

# Why Won't the Board Negotiate & Put our SSAs Back to Work?

- Despite multiple offers by our SSAs & their union, & several days of a strike, the Portage Board of Developmental Disabilities REFUSES to come back to the table to negotiate a Fair Contract.
- It appears the Board would rather continue paying out-of-state "security" agents & attorney Ron Habowski tens of thousands of dollars rather than use that money to easily settle the contract & support the citizens they're supposed to care for.
- The Board has a surplus of nearly \$20 million—a Settlement would cost less than a total of only \$60,000 for a 3-year contract.
- The Board is putting the **685 citizens with developmental disabilities at risk**—our County's most vulnerable citizens—to deny even minimal raises for our hard-working SSAs!
- Why does the Board continue to put nearly 700 citizens with developmental disabilities at risk? Pride? Greed? Control? A complete lack of respect?



**Contact the members of the Board & tell them to Come Back to the Table, negotiate in GOOD FAITH with our SSAs for the FAIR CONTRACT they deserve!**

**Ralph Kletzien** (330)673-3415  
[ralphk@portagedd.org](mailto:ralphk@portagedd.org)

**Cheri Michael** (330)325-9385  
[cherim@portagedd.org](mailto:cherim@portagedd.org)

**Kelly Butler** (234)380-1873  
[kellyb@portagedd.org](mailto:kellyb@portagedd.org)

**Michelle Sahr** (330)688-5502  
[michelles@portagedd.org](mailto:michelles@portagedd.org)

**Timothy Moran** (330)678-6483  
[timothym@portagedd.org](mailto:timothym@portagedd.org)

**Carol J. Fruscella** (330)626-4043  
[carolf@portagedd.org](mailto:carolf@portagedd.org)

**John Gargan, Jr.** (330)673-1939  
[johng@portagedd.org](mailto:johng@portagedd.org)

**Did you know? Your elected Portage County Commissioners & Probate Judge Berger appoint the DD Board. They're paid to look out for Portage County residents' interests. Tell them to force the DD Board to settle a Fair Contract with the SSAs:**

**Vicki Kline, President** 330-297-3606  
[vkline@portageco.com](mailto:vkline@portageco.com)

**Sabrina Christian-Bennett, Vice President** 330-297-3605  
[SChristianBennett@portageco.com](mailto:SChristianBennett@portageco.com)

**Maureen Frederick, Member** 330-297-3604  
[mfrederick@portageco.com](mailto:mfrederick@portageco.com)

**Probate Judge Bob Berger** (330)297-3870  
[rberger@portageco.com](mailto:rberger@portageco.com)



# Portage County EADD Unit B Needs Your Help!

**Who We Are:** We are a 20 member unit of Service and Support Administrators (SSA's) for the Portage County Board of Developmental Disabilities. We are the only people in the county who provide coordination and authorization of services that ensure the health and welfare of citizens with developmental disabilities in the county. We serve nearly 700 citizens, and many of their families, county-wide.

**Why We're Taking a Stand:** The SSA's have not had a cost of living increase in pay for 10 years. We have attempted to work with the DD Board for over a year to negotiate a fair and reasonable contract to no avail. Instead, the Board demands that we accept another 3 years with no increases, despite steeply rising employee health care costs and increasing workloads. The Board is currently operating with over a \$20 million budget **surplus**, and the Board has told us, "We have plenty of money, just not for you."

**Where You Can Find Us:** Visit and Like "Support Our Portage SSAs" on Facebook. Visit Portage County Educators Association for the Developmentally Disabled – Unit B's homepage at <http://pceadd-b.ohea.us/>.

**Where We're Taking a Stand:** We are picketing the Administrative Center of the Portage County Board of Developmental Disabilities, **2606 Brady Lake Rd. in Ravenna**, and Happy Day School, **2500 Brady Lake Rd. in Ravenna**, every day Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Parking is available across Brady Lake Road from the two picket sites, directly in between the Happy Day School and the Administrative Center. You'll see two large tanks, one that is green, as you pull onto the property.

**What Else You Can Do to Help:** Send donations and letters of support to:

PCEADD – Unit B Strike Headquarters  
P.O. Box 7  
Kent, OH 44240  
*Please make checks payable to "PCEADD"*

## Together We Can Do It! Union Strong!