

Staff Person of the Year



Congratulations to Cindy Deye, Art Coach at the Shared Lives Studio, on her recognition as the Staff Person of the Year. She has been employed by the Board for over 25 years and has proven herself to be a hard-working, compassionate, and giving person.



Upcoming Events

- April 11—Family & Advocate Forum with Superintendent Deb Yenrick, 9:30 a.m., 1154 Larc Lane
- April 14— Spring Holiday
- April 20—People First, 6:00 p.m. at the Ability Center
- April 28—Dinner-Dance
- May 6—Area IV Special Olympics Spring Meet
- June 7—Staff Inservice Day
- June 21—Rec Jam
- June 23-25—Special Olympics State Summer Games

Update

Quarterly

Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities
January-February-March 2017

Shannon Risenburg honored as Self-Advocate of the Year

Self-Advocate of the Year honors were presented by the Board of DD to Shannon Risenburg. Shannon began working with the janitorial crew at Larc Lane Center 15 years ago. He has since worked with the Transportation Department and at the Telegraph Road facility always proving himself to be a true asset. Currently stationed at the Board's Administration Building, Shannon's maintenance responsibilities can take him throughout the program, so he is a pretty familiar face. Active with the Employee Advocate and Advisory Council, he is able to speak his mind, but always with respect.



State grant to Lucas County will help address the shortage of direct care staff



TV reporter Kristian Brown interviews Lisa Poiry, Provider Support Coordinator, during the news conference to discuss a \$750,000 state grant to Lucas County to retain and obtain direct staff support for persons with developmental disabilities. Some of the money will be used to break down barriers that keep these employees from retaining their jobs. Such as transportation, childcare and other issues they may face.

Shared Lives artist has her mosaic on display at the Governor's residence



Shared Lives Studio artist Elise Wagner poses with her mosaic that is on display at the Governor's Residence as part of an art exhibit sponsored by Ohio First Lady Karen Kasich and the Ohio Arts Commission. Elise is one of the artists at the Shared Lives Studio.

The Shared Lives Studio, 20 North St. Clair in downtown Toledo is open Monday-Saturday 10am-3pm and by appointment. Call 419-244-6649.

Resolving Complaints and Grievances

There is a formal procedure you may use to resolve disagreements about eligibility, programs and services.

Individuals who have concerns are encouraged to attempt to resolve those differences initially on an informal basis with facility supervisors.

Individuals may also contact the Ombudsman at 419-381-5201.

A pamphlet outlining these procedures is available by calling the Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities at 419-380-4000. It is also available on the Board of DD website at www.lucasdd.org

Scott Noonan appointed the newest member of the Lucas County Board of DD



Scott Noonan is congratulated by Judge Jack Puffenberger after taking the Oath of Office. Mr. Noonan is a Labor Engagement Liaison with the United Way.

Mary Pat Riker honored with the annual Spirit Award

The Lucas County Board of DD, at its Annual Meeting, honored Mary Pat Riker with its prestigious Spirit Award, recognizing a lifetime of service to persons with developmental disabilities.

Mary Pat is one of the most recognizable throughout the developmental disabilities community, not only in Lucas County but across the state. Mary Pat has a long history of volunteer work with the Arc. After she retired from her position as the Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent's Office, she went to work as the office manager for Ohio Public Images, a statewide organization working to create positive images of persons with developmental disabilities. In that position, she was an instrumental figure in ten annual statewide campaigns.



Mary Pat was a charter member of Maumee Valley Civitan and a past-president. The organization, now known as Partners for Inclusion, works to create inclusionary activities on behalf of persons with developmental disabilities. Many many people have benefitted from her involvement, and, we believe she is going to be with us for a long time to come.

**When you need a helping hand the Ombudsman can help.
Call 419-381-5201**

The Ombudsman will address service-related issues in a timely manner that is fair and which respects personal rights and professional responsibilities. The goal of the Ombudsman is to increase your ability to deal more effectively with your situation.

\$25,000 donation to Lucas County Special Olympics will help support the trip for athletes to the Summer Games



Smiles of appreciation and thanks from the Special Olympics staff as they accept a donation of \$25,700 from Michael Malone (center) and his brother Tim (far left). The donation is from the estate of their parents, Willis and Barbara Garwood.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of county boards of developmental disabilities

The approval in 1967 of Senate Bill 169 created Ohio's county board system. The first meeting of the Board in Lucas County was on October 25 of that year. The original Board members were Jane Cartwright, Thomas Davis, Frederick Guy, Jay Shuer, Bernard Wilson, Clifford Dussel, and Kate Page. Mr. Shuer was elected the first chairman.

At that initial meeting, the Board adopted its first mission statement, tasking the Board to develop the capacities of persons served to their fullest capacities so they could achieve their maximum potential. It bears a striking resemblance to the new mission statement adopted by the Board only recently: Improving LIFE so that individuals with developmental disabilities reach their full potential.

That mission statement is a commitment to people being served even as the Board is involved in unprecedented systemic changes primarily mandated by Medicaid. Because the Lucas County Board of DD is a Medicaid administrative agent and determines eligibility for service it

can no longer provide direct services. This move away from direct services is referred to as "conflict free case management."

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Transportation Services provided by the Board ended in 2016. These services are now being provided by TARTA, TARPS and other providers in the community. Lott Industries will soon become an agency provider. It is part of the process that will see the not-for-profit corporation reorganized and operating separately from the Board of DD.

Lott Industries will stabilize its work floor operations at the facility on Hill Avenue. Individuals who receive day habilitation by the Board who are not employed by Lott will receive services at the Holland Road Adult Services Center until that facility is phased out.

The Lucas County Board of DD recognizes that the implementation of changes in the coming year will mean new challenges. But the commitment remains to support eligible individuals and their families in developing a vision for the future based on individual strengths, interests and choices.

Special Recognition presented to Alan Switzer



Alan Switzer listens to Theresa Athaide-Victor read the citation accompanying the Special Recognition Award.

Self-advocacy is an outgrowth of Alan's personality. He has served on many committees at the Hill Avenue facility and was elected by his peers to the Employee Advocate and Advisory Council.

Alan is a true success story. He has gained independence, confidence, met new people and had many new opportunities this past year.

Congratulations, Alan! The Board is pleased to recognize you with its Special Recognition Award

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Deb Yenrick, Superintendent

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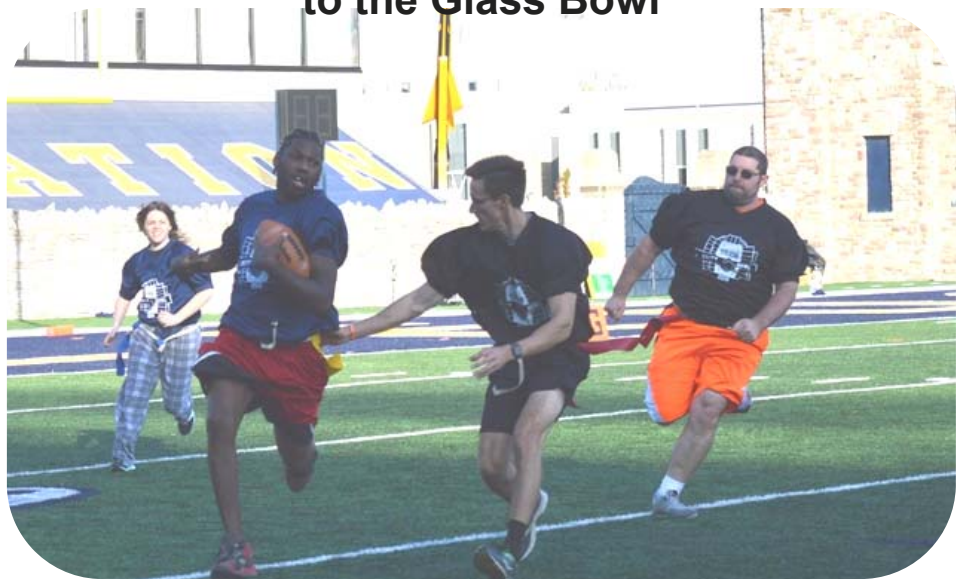
Get our new mobile app



Take key information from the Lucas County Board of DD with you wherever you go. The app is available free from Apple Apps and from Google Play. The mobile app is another way the Board will use to get timely information to its staff and the families we serve.

You can also find us at www.Facebook.com/LucasCountyDD or on our website www.lucasdd.org

First Unity Bowl brings unified sports to the Glass Bowl



The flag football tournament on the turf of the University of Toledo Glass Bowl brought Special Olympics Unified Sports to the campus. Unified events have athletes with and without disabilities in competition. Staff and students at UT are big supporters of Special Olympics offering fundraisers and other activities. The collaboration with UT is promoting inclusion and the opportunities to build mutually enriching friendships.