



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

Building **R**elationships **I**ntentionally to **D**evelop
Growth and **E**xemplary **S**ervices

{September 2020}



FORECAST

WELCOME!



September in the Northern Hemisphere is beginning of autumn, while it is the spring season in the South. September's flower is asters which is known to symbolize wisdom, valor and faith. Different aster colors can carry different meanings. For example, purple asters symbolize wisdom and royalty. The birthstone for September is sapphire. September has many national awareness and observance, but we only will mention a few.

Take some time to google September observances to find many more things to celebrate.

- National Senior Center Month
- National Service Dog Month
- National Honey Month
- National Piano Month
- Classical Music Month
- Mold Awareness Month

Let's look at National Service Dog Month: a time to appreciate all the service dogs. These wonderfully trained dogs live to serve and protect their handler. They help their person live fuller more independent lives. These dogs offer companionship, comfort and assistance. Most people are aware that service dogs help the blind and have been very vital to many veterans who are experiencing PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder). Service dogs, however, are also very helpful for those who use a wheelchair or have medical conditions and disorders. These conditions may include, but are not limited to, hearing impairments, seizure disorder, allergies, diabetes, traumatic brain injuries, physical needs and mental health disorders like anxiety.



 **KUDOS**



TO
Creative Living Services



An email was sent to Cathy Thanasiu from SSA Angelique Lewis:

"I wanted to share with you how wonderful I feel Creative Living Services has been. Any concerns that arise are taken care of immediately. The communication is fantastic. I have the guys that reside in one of the homes they provide services in. When any of these guys has a medical appointment, I will receive the patient summary that day or at the latest the next day. UIR's are reported to me in a timely manner. Each time I have been there prior to the dinner time, the food smelled wonderful. The staff is always friendly. The first time I did an unscheduled pop in at the home, the staff welcomed me in and then called Amy Thompson to make sure I was who I said I was. I thought this was very diligent on her part to ensure their health and safety. I just cannot say enough positive things about this provider.

They are also the ADS provider for the three guys. Each time I have visited the ADS, the individuals are actively involved in something. They invite speakers from the community to come in and talk about different topics. Due to the current situations we are all in, my one guy in the house was supposed to start with their ADS in March. Unfortunately, as with everyone that is on hold. We look forward to the new community connections he will make once they reopen to all individuals."



PATHS TO SUCCESS

Traveling on the Path of Success

In an online article by Adam Toren on www.entrepenuer.com, he tells readers that it's okay to define success, taking care not to be too restrictive in our plans. We must remain adaptable in our definitions of what success is for us; we should remember the total picture and be compassionate and understanding and willing to compromise with others who we are close to (remember they too have plans). We should treat others with respect, honesty, patience, and we should maintain humility as we move forward in our journeys.

As we move towards in achieving our goals, we should remember to celebrate the small victories along the way because they help us arrive where it is we want to go. If you don't take the time to do that, once you have achieved your goal, you might not even recognize that you have arrived. Focusing on the long-term plan, once achieved, most people simply start working on a new plan or a new phase of the same plan with very little, if any, celebration and resting in their current successes. In this way, one is always be striving to arrive.

The joy is on the path as well as in the destination.



LAMPOST

The Children's Department is seeking Heroes to help tired Caregivers!

We are looking for providers who are energetic, good with children, and have the ability to provide respite.

Please see the flyer below for more information:

https://mcusercontent.com/46f9edd74ac726fdf457dfe0f/files/3b0a3652-5726-430b-be6d-16835688b46e/Children_Respite_Flyer.pdf

Apple Invests in Housing for People With Developmental Disabilities

Adapted from Disability Scoop News Letter 7/21/20

Tech giant Apple is putting up money for housing people with developmental disabilities. The company said this month that it will create more than 250 new affordable housing units, many of them reserved for veterans, the homeless or formerly homeless and residents with developmental disabilities. The move is part of a broader initiative announced in 2019 to help address the housing crisis in California, where the company is based. This year Apple said it will allocate \$400 million toward assistance to California home owners and affordable housing projects, including units for individuals with developmental disabilities. Many cities and states have been forced to pause their long term affordable housing investments during the public health crisis. Kristina Raspe, Apple's VP for global real-estate and facilities stated "Apple is proud to continue moving forward with comprehensive plans to combat the housing crisis in California."

*****DSP of the Month*****

Congratulations to Michelle Grandowicz of Progressive Individual Care who has been chosen as the DSP of the Month for September 2020!

Michelle was nominated by Melody Blattner, who shared the following comments:

"Michelle is an amazing human being. She genuinely and wholeheartedly cares about and for the individuals that she serves. She makes everyday fun and exciting while making people feel safe and loved. Michelle is also an amazing employee. Our company has been open for almost 2 ½ years and she has never called off and has never been late. She is loyal, gentle, and has a heart of gold."

Thank you, Michelle, for your excellent work with the individuals you serve!

If you would like to nominate a DSP to be featured in one of our BRIDGES newsletters, please complete the form at this

link: https://mcusercontent.com/46f9edd74ac726fdf457dfe0f/files/e7b9df22-2383-4ba1-98af-230ac502f86a/DSP_of_the_Month_Nomination_Form.docx and submit to Jennifer Wolfe via email: jwolfe@lucasdd.org



TRAINING



Dates are being confirmed for **Dr. Phil McCallion of Temple University** who will be offering training in October on **Dementia and the IDD population**. Be watching for more information to come soon!

[ALL TRAINING IS OFFERED VIRTUALLY ON ZOOM AT THIS TIME.](#)

The **September training calendar** can be accessed

here: https://mcusercontent.com/46f9edd74ac726fdf457dfe0f/files/9597c0a7-0c6d-4f00-b102-c05588e27a2f/SEP_2020_calendar.01.pdf

Please find a flyer for the upcoming Human Trafficking Conference (held virtually September 23-25, 2020) here:

[Human Trafficking Flyer is linked here](#)

You can still access **new provider** training free online at DODD's website at the following link:

<https://dodd.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/dodd/about-us/training/departments-provided-training/eight-hour-provider-training>. You will be prompted to make an account and it will keep track of which modules you have completed. You can print off a certificate at the end.



ALL ABOUT ZOOM!

As ISP meetings and provider trainings go virtual, we have all been learning new skills to keep up with our online work. We have linked a helpful video resource for using Zoom on your computer or phone here: <https://youtu.be/mbbYqiurgeo>

For Provider Training sessions, we have some **Zoom Etiquette Expectations** that we ask all attendees to abide by.

1. Choose a dedicated spot to sit during the training that allows you to stay focused and participate in the training.
2. Put your microphone on "mute" so any background noise is not heard by other attendees.
3. Keep your camera on, and pay attention during the training.

Thank you for supporting these expectations so that we can continue to offer free provider training that is educational and useful to all!



FIRST AID STATION

Since **September** is National Mold Awareness Month it is a good time to educate ourselves of some of the possible health effects due to exposure of mold, both indoors and outdoors. Some common symptoms of mold reactions or allergies are listed below. Remember, if you have any concerns regarding the effects of your health and possible allergic reaction to mold, see your physician.

Possible symptoms:

- Skin irritation
- Allergy symptoms, such as a runny nose, cough and itchy eyes
- Respiratory issues
- Nose bleeds
- Colds and flu-like symptoms
- Headaches
- Nausea
- Mold-induced asthma episodes or irritation

Mold will always grow outside, for example a pile of wet leaves and branches, compost bin or in the gutters. Just taking a walk or a hike in a wooded area, one can smell and see mold growing. It can be brought into the home on shoes, where it settles in on the carpet. Indoors is where it is important to take control of the situation.

The best way to control indoor mold growth is to control moisture.

- Fix the source of the water problem or leak to prevent mold growth.
- Reduce indoor humidity (to 30-60%) to decrease mold growth by:
- Prevent condensation: Reduce the potential for condensation on cold surfaces (i.e., windows, pipes, exterior walls, roof, or floors) by adding insulation.
- Increasing ventilation (running a fan or opening a window). Some common area for mold growth is bathrooms, laundry rooms and kitchens.
- Use air conditioners and/or de-humidifiers when needed.
- Take your shoes off when entering inside, especially if you have been in an area with potential mold.
- Increase your cleaning, disinfect where mold grows -- in trash cans, sinks, kitchens and bathrooms. Watch for signs of mold on door seals of a refrigerator.
- Don't overwater indoor plants, damp soil grows mold.
- Use a vacuum with a HEPA filter.

References:

<https://www.epa.gov/mold> - United States Environmental Protection Agency (EAP)

<https://www.webmd.com/> - Web md

COVID-19 Resources

Below we have listed important State of Ohio resources from the Department of Health and the Department of Developmental Disabilities:

- If you have questions and want to ask for guidance regarding Coronavirus/COVID-19 please call the **Ohio Department of Health** at **1-833-4-ASK-ODH** (1-833-427-5634)
- **DODD's COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions** can be found at this link: <https://dodd.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/dodd/your-family/safety-security/resource-covid-19-family-faq>
- **DODD Statewide Support Teams** can be accessed at: <https://dodd.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/dodd/about-us/support-team>

"WARM LINE" for Emotional Support

In need of some emotional support while dealing with all things COVID-19?
Feeling lonely? Depressed? Anxious? Stressed? Scared? Angry?

Call the Lucas County Emotional Support Line:



SHOOTING STAR



RESOURCES

The Provider Supports Department staff are here for you!

Pat Stephens, Director
Lisha Washington, Department Secretary

Julienne Hardman, Provider Compliance Coordinator
Lisa Poiry, Provider Development Coordinator
Jennifer Wolfe, Provider Training Coordinator
Sarah Diesch, MUI Coordinator
Erica McElmurry, MUI Coordinator

Provider Support Specialists:

Dan Barda	Jenny Kinney	David McLaughlin	Terry Myers
Linda Repka	Sally Damschroder	George Woodget	Jane Meyer
Deetra Mitchell	Catherine Thanasiu	Michelle Cope-Morris	Gail Sanders
Meredyth Brown-Grycza			

Success Coaches:

Faith McCreary and Sharon Calhoun

Technicians:

Sherrie Burkhardt, Mellisa Merritt, Sara Gardner, & Danielle Russell

Investigative Agents:

David Mullin	Mira Banks	Dana Myers
David Vaughan	Tiffany Rozzano	Nathan Wolfe
Erin Lee	Esquarteesha Quinn	Tammy Jones
Tracey Merrithew		

***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")



Copyright © 2019 Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities, All rights reserved.
BRIDGES is a monthly publication of the Provider Supports Department.

Our mailing address is:

1155 Larc Lane
Toledo, OH 43614

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

This email was sent to [<< Test Email Address >>](mailto:Test Email Address)

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities · 1155 Larc Ln · Toledo, OH 43614-2737 · USA