



# DECEMBER 2012

## Happy Holidays!

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## 2012 In Review: Adam O'Hirsi

Each year, SomaliCAN and the Somali Outreach Newsletter make huge strides in producing quality content, reaching out to more readers, and achieving recognition from far and wide. The year 2012 was a great year for SomaliCAN. Our team contributed to improving the lives of New American individuals, families, and communities in Ohio and elsewhere through information, outreach, advocacy, events, and services. Here are some highlights of SomaliCAN's accomplishments in the past year:

**Information:** The agency produced 12 editions of the SomaliCAN Outreach Newsletter which constituted its fourth volume. The biggest achievement of the year in the information field was the inclusion of SomaliCAN Outreach Newsletter in the Worldcat, OCLC, and the U.S. Library of Congress online libraries. The U.S. Library of Congress assigned outreach an ISSN# 2168-5363. This bilingual monthly newsletter was e-mailed to hundreds of Somali community members, public officials, activists, and members of the wider

The newsletter serves as a source of reliable information for readers and published ideas about developmental disabilities, access to healthcare, community safety, improving educational outcomes, resources for individuals and their families, job opportunities, announcements of major events, and community news updates. In addition, SomaliCAN efforts were featured in local and national media multiple times in the past year and our activists produced various articles on such diverse issues as human trafficking, public safety, situational updates, solving Somalia's conflict, and information about the Somali community in Ohio.

**Advocacy:** SomaliCAN provided advocacy for many pressing issues of concern to the Somali community. The agency provided information, referral and assistance to clients who had challenges in adjustment of immigration status, youth high school dropout, access to childcare, home health care services, college enrollments, civil rights and civil liberties, access to job opportunities including senior level appointments, equal access to business opportunities,... See page 3

## 2012 In Review: Adam O'Hirsi

opportunities, and a reduction in health disparities. Our activists worked with mayors, county commissioners, state representatives, Ohio courts, members of U.S. Congress and Senate, and the Governor of Ohio as well as law enforcement and civil rights officials. At the international level, SomaliCAN activists worked with the U.S. Department of State and White House officials on resolving the Somali political crisis hosted constitutional consultation forums to expose the Somali diaspora community to the new provisional constitution that was adopted mid-2012. In the past year, SomaliCAN organized the Somalia at Crossroads Conference which brought together some of the most thoughtful Somalia affairs analysts and U.S. Government policy makers for a discussion on peace prospects in Somalia. Delegations led by Ambassador Donald Yamamoto, the U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs and another one from USAID were hosted in Columbus. SomaliCAN leaders also participated in Secretary Clinton's Global Diaspora Forum held in July 2012.

In addition, SomaliCAN hosted the third annual Ohio Somali Graduation program and awarded scholarships to eight outstanding high school graduates. In 2012, the graduation program moved a notch higher when Columbus Mayor Michael Coleman proclaimed the third week of June as the Somali Graduation Week!

Finally, SomaliCAN received a Presidential Service Award from the White House, a letter of recognition from Ohio Governor John Kasich, a certificate of appreciation each from Senator Sherrod Brown, Congressman Patrick Tiberi, and Congressman Steve Stivers.

On behalf of the large Somali-American community, we thank you for your continuing support and we wish you a happy and prosperous 2012.

We wish all of our readers happy holidays and we look forward to a successful 2013!

Stay tuned and please continue to visit [www.SomaliCAN.org](http://www.SomaliCAN.org) for the latest edition of Outreach. You can also access all past editions on our website.

Adam O'Hirsi is Director at SomaliCAN. He can be reached at [outreach@somalican.org](mailto:outreach@somalican.org).

## Dib U Eegista Sannadka 2012: Aden AwXirsi

Sannad walba, SomaliCAN iyo wargeyska Outreach waxay ku tillaabsadaan horukac muuqda oo ay ku soo gudbiyaan akhbaar wax ku ool ah, kula hadlaan dad fara badan, uguna kasbadaan aqoonsi iyo kalsooni dhulal fogfog.

Sannadka 2012 wuxuu SomaliCAN u ahaa mid wanaagsan. Hoggaankeenu waxay gacan ka geysteen sare u qaadidda nolosha dadka Maraykanka ku cusub, qoysaskooda iyo bulshada Ohio iyo meelo kale intaba iyadoo gaarsiinaya akhbaar, warbaahin, u dhaqdhaqaaq, xaflado, iyo adeegyo kale.

Qaar ka mid ah hawlihii SomaliCAN ay qabatay sannadkii tagay waxa ka mid ahaa:

Warbaahinta: Hay'addu waxay soo saartay 12 caddad oo ah wargeyska Outreach oo sannadkii afraad dhammaysay.

Guusha ugu weyn sanadka ee dhanka warbaahintu waxay ahayd in Outreach lagu daray mareegaha maktabadaha caalamiga ah ee Worldcat, OCLC, iyo U.S. Library of Congress. Maktabadda Koongareeska Maraykanku (US Library of Congress) waxay u samaysay astaanta ISSN# 2168-5363.

Wargeyska oo bille ah kuna turjuman labo luuqadood ayaa loo diray e-mailka boqollaal qof oo Soomaali ah, madax la doortay, hawlwadeenno, iyo xubnaha bulsho weynta.

Wargeysku waa il wareed la isku hallayn karo oo dadka akhristaa jecelyihiin isla markaasna lagu daabaco afkaar ku saabsan korriimada, helitaanka adeegyo caafimaad, badbaadada bulshada, horumarinta tacliinta, adeegyada qoysaska, fursadaha shaqooyinka, ogeysiisyada iyo xafladaha, iyo wararka jaaliyadda. Intaa waxa dheer, dadaalka SomaliCAN waxa marar badan sanadkii tagay lagu xusay warbaahinta gobolka iyo tan caalamkaba iyadoo hawlwadeennadeenu ay daabaceen maqaallo kala duwan oo ku saabsan dadka la daabulo, amniga guud, faahfaahino, xal u helidda Soomaaliya, iyo akhbaar ku saabsan jaaliyadda Soomaaliyeed ee Ohio.

**NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY (NOFA)****Free Tax Assistance Capacity Building Grant:****Request for Proposals (RFP)**

Deadline: April 30, 2013

The Ohio Association of Foodbanks, in partnership with the State of Ohio, is seeking to fund projects that build organizational capacity, expanding free tax assistance services and other OBB services for Ohioans that need them.

Applicants will be asked to state how they will expand existing OBB tax assistance services and FAFSA and other benefit application services in their organization or community, OR how they will develop new OBB tax assistance services to complement their existing benefit application services.

**Eligibility:**

- Existing OBB sites that fall under one of the following categories:
- Faith-based organizations (however, organizations may not use these grant funds to support worship, religious instruction, or proselytization)
- Government agencies
- Educational Institutions

To apply or get more information about this opportunity, please [click here](#) or visit: <http://www.ohiofoodbanks.org>

Choose CareSource as your Health Plan.

Call: 1-800-488-0134



## JOB OF THE MONTH: COURT SECURITY OFFICER

Franklin County Public Facilities Management

**POSITION TITLE:** Court Security Officer

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Provide security by screening all personnel, confiscate any prohibited objects or materials, conduct daily security checks of doors, gates, and other access points of interior/ exterior building and grounds. Provide information and assistance to personnel entering the court building. Direct visitors to appropriate staff and/or building locations. Explain policies and procedures and answer questions. Serve as an escort to individuals to and from restricted areas. Respond to various types of alarms, first aid emergencies, and request for assistance at County facilities. Contact and interact with police officers, fire fighters, and emergency medical personnel as needed. Conduct building evacuations as needed. Investigate incidents and prepare reports. Maintain security equipment such as panic alarms, metal detectors, security locks, radio equipment, etc. Conduct routine testing and calibration of equipment. Maintain related documentation.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** High School Diploma or GED with two years of related experience. In addition, if position requires operation of motorized vehicle for any reason, must have Valid Driver's License. Also, if assigned responsibility for rendering first aid & CPR, applicant must have completed one training course in each. **Unusual Working Conditions:** Hours and days may vary. May be exposed to high and low temperatures; may be exposed to inclement weather. Able to lift 50 pounds and to stand, bend and stoop for long periods of time.

**STARTING SALARY:** \$15.70 per hour, plus a 40-cent shift differential for second and third shift. A comprehensive benefits package is offered with this position. 120 Day Probationary Period.

**DEADLINE TO APPLY:** Thursday, January 3, 2013

**When contacted for an interview, an applicant who requires special accommodations due to a disability should notify the office at the time he/she is contacted so that proper arrangements can be made for the interview.**

If interested, please go to: [www.franklincountyohio.gov/commissioners/hr](http://www.franklincountyohio.gov/commissioners/hr) and apply on-line

**Happy Holidays!**

## ON THE HORIZON: ODDC Seeks Membership Applications

### DD Council Seeks Applicants for Membership

\*\*\*Applications due by **Extended**

The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council (ODDC) is currently seeking applicants for membership terms beginning in January 2013. Council membership must comply with categories listed in the federal DD Act. Openings this year will be for the following categories:

- two (2) individuals with a developmental disability
- one (1) immediate relative or guardian of an institutionalized or previously institutionalized individual with a developmental disability or an individual with a developmental disability who resides or previously resided in an institution.

All candidates for DD Council membership should have experience serving on committees, boards, or organizations. Such experience concerned with persons with developmental disabilities would be especially relevant. Applicants should have first-hand knowledge about developmental disabilities in Ohio.

It is very important that applicants have time to attend six meetings per year and serve on at least two committees. Each meeting of Council occurs over a two-day period.

Governor John Kasich will appoint members for three-year terms beginning January 1, 2013, and ending December 31, 2016. Application packets are available from the ODDC office or you may download the application from ODDC's website at [www.ddc.ohio.gov](http://www.ddc.ohio.gov) and must be completed and returned to the office by: **Extended** Applications may be requested:

- By mail: ODDC, 899 East Broad Street, Suite 203, Columbus, Ohio 43205
- By phone: (614) 466-5205 or toll-free (800) 766-7426. If you are leaving a message, please spell out your name, and give your address including zip code, and phone number
- By email contact: [carla.sykes@dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:carla.sykes@dodd.ohio.gov)

### DD Council oo Doonaya Araaji Xubinnimo

\*\*\*Araajidu \***waa la dheereeyay**\*

The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council (ODDC) waxay haatan raadinaysaa dad arji u soo qorta xubinnimada xilliga ee billaabanaysa Janaayo 2013. Xubnaha Council-ku waa inay raacaan asallada ku taxan DD Act ee federaaliga ah. Boosaska furan ee sanadkaan waa asallada soo socda:

- Labo (2) shaqsi oo qaba naafannimo Koritaaneed
- Hal (1) shaqsi oo qaba naafanimo karitaan oo xarun xannaano galay ama ku jira iminka xarun xanaano ama qof qaraabo la ah qof qaba naafanimo karitaan oo xarun xannaano galay ama qof qaraabo la ah qof qaba naafanimo koritaaneed oo ku jira iminka xarun xanaano .

Dhamaan u tartamayaasha xubinnimada DD Council waa inay khibrad u leeyihiin ka shaqaynta guddiyada, golayaasha, ama ururrada. Khibradaha khuseeya dadka qaba naafanimada koritaaneed ayaa si gaar ah muhiim u ah. Arjiilayaashu waa in ay leeyihiin aqoon gacanta koowaad ah oo ku saabsan naafanimada koritaaneed ee Ohio.

Guddoomiye John Kasich ayaa xilli saddex sano ah oo billaabanaya Janaayo 1, 2013 oo dhamaanaya Diseembar 31, 2016 magacaabi doona.

Baakadka arjiga ayaa laga heli karaa xafiiska ODDC ama waxaad kala degi kartaa arjiga mareegta ODDC ee ah [www.ddc.ohio.gov](http://www.ddc.ohio.gov) waana in la dhameeyaa oo loo soo celiyaa xafiiska markii la gaaro \***waa la dheereeyay**\*.

Araajida waxaa lagu codsan karaa:

- Boosto: ODDC, 899 East Broad Street, Suite 203 , Columbus , Ohio 43215
- Telefoon: (614) 466-5205 or toll-free (800) 766-7426. Haddii aad ka tegaysid farriin, fadlan magacaaga higgadi, bixina cinwaankaaga oo uu ku jiro zib koodhka iyo lambarka telefoonka.
- Email ahaanna la xiriir: [Carla.Sykes@dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:Carla.Sykes@dodd.ohio.gov)

## Central Ohio Community Resources

### Police:

Emergency: 9-1-1

Non-emergency: 614-645-4545

Sheriff: 614-462-3333

### Mental Health Crisis:

Netcare Access: 614-276-2273

### Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222

Columbus Health Department

Free Clinic: 614-240-7430

### Legal Matters:

Legal Aid Society: 614-241-2001

### Child Abuse and Neglect:

FCCS: 614-229-7000

### Housing:

CMHA: 614-421-6000

### Information and Referral:

HandsOn: 614-221-2555 or 211

### Somali Services

#### SomaliCAN

614-489-9226

[www.SomaliCAN.org](http://www.SomaliCAN.org)

The Omoleky Law Firm

614-441-5305

## SOMALICAN SERVICES:

### Health Communication and Literacy:

- Patient education
- Prescription access
- Cultural competency training
- Information & Referral

### Community Education:

- Youth engagement
- Services in Schools
- Advocacy and Support
- Scholarships
- Annual Graduation
- Crime Prevention
- Disaster Preparedness

### SomaliCAN Outreach Newsletter:

- Monthly bilingual newsletter
- Advertisements
- Articles
- Cultural Competency
- Research
- Legislation
- Developmental Disabilities

### Immigration Services:

- Green card applications
- Citizenship applications
- Citizenship education

### Somali Interpretation & Translation:

Do you require highly qualified interpreters and translators?

Please contact a SomaliCAN specialist today. SomaliCAN provides interpretation and translation in social services, medical, legal, academic and financial settings.

## SomaliCAN

700 Morse Road, 101

Columbus, OH 43214

Phone. (614)489-9226

Fax: (614) 448-4395

E-mail:

[info@somalican.org](mailto:info@somalican.org)

To advertise a product or service, contact us today:

[info@somalican.org](mailto:info@somalican.org).



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To request a copy of SomaliCAN Outreach Newsletter send an e-mail to [Outreach@SomaliCAN.org](mailto:Outreach@SomaliCAN.org) or visit [www.SomaliCAN.org](http://www.SomaliCAN.org).