



Disability Rights OHIO

Community-Based Options for People with Disabilities in Intermediate Care Facilities

Did you know that around 99% of Ohioans who choose to move out of their Intermediate Care Facility (ICF) and into the community are happy with that decision?¹

Disability Rights Ohio (DRO) wants everyone to have the opportunity to make that choice. To that end, DRO is planning virtual visits to several ICFs. We want to talk with ICF residents about opportunities to live and receive services and supports in their own home in the community.

The settlement agreement approved last year in the *Ball v. DeWine* class action lawsuit expanded these opportunities, including an increase in the number of state-funded Individual Options waivers available to people living in an ICF who want to live in the community. DRO filed that lawsuit on behalf of ICF residents and others who lacked the chance to make meaningful and informed choices about where they lived.

DRO remains committed to helping people with disabilities who want to live in the community get access to the services and supports that allow them to do so. As such, DRO will use the upcoming ICF visits to²:

- **Learn** about ICF residents' interests, needs, and preferences;
- **Connect** interested residents with others who have transitioned from facilities to the community;
- **Offer information about opportunities** to visit community settings in person (or by video);
- **Increase awareness** of available waiver slots and types of home and community-based services;
- **Support individuals**, their families, and their guardians in making an informed choice about where those individuals prefer to live and received services.

If you have questions about waivers and other community service options, please call **DRO's Intake Line at 614-466-7264 or 800-282-9181, choose option 2**. We look forward to hearing from you.

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Disability Rights Ohio is the Protection & Advocacy system for Ohioans with disabilities. Our mission is to advocate for the human, civil, and legal rights of people with disabilities in Ohio. We envision a society in which people with disabilities are full and equal members, enjoy the rights and opportunities of all people, are self-directed, make decisions about where, how and with whom they will live, learn, work, and play, have access to needed supports and services, and are free from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and discrimination.

¹ According to information kept by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities since March 2016.

² DRO's planned visits are separate from any "options counseling" that some ICF residents may have received from CareStar, Inc. under the Ball settlement agreement.

