

Remote supports - A coming choice for people on waivers

Editor's Note: Remote Support is a great option for some thanks to advances in technology. It is the use of electronic equipment to support and assist people in their home as an alternative to the constant physical presence of staff. It is a service that can be funded by Medicaid Home and Community Based Waivers. The following article was written by Larry Macintosh, Director of Administrative Supports for the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities. For more details, individuals or family members should contact their Service Coordinator.

People on Medicaid Waivers don't always want or need paid direct care staff doing everything for them. Sometimes people can choose technology to help them safely do more things for themselves and leave more money for other activities.

Over the next several months FCBDD Service Coordinators may be asking individuals enrolled on Waivers and their families to consider many new remote support options. The possible options to consider are almost endless and unique to the wants and needs of each person.

A short list of examples that show the range of what is possible includes: two-way communication at any time with a trained person via computer; medication reminders by a live person via video chat; voice activated TVs to provide a convenient hands-free way to watch movies and TV; stoves with sensors that alert a live person via video chat if a possible danger is detected and even induction stoves that cool immediately when a pot is removed to allow safer cooking.



Depending on the details of each installation, the person and his or her team can also decide if there will be immediate paid back-up staff available for emergencies. Over the next few months, Service Coordinators and Waiver Providers will be learning more about what is possible with this exciting new service available to people on IO, Level 1 and SELF Waivers.

To learn more, check out this short video by going to: www.nisonger.osu.edu/remote-supports.

March is month for Operation Feed

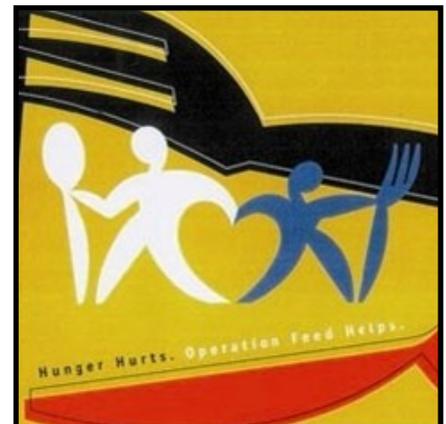
The 2018 Operation Feed campaign will be held throughout the month of March for the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities (FCBDD).

FCBDD staff, individuals served and family members are invited to join in this annual effort to help those in need. In 2017, staff contributed over \$10,000 and 3000 plus pounds of food, which provided over 40,000 meals for individuals.

Carl Scott, Print Shop Coordinator will head up this year's campaign again with the support of the Human Resources Department, Carolyn Earnhardt, Mandy Holland, Zach Kendall, Keith Ogle, and all building/ department coordinators.

Jed Morison, Superintendent/CEO says "our staff always does a terrific job with their donation of food or funds. They see the need every day."

Please contribute to Operation Feed!



Kurt Smith presents at National Webinar

Kurt Smith, Director of Special Projects for ARC Industries and the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities recently presented at a National Webinar highlighting the good work of ARC Industries.

The Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program community of practice monthly webinar was held on February 14th on the topic of 'Service Transformation.'

Kurt's presentation focused on the challenges of transforming services in a large agency and outlined the FCBDD/ ARC Industries approach to increasing community experiences, especially for individuals with complex needs. He shared successful strategies and lessons learned as changes are made in response to new regulations and best practices initiatives.

Kurt presented with Sara Murphy, Senior Associate at TransCen and Director of WorkLink, a direct service program in San Francisco. Sara has provided technical assistance to ARC Industries, thanks to a grant from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities.



Ohio SIBS "Reaching for Inspiration"

Reaching for Inspiration is the theme for an evening event on March 10th sponsored by Ohio SIBS.

Teeba Marlowe will share her transformation from tragedy to miracle. Learn how family support and love enabled her journey from war-torn Iraq to Ohio.

Teeba's story has been shared with millions on television shows such as "The Doctors" and "Dr. Phil."

Thanks to the generosity of The Glow Foundation, participants can spend an evening with Teeba and truly be inspired. For additional details, or to register, go to www.ohio.sibs.org.



West Central School plans 40th celebration

West Central School is planning to celebrate 40 years of service on May 18, 2018. All current and former students, families, staff, friends, business partners, community partners and friends are invited to celebrate the school's history and to re-unite our relationships.

Dr. Maryalice Turner, Principal, stated, "West Central has a rich history of service to our students, and so many wonderful stories of success regarding our students. Our Anniversary Committee is planning this event by collecting pictures for displays, making a video of happy memories, designing activities for families utilizing our talented art and music departments, and providing refreshments. We are working on entertainment and finding food trucks for the event."

The event will run from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., with speakers presenting at 4:00 p.m. All are welcome to join in the fun at 1481 West Town Street in the Franklinton area. For details, call West Central School at (614) 342-5273.



Stallion logo for West Central School designed by Amy Hipple.

Ohio DD Council updates its "Guardianship in Ohio" booklet

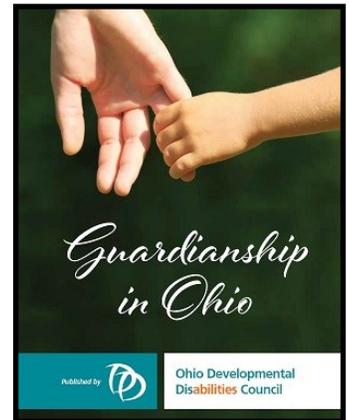
The Ohio Developmental Disabilities (DD) Council has updated Guardianship in Ohio, a booklet that offers a comprehensive overview of guardianship and alternatives in Ohio.

The information is written for families who have a child with a developmental disability but may be relevant for others who need to navigate the often confusing and intimidating world of probate court and guardianship.

Logan Phillips and Bill Root, principal attorneys with Resch, Root, & Phillips, LLC, are the authors of this booklet, supported by funding from the Ohio DD Council.

The book can be downloaded by going to: <http://ddc.ohio.gov/Portals/0/guardianship2017.pdf>.

Hard copies are also available upon request by calling the DD Council office at (614) 466-5205 to place an order.



OCALI Newsletter



OCALI (Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence) is a recognized leader in creating and connecting resources and relationships to ensure that people with disabilities have the opportunity to live their best lives for their whole lives.

OCALI Now is a new monthly newsletter designed to engage, inform, and inspire through stories and strategies that help support the care, work, and activities of parents, families, professionals, and individuals.

Each issue includes news, updates, and offerings through a mix of articles, links, interviews, personal narratives and blogs, tips, videos, and more. To sign up to receive this newsletter, go to <https://www.ocali.org/project/ocali-now>.

Annual Report



The 2017 Annual Report of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities is now available.

The report highlights the successes of 2017, including the passage of Issue 4 and the celebration of 50 years of service. Details regarding finances, services and locations are also provided.

To review the report online, go to www.fcbdd.org/publications.

For a printed copy, contact Amy Magginis at (614) 342-5950.

Save the Date

**West Central School
40th Anniversary
Celebration**

**Friday,
May 18, 2018**

3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**West Central School
1481 W. Town Street**

Changes expected for Developmental Disabilities waiting lists

Editor's Note: The following story was published by Gongwer News on February 2, 2018. We thought our 'Dateline' readers would be interested.

Stakeholders are nearing agreement on a set of rules designed to fix problems with the state's waiting list for developmental disabilities Medicaid waivers.

New rules for the waiting list are set to be announced. They will include a couple of key changes designed to make the system, which currently includes thousands of people waiting for services they might need in the distant future, more responsive to immediate need, according to John Martin, director of the Department of Developmental Disabilities. The new system will require people joining the lists to go through an evaluation by staff at their county board of developmental disabilities to gauge what services they will need and when they will need them, Director Martin said.

"Those two things are going to be a pretty dramatic change," he said in an interview.

The roughly 49,000 people currently on waiting lists for developmental disabilities Medicaid waivers will have to go through the evaluations, as will new people joining the lists, Director Martin said. County boards will have 18 months to complete the transition.

Adam Herman, spokesman for the Ohio Association of County Boards, said boards are optimistic that the change would fix what is widely seen as a flawed waiting list system.

"County boards are very encouraged that the fix the list effort may finally address some of the longstanding issues with Ohio's Medicaid waiver waiting list," he said in an interview.

The change will require a lot of work for boards, Mr. Herman said. One area still being discussed is a technical issue of whether board staff will have to enter information into two different computer systems - one for the county and one for the state - when conducting evaluations.

"County boards see this as a great opportunity to simplify the waiting list system, not make it doubly difficult," he said.

One advantage of the new system is that it will provide boards and the state with a better idea of what services are needed, Director Martin said. At the moment, the list likely includes many people who don't need a waiver and others who won't need one for years.

Providing more certainty will help the state calculate what it needs come budget planning time, the director said. It will help the state better identify how many Medicaid waivers should be funded in a given budget cycle.

"That data and when they need it becomes critical for the state as well as the county boards in making those kinds of plans," he said.

The new system will also help people on the lists develop closer relationships with their boards, Director Martin said. People will be able to update the boards on changes at the individual or family level in order to re-evaluate their need, and boards will have a better idea of what is happening in their communities.

"We think this way is a much more personal way," he said. "It also helps to develop that relationship between the county boards and the families."

The new list could also identify people on the list who have needs that can be met without a Medicaid waiver, allowing those issues to be dealt with more quickly and efficiently, Mr. Herman said.

"Having more information about the people who are on the waiting list will allow us to better direct resources where they can be used most effectively," he said. "The waiting list does nothing to help connect people with services."

Steve Beha, associate director of the Arc of Ohio, said the current waiting list system is not helpful for anyone, including families in need of services, and the changes will help ensure the list has meaning.

"It's no longer just a name on a list. It's a name that's on this list that has an attached need to it," he said.

Mr. Beha also emphasized that the evaluations can point people toward funding streams other than Medicaid waivers, allowing them to receive services more quickly.

Overall, Mr. Beha said the 14-month process of remaking the waiting list system was thorough and effective.

"It was a long process but it needed to be," he said. "This coalition has really taken into account the voices of families. This has taken a long time, but it's because they have listened to the aspects and the viewpoints of everybody in the room."

Director Martin said the revisions are intended to help the system adapt to changing needs and provide better coordination for people who need services.

"It becomes much more of a living organism, the wait list does," he said. "It's responsive. It provides an opportunity for families to keep the boards updated to what's going on."

Good for you

Notable achievements in the FCBD community

Special thanks to JoAnn Howard, Supervisor at Bixby Center, for 14 years of excellent services.

JoAnn will retire at the end of March.



Kudos to Mike Boyce, Central Office Facilities Manager in Maintenance, and entire Maintenance staff for helping to make all FCBD properties safe during Winter Weather, not to mention all the other projects and ongoing maintenance demands.

Thank you to Tim Voigt, Supervisor in Service Coordination, for coordinating a Committee that will promote the Remote Support/ Monitoring service for individuals who have Medicaid waivers.

Thank you to Kimberly Brazwell, CEO of Kimistry, for outstanding presentation to FCBD Management/ Supervisory staff on the topic of diversity.



Provider Fair planning continues - April 18th!

Planning continues for the 2018 Franklin County Provider Fair to be held on April 18 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Individuals, families, professionals and friends will learn about the wide variety of community activities and providers available in Franklin County. There is no fee to attend and

free parking will be available to all guests and vendors.

The Provider Fair will be held at the Ohio State Fairgrounds/ Expo Center in the Lausche Building. For further details or to register as a Provider, call Joni Sparks at (614) 342-5964.

Career Milestones

30 years

Theresa Conti
Patric Davis
Barbara Hennis
John Johnson
Brenda Mullen

25 years

Scott Erenpreiss
Mark Johnson
Valeria McLean
Ollene Grizzle

20 years

Phyllis Armstead
Donna Frye
Cynthia Massenelli

15 years

Jane Massaquoi
Karen Toohey

10 years

Denise Blackburn-Smith
Melanie Erbe
Lois Sloan
Anne Murra
Valerie Watring

5 years

Robinson Dunham



Angels... touched by each other

Editor's note: The following article was submitted by Wanda Kenty, Independent Provider.

On January 5th, Chris Davis was "Touched by an Angel" while in the middle of his Friday evening grocery shopping with his mother and care provider.

A shopper stopped to chat with Chris and as their visit was coming to its end, Chris reached out for the shopper's hand and then gave him a big hug. It appears to have touched the heart of this shopper so much that he offered to treat Chris to "anything in the store" that he wanted.

Chris tried to resist, however the shopper insisted. Chris loves anything electronic and it resulted in the shopper giving Chris a "once in a lifetime" gift of a Nintendo DS gaming system and a 43" television on which to play his games.

It is not every day that you encounter a human "being" humane, who selflessly gives such a gift of love. But, it's especially rare when you find two, in the same place, at the same time.



2018 Awareness and Advocacy Day

The 2018 Developmental Disability Awareness and Advocacy Day will be held on Wednesday, March 7th at the Ohio Statehouse.

This year's theme for National Developmental Disability Awareness month is "Celebrate Community." Speakers are expected to address the crowd at 10:00 a.m. and those registered may be able to meet with their State Senator or State Representative.

For details on the event, contact Shane Schaefer of the Planning Committee at (614) 224-6772 or email sschaefer@opra.org.



Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

John Bickley, President
Beth Savage, Vice-President
Marie Crawford, Secretary
Linda Craig
Dean Fadel
Renée Stein

Superintendent/CEO **Jed W. Morison**

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities does not discriminate in employment or services on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, or disability.

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Jennifer Cunningham

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Information about the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities is always available on the internet at:

www.fcbdd.org

Calendar

March, 2018

- 7 Developmental Disability Awareness and Advocacy Day at Ohio Statehouse, 10:00 a.m.
- 10 "Reaching for Inspiration" sponsored by Ohio SIBS. For more details go to www.ohiosibs.org.
- 15 Self-Advocate Advisory Council meeting, 2879 Johnstown Road, 10 a.m.
- 17 Happy St. Patrick's Day!
- 18 World Down Syndrome Day Celebration, The Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, for event details go to www.dsaco.net or call (614) 263-6020.
- 19 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, ARC Industries Central Offices, 2780 Airport Drive, 11:30 a.m.
- 21 Family Support meeting, 2879 Johnstown Road, 10:00 a.m.
- 22 Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities Board In-Service, 2879 Johnstown Road, 4:00 p.m.
- 22 Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Road, 5:00 p.m.
- 30 Staff Development Day

2018 Franklin County Provider Fair

Your Provider, Your Choice

SAVE THE DATE!

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The Lausche Building
17th Avenue at I-71
Ohio State Fairgrounds

FREE PARKING!

HELPFUL TIPS

- Plan on dedicating at least 1 hour to have the chance to get the most information.
- Service Coordinators are available for any assistance you may need.
- Wear comfortable shoes.
- Food and drinks available for purchase.

**DD Waiver Providers and
Community Resources!**