Items

- [PY 2021 Residential Public Infrastructure Program Application Documents](#)
- [How to access OCEAN](#) (updated to include Data Confidentiality Agreement)

Active OCEAN users receive the OCD Weekly Digest. OCD does not maintain a separate mailing list. If you are an active OCEAN user and not receiving the Digest, please check with your administrator and make [ocd@development.ohio.gov](mailto:ocd@development.ohio.gov) a safe sender. Also, check your OCEAN profile and ensure your email address is correct. Click [here](#) for the Quick Reference Guide to update your information. Remember to use Internet Explorer when using OCEAN. If you need assistance navigating OCEAN, **do not submit a ticket to the OCEAN Help Desk**. Email your program representative with the grant number and screen shots of the issue.

As part of an ongoing effort to move to paperless operations, we encourage grantees to send all correspondence via email to your program representative or [ocd@development.ohio.gov](mailto:ocd@development.ohio.gov) and copy your program representative. Since the physical office is closed to employees, items

mailed to our physical address will not be received in a timely manner. If you have any questions, please contact your [program representative](#).

**For HOME-funded Grants:** When submitting a status report, if you receive an error message about unexpended HOME funds, click *Cancel* to clear the message and submit the report.

### **Environmental Review Process**

Until further notice, grantees must submit environmental review Request for Release of Funds and/or Certification documentation via email to [ocd@development.ohio.gov](mailto:ocd@development.ohio.gov). Grantees may view and download Project-Specific Release of Environmental Conditions documents in OCEAN. OCD will not mail hard copies of these documents. Please email Cecilia Castillo at [Cecilia.Castillo@development.ohio.gov](mailto:Cecilia.Castillo@development.ohio.gov) or Tim Allen at [TimothyM.Allen@development.ohio.gov](mailto:TimothyM.Allen@development.ohio.gov) if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

## **COVID-19 Administrative Updates**

### **Updated CDBG-CV Home Relief Grant Program and Reporting Guidelines Online**

The Office of Community Development updated the CDBG-CV Home Relief Grant Program guidelines and provided guidance for grantees that want to use their third-party systems to report CDBG-CV outcomes. Click [here](#) for the updated guidelines, reporting requirements and reporting template.

### **PY 2020 Round 2 Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act (ESG-CV) Program Funding Availability**

The Office of Community Development has funds available through Round 2 of the Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act (ESG-CV) for renovation and street outreach. Supplemental funding for Round 1 Homeless Crisis Response Program (HCRP) CARES grantees for emergency shelter, alternate shelter, homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing is also available. For more information, including how to apply, click [here](#) to download the forms.

### **Coronavirus Relief Fund Local Government Assistance Program**

The State of Ohio, through the Coronavirus Relief Fund Local Government Assistance Program, provides financial assistance to local governments for expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information on these resources, visit their [webpage](#). For assistance in reviewing proposals or eligible uses, contact the Office of Budget and Management at [grants@obm.ohio.gov](mailto:grants@obm.ohio.gov).

## **Administrative Updates**

### **Farewell, Brian Cunningham**

After more than eight years at Development - the last five with OCD - Brian Cunningham's last day is Friday, June 18, 2021. Brian worked in the Office of Community Development as the Grant Operations Manager and prior to joining OCD, he worked for the Office of Community Assistance as the HEAP Contact Center Operations Manager. He will continue his career in the public sector.

### **Coming Soon: Secure Document Upload in OCEAN**

OCD is currently creating a secure document upload feature in OCEAN that will allow grantees to upload and download documents for grant administration and remote monitoring. In preparation for the new feature, **each OCEAN user** should complete and sign the data confidentiality agreement and email the completed form to [ocd@development.ohio.gov](mailto:ocd@development.ohio.gov).

Contacts with view only permission do not need to sign and submit the form. The form is available on the TA site [here](#).

### **Section 3 Labor Hours Reporting Requirement**

Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, requires grantees to ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by using HUD financial assistance are directed to low- and very low-income persons and to business concerns that provide economic opportunities to low- and very low-income persons to the greatest extent feasible. HUD recently issued new Section 3 implementing regulations that introduce “labor hours” as a new metric for measuring the effectiveness of Section 3 efforts. Section 3 requirements apply to HUD-assisted housing rehabilitation, housing construction, and other public construction projects when the total amount of assistance to the project exceeds \$200,000 and is committed on or after July 1, 2021. Beginning in PY 2021, grantees will have to collect and report labor hours for “Section 3 Workers” and “Targeted Section 3 Workers” for each activity subject to Section 3 requirements. This requirement only applies to grants issued on or after July 1, 2021.

To meet this new reporting requirement, OCD is developing a solution for grantees to report labor hours in Salesforce. Once completed, OCD will provide grantees with instruction on how to enter the data in early July on the TA site. As HUD releases more clarification on these reporting requirements, OCD will share this information with grantees. If you have any questions, please contact Tim Allen at [timothy.allen@development.ohio.gov](mailto:timothy.allen@development.ohio.gov).

### **CHIP Program Virtual Technical Assistance Available**

The Residential Revitalization staff is providing virtual technical assistance to CHIP grantees. We highly encourage CHIP Program Rehabilitation Specialists to schedule a virtual technical assistance visit for project scope of work and specifications. Contact [your program representative](#) for more information or to schedule a session.

## **OCD Partner Information**

### **The Ohio. Find It Here. Co-Op Advertising Program**

The Ohio. Find It Here. Co-Op Advertising Program provides tourism industry members the opportunity to purchase advertising such as paid social, digital, paid search, broadcast radio, etc., that have been vetted by our media experts and which deliver upon the target segments and markets most relevant to your business or entity. For more information, click [here](#).

### **Ohio Vax-a-Million**

The Ohio Department of Health is giving Ohioans a shot at \$1 million when they get their COVID-19 vaccination. Ohioans aged 12-17 get a shot at a full, four-year scholarship including room and board, tuition, and books, to any Ohio state college or university with Ohio Vax-a-Million. The Ohio Vax-a-Million entry period runs May 18 through June 20. Get your shot and enter at [ohiovoxamillion.com](http://ohiovoxamillion.com) or call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH.



## Development Services Agency

**Mike DeWine**, Governor  
**Jon Husted**, Lt. Governor

**Lydia L. Mihalik**, Director