



## **B.R.I.D.G.E.S.**

**B**uilding Relationships Intentionally to **D**evelop  
**G**rowth and **E**xemplary **S**ervices

{April 2019}



## **FORECAST**

### **WELCOME!**

#### **Facts You Didn't Know About the Month of April**

April Is Named for Aphrodite

April's Zodiac Signs Are Four-Legged Hooved Creatures

April's Honorary Flowers are Daisies and Sweet Peas

The Diamond Is April's Birth Stone

Poet William Wordsworth Was Born in April

### **FYI:**

#### **[Remote Support: Free Choice of Provider and Billing](#)**

- by System Account in [Guidance Memos](#)
- This memo provides clarification and guidance for county boards of developmental disabilities about how to ensure free choice of provider and proper billing for Remote Support.
- When using paid backup support, the Free Choice of Provider process is administered when the person with disabilities selects the Homemaker/Personal Care (HPC) provider agency that will be providing the backup support. The selected HPC agency may choose

to sub-contract with a vendor company of their choice. The sub-contracted company (the vendor) would provide the staff that would provide the Remote Support.

- When using unpaid backup support, the Free Choice of Provider process is administered when the person with disabilities selects the vendor company that will provide the staff that would provide the Remote Support.
- Backup support must be in place before Remote Support services can be billed through the waiver. Those supports may be paid (HPC agency) or unpaid (natural support).
- Whether paid or unpaid, the person's individual service plan must specify the "reasonable amount of time" in which the backup support must respond, upon being contacted by the vendor.

## **RULE UPDATE: Required Reading**

### [Guidance: Level of Care Rule](#)

- *This is a guidance memo from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities.*
- In collaboration with the Ohio Association of County Boards and its members, the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities would like to share the following guidance to clarify the Level of Care (LOC) rule and its implementation.
- Below is a list of items that were agreed upon to clarify the LOC procedure going forward.
- "Current diagnosis" means a written determination by a qualified professional whose scope of practice includes diagnosis, which lists the diagnosed conditions that currently affect a person's health and functional abilities. The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities is no longer stipulating "current" as the past 12 months. "Current" means the documentation containing the diagnoses is accurate at the date of submittal.
- SELF Waiver: "Change of Condition" is not required when going from "Child" to "Adult." The county board will need to complete an LOC date change and attest to the new waiver span for the person as an adult.
- Change of Condition at age 10: The documentation submitted with the "Change of Condition" may be the documentation that was submitted with the initial Level of Care unless the documentation identifies a substantial developmental delay.
- Change of Condition for re-enrollment in a waiver: Current diagnosis documentation should be submitted. A new diagnosis verification is not needed unless the person experienced a change in their physical or mental condition or functional abilities that results in a change in their Level of Care.
- There is a grace period for accepting the old clinician's verification form (CVF). If the clinician has signed an old form, the department is not requiring the county board to have the clinician sign the new form to replace it.
- County boards should begin using the new CVF. It is permissible for the CVF to be completed and signed by a Certified Nurse Practitioner (CNP) for conditions within the

CNP's scope of practice, beginning February 14, 2019, and going forward.

- All questions related to this guidance should be directed to [LOC@dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:LOC@dodd.ohio.gov)



## GUIDES

This month we feature **Steve Mortemore**. Born to parents who were lifelong stage performers, Steve found his passion for ballroom dancing at a young age. A novice in this, Steve won awards across the country in competitive ballroom dancing. So great and inspiring were his graceful moves, he was asked to author an autobiography regarding his numerous competitions and awards. This book was later nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize in literature. A little known fact is that Baz Luhrman's *Strictly Ballroom* released in 1992 is loosely based on his life. While climbing Pike's Peak, Steve sustained a foot injury which left him unable to continue his lucrative career in ballroom dancing. This led him to work in Adult Options at Lott at Berdan Avenue. He then went to work at Hill Avenue and then Holland Road for many years. This long journey eventually led him to Provider Supports. Here you will find Steve. He continues to show passion and dedication in supporting Lucas County's many providers as he did during his competitive ballroom career.



## LAMPPOST

### **Background Check Fee to Increase**

The Ohio Attorney General's Office has announced that the FBI is increasing the cost of its background check by \$1.25. Effective April 1, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) fee for the FBI background check will increase by the same amount from \$24 to \$25.25.

### **TARPS/TARTA Fee Increase**

Effective April 1 the cost of riding TARTA and TARPS will increase. The monthly TARTA passes will increase from \$25.00 to \$30.00/month and the cost of TARPS tickets will increase from \$2.50/ticket to \$3.00/ticket. Beginning April 1, if a passenger is paying cash to ride TARPS, they will need to pay \$3.00. If they are using a \$2.50/ticket, TARPS will continue to accept those tickets at face value through the month of April. Effective May 1, if an individual uses a \$2.50/ticket, they will need to add 50 cents cash to the ticket or place two tickets into the fare box. Any certified TARPS rider will continue to be able to ride TARTA for free by showing the TARTA driver their TARPS ID card. The exception to this, however, will be with the TARTA suburban Call-A-Ride buses. TARPS riders will no longer be able to ride the TARTA Call-A-Ride buses for free effective April 1. The cost to ride Call-A-Ride will be \$3.00 for a one-way trip. TARTA riders can continue to utilize any TARTA bus as often as they desire with their monthly TARTA passes.

### **Managing Challenging Behaviors:**

The Provider Supports Department has teamed up with the Specialized Supports unit to pilot an interactive group training focused on managing challenging behaviors. The training is intended for a small group, and will be focused on individuals the provider is currently working with and how to best support the individual during interventions. The training will be a group effort where open discussion about current concerns is encouraged.

The attached form can be filled out by the provider and emailed to Brian Jones/Provider Support in preparation for the small group training. Brian's email is: [bjones@lucasdd.org](mailto:bjones@lucasdd.org). The first training will be offered on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. The form can be found at this link: [https://gallery.mailchimp.com/46f9edd74ac726fdf457dfe0f/files/fdb719fb-0945-496e-afcc-0d3a6f394393/Provider\\_Supports\\_Conference\\_referral.docx](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/46f9edd74ac726fdf457dfe0f/files/fdb719fb-0945-496e-afcc-0d3a6f394393/Provider_Supports_Conference_referral.docx)



## KUDOS

### Lott Industries

Kudos to **Lott Industries** who partnered with Food for Thought and other organizations. They opened their own food pantry on March 21, 2019 at their facility on Hill Ave. It is open to the public on the third Thursday of the month from 12pm-2pm.



## TRAINING

Attached is the April training calendar and we have a lot of great presentations coming your way this month!

Wednesday April 3 (10:00-11:30) Brian Jones and Andrea Jaworski will be presenting **“Understanding Challenging Behaviors.”** This training is designed to be interactive and bring practical solutions to your most challenging cases. Providers are invited to bring scenarios with them to discuss and get helpful feedback from those with behavior experience. See the above announcement in "Lamppost" for a form to submit for specific help with challenging behaviors!

Wednesday April 10 (10:00-12:00) **“Domestic Violence 101”** by the Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center. This training will cover myths, impacts, power and control, forms of abuse, abuser behaviors and victim signs. Participants will learn why victims stay, how to get help, and view and discuss a documentary about the problem of domestic violence.

Thursday April 11 (1:30-3:00) **“Effective Service Documentation”** – this required training is being offered “live” for the first time this month! Effective Service Documentation is a requirement within 60 days of first providing services; a provider must be trained in service documentation and billing for services in this timeframe. This training will meet the requirement

for Service Documentation. The training will look at the rule for service documentation (5123:2-9-06) and the rule for Unusual Incident Reporting (5123:2-17-02). Participants will gain an understanding of the required elements for documentation and sample forms. This training will also include the elements of an Unusual Incident Report writing.

Tuesday April 16 (1:30-2:30) **“Independent Provider Documentation”** by Ron Volk. Ron is an Independent Provider and the father of an adult daughter with a developmental disability. Ron has created successful forms and systems to help him stay organized and on top of his documentation and billing. If you are an Independent Provider please come and let Ron share his experience, forms, and systems with you!

Wednesday April 17 (10:00-11:30) **“Good Life: The 100/0 Principle”** by Renea Quire (held at our Administration Building in the Multipurpose Room.) In the past we have offered Good Life sessions in a series. This year we are offering stand-alone interactive experiences as part of our monthly Good Life focus to encourage us in our work with individuals to help them live a good life! The sessions are open to all and people are encouraged to attend any and all that fit in their schedule. Each month will have a different theme so watch the calendar for the topic and come join the fun!

Thursday April 25 (8:30-12:00) **“The Ethics of Working with Vulnerable Populations”** by Jennifer Wolfe. This training will provide required ethics for licensed social workers and counselors. Participants will learn appropriate ethical considerations for working with vulnerable individuals. They will understand their ethical responsibility to work within their scope of practice. Participants will recognize the importance of self care and will create a self-care plan to assist them in maintaining balance in their personal and professional lives.

Tuesday April 30 (1:00-3:00) **“Child Abuse 101”** by the Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center. This training will cover various forms of child abuse including Shaken Baby Syndrome. Risk factors, medical considerations, physical and behavioral indicators, and the impact of child abuse will be shared. Red flags of abuse and reporting requirements will be addressed.

To register for any of these trainings, please contact **Sara Gardner** at [sagardner@lucasdd.org](mailto:sagardner@lucasdd.org) or (419) 381-5164.

April's training calendar can be accessed at the following link: [https://gallery.mailchimp.com/46f9edd74ac726fdf457dfe0f/files/15645aec-c6f6-4bbc-a322-2bd5a970c48a/APR\\_2019\\_Training\\_Calendar.pdf](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/46f9edd74ac726fdf457dfe0f/files/15645aec-c6f6-4bbc-a322-2bd5a970c48a/APR_2019_Training_Calendar.pdf)



## FIRST AID STATION

**Cholesterol** is a waxy substance found in your blood. There are two types of cholesterol, low-density (LDL) and high-density (HDL). LDL is considered “bad” cholesterol because it transports cholesterol particles throughout your body, where they can build up in the walls of your arteries, making them hard and narrow. HDL is considered the “good” cholesterol, because it picks up excess cholesterol in your blood and takes it back to your liver. With high cholesterol levels, you can develop fatty deposits in your blood vessels. When these deposits grow, they can make it difficult for enough blood to flow through your arteries. If these deposits break suddenly they can form a clot that will cause a heart attack or stroke. High cholesterol has no symptoms, and can only be detected through a blood test.

High cholesterol can be inherited, but it's often the result of unhealthy lifestyle choices, which make it preventable and treatable. A healthy diet, regular exercise and sometimes medication can help reduce high cholesterol.



## PATH TO SUCCESS

### **Collaborations Work!**

Building relationships and working in partnerships are key to influencing initiatives that work to sustain long term quality supports for individuals with developmental disabilities. The Ohio Association of County Boards along with the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities and Ohio Provider Resource Association are working with County Boards across Ohio. In 2018, Lucas County Board of DD was awarded as a participant for a second phase of the pilot project which first began phase 1 in fall of 2016. The project goal is to promote cooperation and support among County Boards and with providers of disability services at a local level while developing strategies in conjunction with local stakeholders to increase collective focus on improving the quality of services and supports for people with developmental disabilities. A small core group comprised of County Board representation and Providers has been meeting monthly and will expand input from individuals and families on what quality services mean to them. If you are interested to hear more about this initiative and how you can support the effort, contact Lisa Poiry, LCBDD Provider Development Coordinator at 419-381-5167.



# SHOOTING STAR

*Rest when you're weary.*

*Refresh and renew yourself, your body, your mind, your spirit.*

*Then get back to work.*

*-Ralph Marston*

**Great works are performed not by strength but by perseverance.**

**- Samuel Johnson**

**Are you ready for spring and all things green?** Research suggests that greenery can improve your well-being. Per Cathryn Keller, (Oprah magazine, February 2019); a study in the *Journal of Physiological Anthropology* found that tending an indoor plant had a relaxing effect. Some year-round options are peperomia, snake plants and succulents. To ensure they do well, keep them away from temperature fluctuations like heaters and open windows and avoid over-watering. Consider the addition of plants to your waiting room or office. They are inexpensive, take up limited space and help purify the air. They will be beneficial to you and your clients.



## RESOURCES

Helpful provider information is always available at the following websites:

DODD: <http://www.dodd.ohio.gov/Pages/default.aspx#>

Lucas CBDD: <https://lucasdd.info/> (Click on "Provider Supports")