



John L. Martin

Director
Ohio Department of
Developmental Disabilities

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John L. Martin was first appointed as Director of the Ohio Department of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (ODMRDD), effective January 15, 2007. The Department was re-named The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) in 2009, following the efforts of many of Ohio's self-advocates. In 2011, Governor John Kasich re-appointed Director Martin to continue serving as Director of DODD.

Martin has emphasized leadership transformation in several areas for the department, including increased collaboration with stakeholders, upgrading technology infrastructure, and making data driven decisions to help better align resources and programs for long-term sustainability. He has led several core initiatives such as: Creating more opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities to live and work within their communities; developing the Positive Culture Initiative (PCI); supporting shared services and collaboration models among county boards; and consolidating all DD programs under DODD to reduce confusion for those who use those services.

Director Martin came to the Department from the Toledo area, and knows the DD community first-hand, not only as the father of a young adult son with disabilities, but also as the former Executive Director of Sunshine Inc. of Northwest Ohio since 1984, a non-profit organization serving people with DD and their families.

In 1995, Director Martin also became the first Executive Director of MRDD Solutions, a for-profit subsidiary of Sunshine Inc. that provides software to more than 100 agencies in 18 states.

Additionally, Director Martin served on the board of the Ohio Provider Resource Association (OPRA) and served as a representative on the Family Advisory Council for (then) ODMRDD from 2003 - 2005.

Martin received a Bachelor's degree in Special Education from Illinois State University and a Master's degree in Community Psychology from Temple University.