

Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board
Strategic Plan, January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2017
Adopted July 18, 2014

Goal 1. Increase digital literacy and citizen engagement with Ohio’s past, contemporary and future historical records.

Objective : Strengthen statewide awareness and appreciation of Ohio’s archival materials.

Action 1: Build bridges between Ohio’s records/archival repositories and a potential new user community: students preparing History Day projects.

Action 2: Encourage the use of primary sources in Ohio’s classrooms by presenting an award for the best use of Ohio’s historical records in a History Day project.

Action 3: Collaborate with archives, libraries and other organizations such as the Society of Ohio Archivists to develop and provide Archives Month public programming.

Action 4: Publicly recognize archival programs for significant achievements in the management, preservation, access, advocacy, and use of Ohio's heritage of knowledge contained in its records and develop guidelines for Achievement Award recipients to capitalize on their award through the promotion of their archives.

Goal 2. Encourage investment in access to Ohio’s documentary heritage in all formats.

Objective: Advocate for reliable, sustainable investment in Ohio’s records management and archival programs.

Action 1: Develop an advocacy action plan that can be mobilized when state or federal agencies put out a call for support for programs such as the NHPRC, IMLS, and NEH that provide grants for improving access to historical state and local government records.

Action 2: Create a “Why Records Management Matters” campaign directed toward both state officials and the public to educate about the benefits of well funded records management and preservation programs.

Action 3: Collaborate with archival and records management organizations such as the County Archivists and Records Managers Association to promote funding local government records management and preservation activities.

Goal 3. Foster capacity building and strategies to manage Ohio's historical records.

Objective A: Increase the number and quality of grant applications to the NHPRC from Ohio's repositories.

Action 1: Promote and share information about NHRPC grant opportunities through archival and records management listservs, regional archival association meetings, and other methods of advocacy.

Action 2: Encourage prospective grant applicants to contact OHRAB for advice and recommendations prior to submitting applications to the NHPRC.

Action 3: Provide grant guidance through mentoring and web-based grant-writing workshops.

Objective B: Seek funding for records preservation and access in Ohio repositories

Action: Apply for funding from the NHPRC to administer a re-grant program for projects that improve the preservation of records and/or online access to records.

Objective C: Collaborate with the Ohio Electronic Records Committee, the County Archivists and Record Managers and the Ohio Digitization Interest Group to address the challenges of electronic records management and preservation.

Action: Provide financial assistance for the development of electronic records and online access best practices workshops and guidelines.