

# The Allen County Board of Developmental Disabilities

answers your questions...

- What services do you coordinate and monitor?
- Who are your community partners?
- What do local tax dollars support?



The Allen County Board of Developmental Disabilities funds all providers of service for people with developmental disabilities. We fund the following private providers of day services, vocational support and transportation.

- Benchmark Human Services
- Bittersweet, Inc. (Betty's Farm)
- Capabilities, Inc.
- Excursions Unlimited
- Friends of Leroy Brown/Innovative Opportunities
- Goodwill Easter Seals of Miami Valley
- Marimor Industries, Inc.
- RMS of Ohio
- Strive @ CRSI
- We Can Too, LLC
- Allen County RTA

Funding for providers is approximately 40% local dollars and 60% federal dollars.

We also fund the following private providers of residential and community services:

- Benchmark Human Services
- Bittersweet, Inc. (Betty's Farm)
- Caliber One Residential Services
- Champaign Residential Services
- Goodwill Easter Seals of Miami Valley
- IHS Services
- MPA Services
- Ottawa Valley Center
- RMS of Ohio

Services delivered by independent providers are also funded by the ACBDD. Other providers are added regularly, so please contact us at 419-221-1385, or visit our website, [www.acbdd.org](http://www.acbdd.org).

Local dollars also support the staff who monitor the quality of services delivered by all providers, develop the plan of support for each person and ensure the health and welfare of all people with developmental disabilities.



Additionally, the ACBDD provides Early Intervention services and Help Me Grow for children from birth to age three. The services of a Developmental Specialist, Speech Therapist, Physical Therapist and PLAY Project Coordinator are available for each child based on need.

The ACBDD also operates Marimor School, which serves children/youth who have significant medical, or behavioral needs.

We are always happy to answer your questions. Contact us at:

[www.acbdd.org](http://www.acbdd.org)  
[contactus@acbdd.org](mailto:contactus@acbdd.org)  
call  
419-221-1385



**Allen County Board of  
Developmental Disabilities**

## ***What's Our Story?***

In 2015 the Allen County Board of Developmental Disabilities began a transition process that will be complete on July 1, 2016. This was a very long and difficult journey in response to a 2014 federal mandate. The mandate dictated that all County Boards of Developmental Disabilities must separate their administration from their direct services or risk losing federal financial support. This support is critical to hundreds of individuals and families in Allen County.

“What does it mean to separate the administration from our direct services?” Our agency is made up of many parts that serve nearly 1000 people in the Lima and Allen County communities. There is Marimor School and Marimor Industries, which both include transportation. These are the more well-known programs because they provide “direct student and adult services”. However, the biggest service we provide is case management, called Service and Support Administration (SSA) and service coordination through Early Intervention and Help Me Grow.

Nearly 600 individuals have a case manager (SSA). Nearly 450 individuals are enrolled on a Medicaid waiver to help them access much needed day and residential supports. So there lies the “conflict”. The federal government has said we cannot be both the case managers and the provider of services for adults at Marimor Industries. Marimor Industries must become a private entity as are all other DD service providers in Allen County (For example, CRSI, RMS, IHS, Benchmark HS, Goodwill Easter Seals & Bittersweet- just to name a few).

What most people may not know is that the Allen County Board of DD coordinates the services, monitors the services, and ultimately pays for approximately 40% of all the services at Marimor Industries and all the other DD service providers in our community. The Allen County Board of DD is responsible for funding and supporting many programs in Allen County. We are much more than what you see on Ada Rd! By law, we have to ensure the individuals we serve have “free choice” of any provider they want for their residential, community, employment and day program needs.

“What does this all mean?” First, Marimor Industries board, which formed in 1969, was willing to expand their focus to become a private service provider. The staff at Marimor Industries has worked very hard to get ready for this change, including planning for the provision of private transportation with vans instead of school buses. Marimor Industries will still be located in the same building it is now and to the outside observer changes will not be noticeable.

After July 1, the Allen County Board of DD will continue to be as busy as ever! We will work hard to ensure quality, safe, person-centered services are available in our county. Marimor School will continue to educate children who need extensive medical care or who need intensive behavioral supports. Early Intervention will continue to provide in-home supports and therapies for families of more than 100 children age birth to 3 who are referred due to developmental delays or are at risk of delays. Help Me Grow is a grant program that will continue to be administered by our board. This program provides a vast array of birth to age 3 services also. The case managers (SSAs) will continue to coordinate services for more than 600 individuals, age 3 through the end of life. This includes monitoring services in local group homes and supported living type services. We will continue to investigate abuse, neglect and exploitation. We will support our children in public schools and their families as they request.

This has not been an easy transition for our nearly 200 employees. Job loss, job changes and wage redistributions are never easy. However, I strongly believe “our story” is being written by some of the best, most dedicated DD staff in the state. Please come visit us; see what we do. Tell us your story. Our promise is that we will continue to tell the story of the individuals and families we serve with support of some of the best service providers in Ohio.

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