



Allen County Board of Developmental Disabilities *The Community Connection*

A publication that recognizes the importance and potential of all people

Summer 2018

LEAVE A LEGACY

May 16, 2018 was a historic day. Five community leaders met to officially create the Marimor Legacy Foundation, a new nonprofit corporation for the express purpose of providing financial support for individuals who are served by the Board. The founding board members are Esther Baldrige, Angie Herzog, Greg Miller, Mary Jane Mullenhour, and Curtis Shepherd. The Marimor Legacy Foundation is registered by the State of Ohio and is a 501(c)3 nonprofit under the IRS.

Our community has been very supportive of the work and services of the Board for over fifty years. While so much is being done to support individuals with disabilities, more can be accomplished with additional resources. When our community is presented with a need, the response is always very positive.

For a number of years, the Board has raised funds to meet unusual and urgent needs that cannot be covered with tax dollars, such as rent deposits, clothing for a new job, or health and safety needs. These funds will be handled by the Foundation. Additionally, the Foundation will manage the funds involved in our annual Chicken BBQ fundraiser and other donations made to the Board.



This past year, the Board started to raise money for an all-inclusive public playground located at Marimor School. This playground will be linked to the Ottawa Metro Park. While just over \$30,000 has already been raised, much more will be needed before this project becomes a reality. You have an opportunity to be a part of this great project by making a donation or helping to build the playground when that day arrives.

Donations can be made to Marimor Legacy Foundation, 2500 Ada Road, Lima, OH 45801.

SPECIAL FRIENDS: A MINISTRY OF LIMA COMMUNITY CHURCH

Serving children in the community has always been one of the primary goals of the Lima Community Church of the Nazarene. It was apparent to Pam Little, Director of Children's Ministries, that serving children with disabilities was a need in their congregation. The Children's Ministry created Special Friends, a program designed to support families of children with special needs so that the entire family has the opportunity to fully engage in church.

The Ministry provides a family restroom complete with a changing table, a sensory room for kids birth to twelve years old who have difficulties in the Children's programs, and Buddies who are matched with kids in the program. These Buddies are specially trained to understand and work with the kids who need special loving care, allowing parents to attend their own service while knowing their child has the support he or she needs.

If you are interested in Special Friends, please contact Pam at pamlittle@limacc.com or 419-223-9646 ext. 1133, or go to their website for information and forms. Once the registration forms are submitted, the Coordinator will make contact to match your child with a Buddy.





A Note from the Superintendent



During the past year, we joined a statewide initiative to bring County Boards of DD together with our local providers to creatively and collaboratively address quality issues such as staff shortages in our service delivery system. Jana McVetta, Director of Quality & Support Services, and I were part of the Allen County team, as well as Ryan Knodel of Benchmark Human Services and David Bloom, Janet Seward and Jennifer Fisher of IHS Services. Together we met with the larger statewide group and then back here in Allen County we met with our local Provider Group on this project. We are grateful to have received grant money from DODD to help with some of the cost of these goals.

We embraced the attitude that the concerns our Providers face with staffing are also our concerns, as they impact those we support every day.

Here are some of our local outcomes:

- Monthly 'Learning Lunches' give Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) a place to network and learn about personal or professional topics. Contact Karen McCullough for more information: 419-221-1385 ext. 1036.
- CPR/First Aid for new provider staff is offered monthly. Contact Julie Falke for more information about the monthly CPR/First Aid classes: 419-221-1385 ext. 2045.
- A Success Coach was offered to make home visits, provide technical assistance, observation and mentoring. Contact Erin Koenig for more information: 419-221-1262 ext. 2030.
- We provided startup funds for DSPOhio.org with many other County Boards of DD across the state to hopefully encourage more workers to apply for the jobs available in our field.

Although our time on this pilot project ended in August 2018, we know that our work is not finished. Stay tuned for more ideas to help with the staff shortage. If you or someone you know is looking for work, our providers have a job for you!

Thanks for taking the time to read our newsletter and for your continued support of our mission and causes. We could not do it without you!

Theresa Schnipke, Superintendent
Allen County Board of Developmental Disabilities



**For more information about these meetings and outcomes, please read the full blog here: <https://acbdd.org/provider-group/>

FLYING SAUCERS DISC GOLF CLUB

In June, the FANS Network of Allen County started a new club for anyone who would like to try their hand at playing disc golf. All levels are welcome to join the Flying Saucers through the summer and fall - they meet at 9:30 am at Ottawa Metro Park by the disc golf course. Bring water and frisbees or discs if you have them. Upcoming dates include Sept. 20th and Oct. 18th. They play as long as the weather stays nice. For more information, or if you need a ride, contact Sarah Troyer at 419-221-1385 ext. 1008 or stroyer@acbdd.org.





Summer PLAYTIME was so much fun this year, spending time at places like the Children's Garden, Safety City, and the Lima Fire Station. During the school year, PLAYTIME is at Marimor School on Wednesdays at 10:00 am.

Contact Alyssa Plontz for information at 419-221-1262. Please join us!



MYTH BUSTER

Do you think twice before liking or following a business or group on Facebook? Are you concerned that a business can see your personal information?

It is a common myth that businesses can see the posts on your personal FB account. According to social media gurus at NOW Marketing, this is simply not true. Businesses only see your public profile.

If this has held you back from following us on FB, do not fear! Follow us today!



This new, easy-to-use online tool is designed so anyone can share their experiences with providers of services for people with developmental disabilities.

Similar to Angie's List or Home Advisor, Provider Guide Plus allows people who want services to check the reviews for providers they are considering. It can help with selecting a provider and to improve overall services.

www.providerguideplus.com



OHIO DD COUNCIL

Two years ago, Jill Radler saw a post on Facebook that changed her life. The Ohio DD Council was looking for new members. She submitted an application to join the ODDC and was approved.

Jill, who is now appointed to the ODDC by Gov. Kaisch for her second term, says that the people she has met have been amazing, especially self-advocates who speak up for others. She is also a teacher at Lima Senior, a parent of a child with disabilities, a National Core Indicator interviewer, and a member of the Allen County Special Olympics Parent Advisory Board.

Thank you, Jill, for all your hard work and service!

FREE COMMUNITY SCREENING

If you are concerned about your child's development, or are just interested in free screenings for your child, put October 2nd on your calendar.

All children birth to age 5 are invited to our FREE Community Developmental Screenings which include:

Hearing, Vision, Speech,
Nutrition, Behavior, Autism, Growth, Dental & Motor Skills.

Our next FREE screening will be held Oct. 2, 2018 at Market St. Presbyterian Church. Arrive and register between 4 pm and 6:30 pm. A parent or guardian must be present. Call Rachael Staley at 419-221-1262 ext. 1017 with any questions.

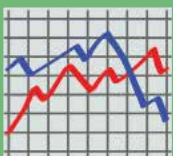
ACBDD FISCAL FACTS

Waivers are one way to pay for services that help people with developmental disabilities. We administer three different types of waivers: The Individual Options (IO), Level One, and Self-Empowered Life Funding (SELF). Each of these waivers has different spending limits and offers some different services.

By braiding together multiple funding sources, such as local county board of developmental disabilities funds and Ohio Medicaid benefits, a person with developmental disabilities may be able to have their service needs met without a Medicaid waiver.

The county board will work with you to help you find and coordinate services to meet your needs, using all available resources.

Nearly 96,000 Ohioans access services by working with their county board of developmental disabilities, direct service providers, and provider agencies to get the support they need to live the life they want. We serve nearly 900 people yearly in Allen County.





**Allen County Board of
Developmental Disabilities**

**2500 Ada Road
Lima, Ohio 45801**

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“Supporting individuals with developmental disabilities in Allen County by strengthening partnerships and providing high quality services.”

Connect With Us:

Allen County Board of DD..... 419-221-1385
Marimor School..... 419-221-1262
Early Intervention..... 419-221-1262
Reporting Abuse, Neglect or Theft.....419-221-1385
TTY.....419-221-3393
After Hours Emergency / On-Call SSA.....419-302-8825

www.acbdd.org



Members of the Allen County Board:

Martin Garlock, President	Linda Lehman
Thomas Fleming, Vice Pres.	Bob McPherson
Phyllis Montrose, Secretary	Adam Stolly
	Melissa Weaver



It's official!!

In April 2018, the Ohio Dept. of Developmental Disabilities awarded a

Three Year Accreditation to the Allen County Board of DD. Thank you to all our staff for their hard work and dedication to providing high quality services, as this award would not be possible without all of you.

**“INTELLIGENCE PLUS CHARACTER - THAT IS THE GOAL OF TRUE EDUCATION”
- MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**

It's time to welcome all students back to school! We're so looking forward to the new year for the Marimor School students, and we're excited to have the entire preschool program from the Allen County Educational Services Center joining us on campus this year. Let's gear up for a great year!!

