



## 2022 Action Plan

### INTRODUCTION

Since 1967, the Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities (LCBDD) has been the primary conduit to support and services for persons with developmental disabilities in our community. We do this by:

- Identifying a vision for the future, through person-centered planning, based on individual strengths, interests and choices;
- Providing support to providers, helping ensure quality service delivery;
- Collaborating with other agencies, schools and employers to expand opportunities and help individuals reach their full potential; and
- Being a sound steward of the public dollars entrusted to us.

The LCBDD will continue to provide excellent service and support to the individuals, families and providers we serve in 2022. As we continue to navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic, we will monitor and adjust our operating procedures so we can best meet the needs of the individuals we serve, their families and our staff. Quality will always be of the utmost importance to us.

### MISSION AND CORE VALUES

The mission of the Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities is *Improving LIFE so that individuals with developmental disabilities reach their full potential.*

**LIFE** is an acronym for our core values.

1. **Living Life:** I desire to live my life in the same manner as you. This means having the opportunity to choose my home, my relationships, my hobbies, my career and my beliefs.
2. **Inclusion:** I am included, accepted and able to participate in all things throughout my community.
3. **Freedom of Choice:** My voice is heard in decisions that affect me. My opinion matters.
4. **Everyone has Worth:** I have talents and abilities that I want to share. I deserve the chance to contribute to the betterment of my community.

## INITIATIVES

Each department within the LCBDD has developed a comprehensive list of objectives and priorities for 2022, including details about how these goals will be accomplished, who is responsible for monitoring their progress and a means for measuring their success.

The following is a synopsis of these goals.

### **Building an inclusive community**

- By expanding our early intervention support in the areas of development and community inclusion through the age of 5, to include having parent/child playgroups available in the community.
- We will support individuals so they have full membership in their communities through connections with others, recreation, access to housing, employment and access to resources.
- We will continue to expand the Friends, Allies and Neighbors (FANS) Network to address unmet needs of individuals, including experiences that support a meaningful day and/or connection for them. We are building a network of community members who are willing to give time and/or resources to help people with disabilities.
- We will explore opportunities to increase sporting and recreation opportunities, including unified sports at the high school and collegiate levels, with necessary safety guidelines in place due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Achieving full potential**

- The LCBDD will work with community assets to provide the assistance and understanding necessary for more individuals to obtain and utilize technology to enhance their independence and privacy. We will help individuals obtain the technology that best meets their needs.
- The LCBDD will promote Employment First across the organization and the community, identifying barriers to employment and providing support and linkage to resources to overcome those barriers.
- The LCBDD recognizes the impact and importance of self-advocates. We will promote self-advocacy for all individuals with disabilities across the organization and community.
- The LCBDD will partner with providers to assist them with training and resources so they are equipped to provide quality services for individuals with intellectual disabilities and mental health concerns while working to address the Direct Support Professional (DSP) shortage.

## INITIATIVES (*continued*)

### Focusing on a safe and supportive environment

- The LCBDD will train the provider community on Bridges out of Poverty, Getting Ahead in the Workplace and PATHS. These programs help identify issues many DSPs have and suggest methods to surmount them.
- Involvement with the Lucas County Human Trafficking Coalition will continue. The LCBDD recognizes the importance of this commitment to focus on keeping the individuals we serve safe and secure since they are the community's most vulnerable.
- The LCBDD joins other agencies to make Lucas County a community in which we adhere to the principles of trauma-informed care so individuals being served feel less vulnerable. Attention will be given to expand this work into early childhood so we can gain a deeper awareness of a child's trauma and its triggers and use that information to better support the child and family as the child grows into adulthood.
- Efforts will be made to partner with Preferred Properties, as well as other community landlord and housing entities, to secure new residential/respite housing for individuals served.
- An increased emphasis will be placed on service needs for youth who may need to access services from multiple systems, such as the Board of Developmental Disabilities, Children Services, Public Schools and Juvenile Court. A major focus will be on understanding OhioRISE and the way this new program can be used to help meet the needs of our most at-risk youth.

Comments on this Action Plan may be addressed to:

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For more information about the Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities, please visit [www.lucasdd.org](http://www.lucasdd.org)