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## **Noble DD president wins state award for service to people with disabilities**

*Bryan Chandler recognized by state developmental disability organization for leadership*

WORTHINGTON, Ohio – The *Ohio Association of County Boards – Serving People with Developmental Disabilities (OACB)* announced Tuesday that their 2011 Distinguished Service Award winner for Smallest Third Counties is Bryan Chandler, president of the Noble County Board of Developmental Disabilities. The state disability group presented Chandler with his award in a ceremony held last week at the association’s annual convention in Columbus. [SEE ATTACHED PHOTO]

“Bryan is the kind of leader we wish we had in all of Ohio’s 88 counties,” said Dan Ohler, OACB Executive Director. “His unwavering commitment to people with disabilities in Noble County is an inspiring model for other board members across the state, and we are proud to present him with this honor.”

Since 2006, OACB has presented three Distinguished Service Awards at their annual convention – one each for the smallest, middle, and largest third counties by size and population. Board members, employees, and volunteers of county boards of developmental disabilities who demonstrate an extraordinary commitment to people with disabilities in their communities are eligible for nomination. Stephen Williams, Director of Operations for the Noble County Board of DD, nominated Chandler for this year’s award.

“Bryan is what a board president should be – intelligent, innovative, thoughtful and committed,” Williams said in his nomination. “He is always willing to go the extra mile for the board he serves and all people with developmental disabilities. For this reason and many more, he is highly deserving of this year’s award.”

Williams highlighted Chandler’s early and continuing support of a shared administrative agreement between the Noble, Belmont, and Harrison county boards of developmental disabilities as a major reason for his nomination. That agreement – in which several senior administrators split their time among three county agencies – has saved all three boards significant financial resources during tough budget times. Since Noble County’s DD board entered into the agreement, Chandler has served as an ambassador for such arrangements across the state by speaking to fellow board members in other counties about the benefits of shared services.

“He cares so much about people with disabilities that he’s willing to take a great deal of time away from his family and his own small business to make sure they receive excellent services,” Williams said. “That kind of dedication is hard to find, and we’re lucky to have him.”

Chandler has served on the board of the Noble County Board of Developmental Disabilities since 2005. He lives in CITY with his WIFE AND CHILDREN.

### **About OACB**

The *Ohio Association of County Boards – Serving People with Developmental Disabilities (OACB)* is a non-profit organization that has provided information, continuing education, training, and legislative advocacy services to Ohio's 88 County Boards of Developmental Disabilities since January of 1984. For more information about OACB, visit [www.oacbdd.org](http://www.oacbdd.org).

### **Photo cutline**

*Left to right:* Stephen Williams, Director of Operations, Belmont-Harrison-Noble Alliance; Bryan Chandler, President, Noble County Board of DD; Dan Ohler, Executive Director, OACB.