

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS BRIEFING GRANT

Case Study: Government Affairs Briefing Grant

LMK Advocacy was awarded a five-year Government Affairs Briefing Grant by the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council. This grant aims to provide quarterly briefings to legislators and their staff, focusing on issues of utmost importance to the developmental disabilities community in Ohio. The overarching goal is to deliver informative and engaging sessions that effectively address the most pressing challenges faced by this community.

The key objectives of the Government Affairs Briefing Grant are information dissemination, education, and awareness. LMK Advocacy aims to provide legislators and their staff with accurate and up-to-date information on issues affecting the developmental disabilities community in Ohio. The grant seeks to educate policymakers about the intricacies and complexities of various disability-related topics to enhance their decision-making capabilities. LMK Advocacy intends to raise awareness among legislators and staff about the needs, rights, and aspirations of individuals with developmental disabilities in Ohio.

These briefings are held either at the Statehouse or the Vern Riffe Center for Government and lunch is provided. LMK Advocacy works around the legislative schedule to maximize attendance at the briefings. We work closely with partnering organizations in the developmental disability community to determine appropriate and timely topics.

LMK Advocacy has covered a range of important topics in its quarterly briefings to legislators and staff. Some examples of topics include:

- **Subminimum Wage:** An in-depth discussion on the challenges and implications of subminimum wage policies for individuals with developmental disabilities.
- **DD System 101:** An overview of the developmental disabilities service system in Ohio, including its structure, funding mechanisms, and key stakeholders.
- **Supported Decision Making:** An exploration of the concept and practice of supported decision-making as an alternative to guardianship for individuals with developmental disabilities.
- **Managed Care:** A comprehensive briefing on managed care systems within the developmental disabilities service sector.
- **Transportation:** Addressing the unique transportation challenges faced by individuals with developmental disabilities and potential solutions to improve access and mobility.

LMK Advocacy's efforts have had a significant impact on the developmental disabilities community in Ohio resulting in informed policymaking, enhanced understanding, community engagement and improved services. By providing timely and relevant information, legislators and staff can make more informed decisions regarding policies and funding related to developmental disabilities. The educational aspect of the briefings has improved the understanding of the complex issues faced by individuals with developmental disabilities, resulting in more empathetic and effective legislative actions. The grant has fostered engagement between policymakers and the disability community, strengthening advocacy efforts and collaboration. Legislative action resulting from these briefings has contributed to enhancements in services and support for individuals with developmental disabilities in Ohio.

LMK Advocacy delivers high-quality briefings to legislators and their staff. We adapt topics and content to address emerging issues and legislative priorities. We aim to make a lasting impact by continuing to educate and engage policymakers in the years to come.