



Ohio City/County Information Technology Association

January, 2017

WITH THE NEW YEAR – WHAT'S YOUR NEW NEXT?

NEWSLETTER

It's 2017 - What's Next?

by Jason Sankey, President of OCITA

Every year we have the opportunity to start fresh. Obviously we have strategic initiatives, roadmaps, and carryover projects. But there is something surreal about a fresh start to the New Year. We establish new baselines. We look forward while remembering lessons from the past. Most importantly, we have an opportunity for change.

What's next for OCITA?

What's next depends on each of us, as a strong organization working together to reach our full potential. We exist as an organization to accomplish simple but abundantly valuable goals:

- To learn from peers of other counties and cities
- To work together to benefit all counties and cities throughout the state of Ohio
- To participate in discussions of what's shaping the future of IT in Ohio
- To network and learn about new technologies in collaboration with our vendor membership

Time for something new!

I want to challenge us as members to fully realize the potential of OCITA together. In December you received a survey to capture the current pulse of our membership. This is the first step in realizing our potential. Now comes the work. I'd like everyone (currently 150 members) to commit to volunteering simply 14 hours of time to making OCITA better in 2017. If we can get this level of commitment together we will accomplish a full year's worth of work toward realizing our full potential. The board will be reaching out to our member base asking for your 14 hours to make our organization better!

Thank you.

I want to personally thank everyone for your ongoing commitment to OCITA. I especially want to thank the board for their efforts in ensuring we organize successful events. Our time is valuable and I plan to ensure we are mindful in maximizing our membership in OCITA.

survey

And the survey says...

Highlights from results received in December: 18 participants

2017 Strategic Goals:

Increase membership:



Increase value:



Increase awareness:



We plan to use the results of the survey to help guide our upcoming initiatives and to enhance the OCITA experience. More details capturing the results of the survey can be found on: [page 3](#) of the newsletter.

Circle of Trust

by Brian D. Kelley, Portage County CIO

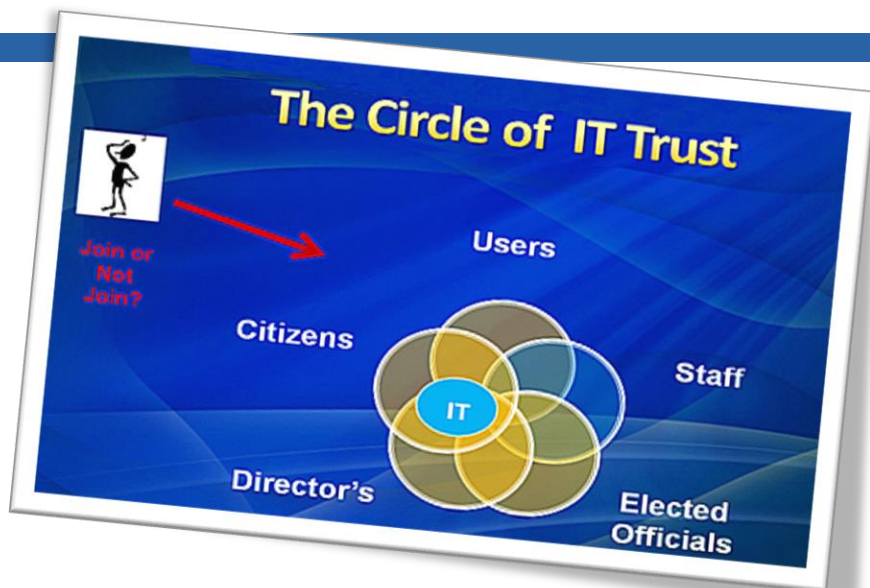
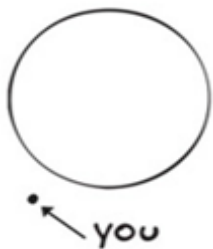
In the hilarious movie "Meet the Parents," Ben Stiller is Greg Focker and Robert Deniro is Jack, the father of Greg's girlfriend. Jack teaches Greg about the Byrne's family circle of trust throughout the movie:

Jack: *But the fact is, Greg, with the knowledge you've been given, you are now on the inside of what I like to call ... "the Byrnes family circle of trust." I keep nothing from you, you keep nothing from me ... and round and round we go.*

Jack: *See, if I can't trust you, Greg, then I have no choice ... but to put you right back outside the circle. And once you're out, you're out. There's no coming back.*

Greg: *Mm, well, I would definitely like to stay inside the circle.*

circle of trust



As leaders of Information Technology in our agencies, we need to establish the Circle of IT Trust!

In the "Circle of IT Trust," we strive to leverage, deliver and support technology across the enterprise and meet the technology needs of our elected officials, director's users, staff and citizens. Within the circle there is integration, collaboration, communication, trust and support of not only IT, but those of us in IT leadership positions. Building and sustaining the "Circle of IT Trust" is critical to our survival and ability to successfully complete our mission year after year.

When we maintain equilibrium within the circle, we have the best opportunity to be given needed resources and authority to do all we do. If we fail to maintain equilibrium within the circle, we run the risk that those we serve will step out of the circle in frustration and lose trust not only in IT, but

us as IT leaders. When this happens in the worst situations, we too are likely to be pushed outside the circle and eventually pushed out the door.

I have spent over a quarter of century in my position at Portage County as CIO/IT Director, and I credit my tenure and survivability to building and maintaining the "Circle of IT Trust"! My biggest headaches and threats occur when I fail to devote my full attention and resources within the circle.

Kudos to you if you have built and nurtured a "Circle of IT Trust" within your organization!

If the idea of the "Circle of IT Trust" is new to you, give it all you have and reap the immeasurable benefits of circle life in IT and all that it offers!

The Executive Board appointed **Shawn O'Leary** to serve as the first Vendor Liaison for OCITA.

The Vendor Liaison shall promote cooperative relations and engagement within the vendor community. This role will be responsible for ensuring Private Organization Members are actively engaged, has exposure to the member network, directs opportunities to showcase products, coordinates invitations to and engagement at conferences, and provides the opportunity to speak at hosted events.

Welcome and congratulations Shawn!





Survey Highlights

- **Number of Participants:** 18 (2 vendors)
- **Suggestions for future events:**
 - Converged and hyper converged infrastructure
 - Public sector benchmarking sources
 - Knowledge management
 - Cybersecurity
 - Electronic public records
 - What's new in emerging technology
 - Internet of things in the workplace
 - IT staff management, motivation, and retention
- **Interest in training opportunities/certifications:** 94%

It's not too late to take the survey – your opinion matters! <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NXTSCWG>



2017 Calendar of Events

1st Quarter

- OCITA Executive planning session (Akron)

2nd Quarter

- OCITA annual spring event (TBD)
- Premier CIO event (Cleveland)

3rd Quarter

- OCITA annual fall event (TBD)
- GIS symposium (TBD)
- Cyber security day (TBD)

4th Quarter

- OCITA regional roundtable
- OCITA annual meeting (Columbus)
- Ohio Digital Government Summit (Columbus)
- OCITA/Information Security Summit (Westlake)