

# Final Draft

## OHRAB Strategic Plan

From NHPRC's Manual of Suggested Practices for State Historical Records Advisory Boards, Section 2, SHRAB performance indicators, item 5:

*The Board should develop, maintain, publicize, and distribute a state strategic plan for historical records programs, identifying particular priorities (a work plan) for Board action and a statement of priorities for grant funding. Planning is an ongoing activity, and it is suggested that in addition to regularly monitoring progress on the Board plan through measures identified in the plan, the Board review and revise its plan periodically.*

At the October 31, 2008 OHRAB meeting, the Strategic Planning Task Force (Jelain Chubb, Jill Tatem, and Roger VERNY) presented a draft of the new Strategic Plan for the period July 2009 through June 2011 for the board's consideration. The Task Force determined that rather than trying to address many of the challenges facing Ohio's archival community and repositories, it would focus on key areas where OHRAB can make the most significant impact: *advocacy, resources, and partnerships*.

Members discussed the goals and action items and provided additional input. A vote was conducted to identify priorities to include in the 2009 SNAP grant application. The plan has been updated to reflect the board's comments, additions, and priorities.

## **Goal 1. Increase public awareness and interest in Ohio's historical records**

Objective A: Promote an understanding of the value of historical records and the board's role and mission

*Action 1:* Develop a more robust and informative website to communicate grant and archival education opportunities.

*Action 2:* Produce public service announcements and/or publications that focus attention on Ohio's historical records.

Objective B: Encourage the use of historical records in Ohio's classrooms

*Action 1:* Partner with the Buckeye Council for History Education to encourage the use of historical records as primary sources.

*Action 2:* Board members will serve as judges at regional and state History Day competitions.

*Action 3:* Establish a travel award to the National History Day final competition for the best use of Ohio's historical records in a History Day project.

Objective C: Encourage a stronger statewide awareness of and participation in Archives Month activities.

*Action 1:* Secure Archives Month resolutions from the Governor, the Ohio House of Representatives, and Senate each year.

*Action 2:* Establish an awards program to recognize significant achievements in the management, preservation, access, advocacy, and use of historical records in Ohio.

Objective D: Participate in planning Civil War sesquicentennial events

*Action:* Designate a representative to work with the Ohio Historical Society's Civil War Sesquicentennial Planning Committee.

**Goal 2. Influence decision makers to increase investment in Ohio's documentary heritage**

Objective A: Advocate for increasing national investment in Ohio's documentary heritage

*Action 1:* Encourage the federal government to increase funding for programs such as NHPRC, IMLS and NEH that provide grants for non-federal historical records projects.

*Action 2:* Encourage Ohio's congressional delegation to co-sponsor/support the *Preserving the American Historical Record (PAHR) Act*.

*Action 3:* Encourage Ohio's archival community to support passage of the *Preserving the American Historical Record (PAHR) Act*.

Objective B: Advocate for increased state investment in its records management and archival programs

*Action 1:* Work with the Greater Columbus ARMA chapter to educate state officials about the need for and benefits of a fully-funded state records management program.

*Action 2:* Work with the Ohio Historical Society to increase funding for the State Archives of Ohio.

*Action 3:* Provide expert testimony on behalf of the State Archive and the State Records Management at budget hearings as requested.

Objective C: Advocate for a reliable, sustainable source of funding for the management and preservation of local government records (*travel, printing, postage*)

*Action:* Work with the Ohio Historical Society, County Archivists and Records Managers Association, Ohio Electronic Records Committee, and local government associations to promote the creation of source of funding for local government records management and preservation responsibilities.

**Goal 3. Assist in developing the collective capacity and strategies to manage Ohio's historic records.**

Objective A: Increase the number and quality of grant applications to NHPRC for historical records projects in Ohio.

*Action 1:* Utilize partner listservs to broadcast information about NHPRC grant opportunities and deadlines.

*Action 2:* Provide information about OHRAB and NHPRC grants at meetings of regional archival associations in Ohio.

*Action 3:* Conduct grant writing workshops in conjunction with annual meetings of the Society of Ohio Archivists and Ohio Association of Historical Societies and Museums.

Objective B: Support the IMLS Connecting to Collections planning grant project to assess the conditions of historical collections in Ohio

*Action 1:* Designate a representative to work with the project's advisory panel (*travel*)

*Action 2:* Provide financial assistance for the project, specifically the proposed Summit

Objective C: Support training and education in archival practices

*Action 1:* Conduct a Basics of Archives Continuing Education (BACE) workshop in conjunction with the 2009 and 2010 annual meetings of the Ohio Association of Historical Societies and Museums.

*Action 2:* Provide support for workshops on digitization and preservation issues.

Objective D: Develop a re-grant program to provide funding for records preservation, access, and archival training initiatives.

*Action 1:* Develop application and award guidelines, determine funding priorities, create an implementation plan, and define administrative functions.

**Goal 4. Develop relationships/partnerships with Ohio’s archival community and allied cultural heritage community.**

Objective A: Collaborate with appropriate entities such as the OERC to address the challenges of electronic records management and preservation.

*Action:* Provide financial assistance for the development of best practices workshops and guidelines.

Objective B: Expand OHRAB participation in Statehood Day

*Action 1:* Designate an OHRAB representative for the Statehood Day Planning Committee to assist in identifying priority issues relate to records/archives and coordinate lobbying activities.

*Action 2:* Provide financial support for participation in Statehood Day event activities.