

Voices **Elevated.**
People **Empowered.**
Equity **Achieved.**



Disability Rights Ohio is a non-profit corporation with a mission to advocate for an equitable Ohio for people with disabilities.

Throughout 2024, our team worked in communities across Ohio to bring our vision closer to reality. Informed and inspired by the lived experiences of Ohioans with disabilities, we're proud to share with you all that we accomplished last year.



3,583 Total number of service requests received in 2024.

In 2024, our team fielded more than 200 additional calls for service compared to 2023... dealing with barriers in education, housing, employment, abuse, neglect, and many other issues. We worked to connect Ohioans with disabilities with positions of power, elevating their voices and empowering their advocacy.

Informed and inspired by the lived experiences of Ohioans with disabilities, we're proud of what we accomplished last year.

"Though complex in practice, the motivation for our work is simple: Advocating for an equitable Ohio for people with disabilities. Through the dedication of our team, the support of our allies, and the steady leadership of our Board of Directors, we will continue to grow our advocacy and expand our reach all across Ohio."

-Kerstin Sjoberg, President and CEO



Dangerous Inaction: Our report on Youth Intensive Services

In May of 2024, DRO released "Dangerous Inaction: A Culture of Chaos at Youngstown's Youth Intensive Services." This report documented our 16-month investigation into the northeast Ohio facility. Our findings included abuse, fighting, and youth going AWOL from the facility.

As a result of our investigation, admissions were suspended and the facility ultimately surrendered their Class 1 license.

Click the link above or scan here to read our full report:



www.disabilityrightsohio.org

In 2024, DRO was involved in 8 policy initiatives
benefitting over **2,000,000** Ohioans.



Introducing Ourselves: *A multi-language awareness project*

Understanding that those most in need of our advocacy are often those most removed from existing service systems, we set out to find new ways to introduce ourselves. Throughout 2024, our team met with underserved communities across the state. These listening sessions were hosted alongside a community partner, and the focus was clear: Understanding the specific needs of that community and the best way to connect with them. The information we learned informed a new series of introductory videos that launched earlier this year in 8 different languages.

Our Work: *By The Numbers*

37

monitoring visits of
facilities serving over
4600 individuals.

500

students helped
through 1 extensive
education case.

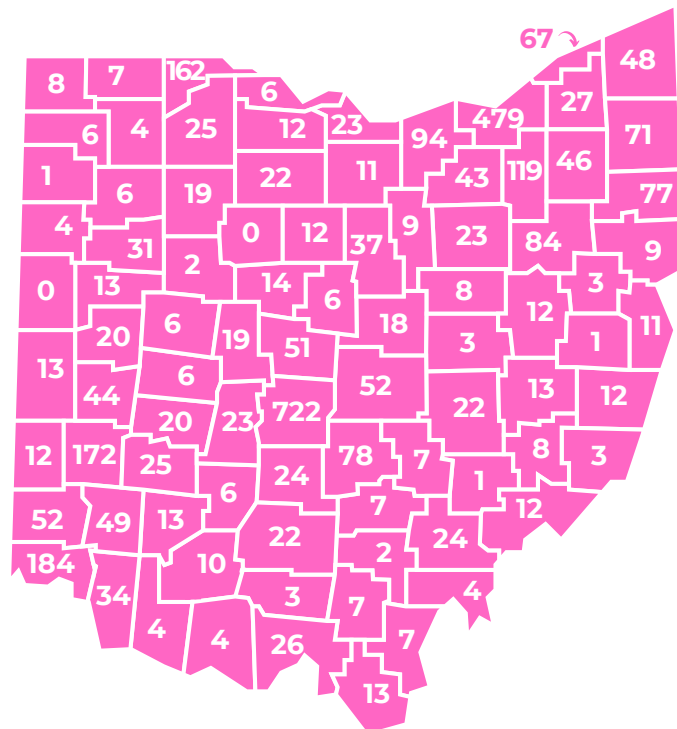
14

unique investigations
impacting 229 people.

152

reviews of
representative payees.

**In 2024, Disability
Rights Ohio received
service requests from
86 of Ohio's 88
counties:**



Disability Rights Ohio is authorized by federal law to protect the human, legal, and civil rights of people with disabilities in Ohio.

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For a complete list of programs, visit: www.disabilityrightsohio.org/programs

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