The Ohio Legislature plays a significant role in finance and policy issues that impact behavioral health and family services in Ohio. One way that the Ohio Council builds and strengthens our relationships with public office holders is through networking events. These events are designed to give advocates access to policy makers in an informal atmosphere where we can get to know each other better outside of the statehouse and talk more about the issues important to our members. Over the past year, we've increased our presence at these events, giving us better visibility and recognition with legislators and with other lobbyists. This is having a positive impact on our relationships with legislators and enhancing our legislative and policy efforts. To attend these events, we rely on the Ohio Council's Political Action Committee (OCPAC) funds. PAC contributions allow Ohio Council staff to take advantage of opportunities to strengthen our relationship with the new General Assembly and Administration.