




Dear Valued Community Member,

As we enjoy the summer weather, I wanted to reflect on what we have been working on this spring. In this newsletter, you will find updates about legislation, highlights from our first annual Small Business Brunch and Behavioral Health Legislative Brunch, and community resources.

We are here to listen to and support you in any way that we can. Please do not hesitate to reach out to my office. Thank you for your continued support and engagement.

Sincerely,


Dontavius L. Jarrells
State Representative
Ohio House District 01



FOX'S
BAGEL & DELI
COLUMBUS || OHIO

Business Highlight

Fox's Bagel's and Deli, located near Bexley, is a local bakery that offers a **variety of bagels and sandwiches**. Known for their New York style boiled then baked bagels, Fox's Bagel's and Deli offers something for everyone to love. Located at **3012 E Broad St, Columbus, Ohio 4320**, Fox's is great for those who love deli style sandwiches.

UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENT

2nd Annual All of Us Block Party

Join us for our All of Us Block Party this September! Last year, hundreds of community members showed up strong, with more than 30 vendors helping make it a powerful day of connection and celebration. This year, we're building on that momentum.

This **free, family-friendly** event is a celebration of **unity, joy, and empowerment**. All day long, you'll find local vendors, community resources, exciting giveaways, games for all ages, great food, and nonstop music.

We're bringing neighborhoods together to **uplift** each other, **celebrate** our culture, and continue **building** a stronger future for all of us.

Bring your family, tell your neighbors, and come ready to have a good time.

Date: Saturday, September 26

Time: 2:00-6:00PM

Location: 925 Mt Vernon Ave, Columbus, OH 43203



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Recent Legislation

This spring, we have had several pieces of impactful legislation advance and be introduced, demonstrating ongoing efforts to improve public health, education, and equity across Ohio. You can learn more and sign up to testify on the Ohio House Committee website: ohiohouse.gov/committees. You can also learn more about these and other bills I'm supporting by visiting [my website](#).

- **H.B. No. 565 (Jarrells, Odioso)** – Establishes the *Grand Jury Privacy and Protection Act*, ensuring that grand jurors' identities are kept confidential, protecting them from potential harassment or intimidation.
 - **Passed the House Floor** with a vote of **96-0** and moves to the Senate Judiciary Committee.
- **H.B. No. 868 (Jarrells)** – Requires high school instruction that educates students on how to interact with [peace officers](#), along with [local law enforcement](#).
 - Introduced in the House and [referred](#) to the [House Education Committee](#) on May 12, 2026.
- **H.B. No. 902 (Jarrells, McClain)** – Establishes the *Fostering Siblings Success Act*, keeping foster siblings together while they are placed in the appropriate foster homes.
 - Introduced in the House and [referred](#) to the [House Judiciary Committee](#) on May 20, 2026.
- **H.B. No. 907 (Jarrells, Ritter)** – Creates the *Food Literacy and Nutrition Act*, which aims to help K-12 students make informed healthy food choices through easily accessible standards on the Department of Education's website.
 - Introduced in the House and [referred](#) to the [House Education Committee](#) on May 20, 2026.
- **H.B. No. 908 (Jarrells)** – Establishes *Cassidy's Law*, strengthening court review for vulnerable children and improving communication between agencies.
 - Introduced in the House and [referred](#) to the [House General Government Committee](#) on February 5, 2025.

Capital Budget

In June, we passed [SB 450](#), the state's biennial capital appropriations budget. The capital budget is the mechanism by which the state funds its brick-and-mortar needs. This ranges from the construction and renovation of K-12 public schools and higher education facilities to public works programs and mental health treatment centers, as well as funding local community projects. It includes funding for projects that expand access to healthcare, strengthen local economies, preserve cultural institutions, improve public infrastructure, and enhance quality of life for residents across the region. The passing of this bill will provide **\$8.35M to District 01** for community initiatives. Additionally, [SB 450](#) includes approximately **\$1.8B** of capital budget funding for K-12 schools, PWO grants, and higher education institutions.



JARRELLS' SPRING UPDATES

Shoenbaum Family Center Visit

In light of the **increasing child care cost crisis**, I visited the Schoenbaum Family Center in Columbus, an early education center dedicated to provide high-quality education to children in our community and serving low income families. This visit focused on the impact of proposed changes to Ohio's publicly funded childcare system. Staff and family expressed concerns about **reduced reimbursement rates**, **changes to eligibility requirements**, and **reduced incentives to provide high quality programming**. Following my coffee with parents and administrators, I got the chance to read Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! to the students.



Small Business Brunch

In May, I hosted my **inaugural Small Business Leadership Brunch** at the Huntington Empowerment Center, bringing together local entrepreneurs, community leaders, and industry experts to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing small businesses in Columbus. Through a panel discussion and interactive conversation, business owners **shared their experiences**, **identified barriers to growth**, and **explored resources** and support needed to succeed. A key takeaway was the importance of making resources more accessible and easier to navigate for small business owners.

Behavioral Health Legislative Brunch

In June, we held a Behavioral Health Legislative Brunch, bringing together behavioral health professionals, advocates, and community leaders from across Ohio to **discuss strategies for improving behavioral health outcomes statewide**.

Stakeholders emphasized the importance of expanding access to behavioral health services, strengthening the workforce, and increasing compensation for behavioral health professionals to attract and retain qualified providers. Guests also discussed the need to elevate public understanding of behavioral health care as lifesaving and life-changing support that is essential to healthy communities.



Mental Health Awareness Month

Every May, we recognize Mental Health Awareness Month as an opportunity to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and promote equitable access to mental health care. Its significance cannot be overstated. Open conversations about mental health help us better understand its impact on our own lives and the lives of those around us. By increasing awareness of available resources and encouraging advocacy, we can break down harmful misconceptions, foster understanding, and create a culture where discussing mental health is met with compassion, support, and acceptance.

Mental Health Resources

NetCare Access

NetCare Access offers specialized treatment for adults in need of mental health and substance use services in Franklin County. Their programs include 24/7 Crisis Phone Line, crisis and substance use assessment, stabilization, and residential services in addition to community-based services and probate and forensic services to the county court systems.

- **Phone Number:** (614) 276-2273
- **Address:** 199 S Central Ave, Door 1, Columbus, OH 43222

Lower Lights Christian Health Center

Lower Lights is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) committed to delivering high-quality, affordable health care services to every patient.

- **Phone Number:** (614) 276-2273
- **Address:** 199 S Central Ave, Door 1, Columbus, OH 43222

Nationwide Children's Hospital Behavioral Health and Crisis Line

Nationwide offers a 24/7 crisis support line for youth up to age 17, which is answered by licensed therapists.

- **Phone Number:** (614) 722-1800

JUNETEENTH

To celebrate Juneteenth, members of the **Ohio Legislative Black Caucus (OLBC)** and I held a press conference to reflect on the continuing pursuit of freedom, justice, and equality for Black Ohioans. The OLBC remains committed to advancing policies that promote equity, protect civil rights, expand economic opportunity, and ensure that every Ohioan can fully participate in our democracy. As Juneteenth reminds us, **freedom is not merely a historical achievement**; it is an ongoing responsibility that requires vigilance, action, and a continued commitment to justice.



COMMUNITY RESOURCES

For more details on these programs or connection to resources near you, visit my website or contact my office. As we face warmer weather, please take advantage of these local resources:

Housing

Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA)

CMHA provides housing for more than 40,000 residents within Franklin County. The CMHA creates access to affordable housing and stability for people within the community they serve.

- **Phone:** (614) 421-6000
- **Address:** 1407 Cleveland Ave, Columbus, OH 43211



Cooling Centers

Columbus Parks and Recreation

Columbus Parks and Recreation provides cooling centers during times of extreme heat. For information on cooling centers and the times they are available, you can visit their website or contact them directly.

- **Phone:** (614) 724-8151
- **Website:** <https://columbusrecreparks.com/wellness/keep-cool-with-us/>



Free Lunch for K-12

Children's Hunger Alliance

The Children's Hunger Alliance provides free meals at participating USDA Summer Food Service Program locations. Individuals aged 19-21 who have been identified as having mental or physical disabilities may also be eligible to receive emails. For more information, you can contact them directly or visit CHA's website.

- **Phone:** (614) 314-7700
- **Website:** <https://columbusrecreparks.com/wellness/keep-cool-with-us/>



AARP Fraud Hotline

AARP provides resources to support older members of our community. If an older loved one or you have been the victim of fraud, AARP provides a helpline staffed by trained fraud specialists for free guidance and support.

- **Phone:** (877) 908-3360



Minority Health Month Grant – Apply Now!

Ohio Commission on Minority Health

The Ohio Commission on Minority Health provides grants that are designed to sponsor health-related events and increase focus on minority health disparities. To register and apply for these grants, visit their website or contact them directly for more information.

- **Phone:** (614) 466-4000
- **Website:** <https://mih.ohio.gov/grant-opportunities/annual-grants>



SPRING 2026



STAY IN TOUCH

Are you, a family member, or a neighbor in need of assistance? My office is here to support you with a wide range of needs, from navigating state programs and agencies to resolving issues with unemployment benefits. If you have an issue you are passionate about, share it with us! Want to celebrate an outstanding accomplishment? Email my office and we are happy to recognize leaders in our community.

Call: (614) 466-5343

Email: rep01@ohiohouse.gov

Social Media: [@iamdontavious](https://www.instagram.com/iamdontavious)