

Benefit Links and Resources

ConnectMeOhio – connecting you to Ohio’s aging and disability resources

www.connectmeohio.org

- Information about home and community based service, supports and opportunities for older adults, persons with disabilities and caregivers in Ohio.
- Options for independent living, long term care alternatives, support to stay in your home or ways to stay healthy.

Ohio Housing Locator

www.OhioHousingLocator.org

- Features an interactive database that provides searchable information on affordable, accessible rental housing throughout the state, as well as links to other housing options and resources.
- Permits landlords to advertise their properties without charge. In addition to providing statewide exposure for their units, landlords and property managers can use the service to help manage their inventories and waiting lists. As it is web-based, housing providers and users can access the information 24 hours a day, seven days a week, from their home, office or public computer. To date, there are 803 properties listed on the website with at least one property in each of Ohio’s 88 counties. The site is still in its infancy and aggressive marketing efforts are underway to encourage more landlords to register their properties.

The Ohio Long-Term Care consumer Guide

<http://www.ltcoho.org/consumer/index.asp>

- Provides information about nursing homes and assisted living facilities to help consumers, family members and professionals search for the appropriate facility to meet an individual’s needs.
- Also includes a link to Home Health Compare, a Medicare website with a search function for home health agencies and quality.

Ohio Benefit Bank (OBB) – this includes links to free and self-serve income tax program, potential eligibility for supports and Ohio Benefit Bank sites

www.obb.ohio.gov

- An important new public-private initiative that the State of Ohio is strongly supporting. The OBB helps low and moderate income folks prepare and electronically file their federal and state income tax returns. At the same time, it helps people gain access to government programs targeted to benefit them.

- For Individuals with a household income less the \$54,000 per year, offers a free online tax assistance service for federal and Ohio income taxes and free income tax assistance.
- Provides opportunity to check for eligibility for other work supports, such as home energy assistance, health insurance, child care subsidies and food stamps.

Benefits Check up – public and private benefit programs

<http://benefitscheckup.org/>

- Developed and maintained by the National Council on Aging (NCOA), BenefitsCheckUp is the nation’s most comprehensive web-based service to screen for benefit programs for seniors with limited income and resources.
- BenefitCheckUp includes more than 1,550 public and private benefit programs from all 50 states and the District of Columbia such as:

Prescription Drugs	Nutrition (including Food Stamps)
Energy Assistance	Financial
Legal	Health Care
Social Security	Housing
In Home Services	Tax Relief
Transportation	Educational Assistance
Employment	Volunteer Services

Network of Care – service directory and links

http://Ohio.networkofcare.org/home_state.cfm?stateid=41

- Network of Care is a highly interactive, single information place where consumers, community base organizations and municipal government workers all go to easily access a wide variety of important information.
- The resources in this “virtual community” include a fast, comprehensive Services Directory; links to pertinent web sites from across the nation; a comprehensive, easy-to-use Library; a political advocacy tool; community message boards; and many others.
- Includes resource links for seniors and people with disabilities, mental/behavioral health, children and families (ages 0 to 18), and domestic violence.

Social Security

www.socialsecurity.gov/pgm/links_disability.htm - Includes information on social security disability insurance benefits, supplemental security income, and ticket to work.

<https://secure.ssa.gov/apps6z/FOLO/> – for local office locations

<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/redbook/> The Red Book serves as a general reference source about the employment related provisions of Social Security Disability Insurance and the Supplemental Security Income Programs for educators, advocates, rehabilitation professionals, and counselors who serve people with disabilities.

Ohio Medicaid – <http://jfs.ohio.gov/OHP/index.stm>