

## Excerpt from the 2014 Adult Services Strategic Plan:

2014 will be a time of change for the Adult Services programs being offered at the Clermont County Board of DD. There are a number of things guiding these changes. The department continues to emphasize "Employment First" for the individuals served in the Adult Program. In early 2012 Ohio Governor John Kasich issued an Executive Order identifying Ohio as an "Employment First" state for individuals with developmental disabilities. For many years the Adult Services program has operated a Community Employment Department and will continue to assist individuals with finding employment in their community. Along with those efforts, the agency continues to be a part of the Bridges to Transition grant program, a joint effort with the Ohio Association of County Boards and the Opportunities for Ohio with Disabilities Agency, to provide work exploration activities to students age 14-22. Along with the Employment First Initiative, there is a continued emphasis on individuals living and working in integrated, non-segregated settings and being paid minimum wage or higher vs. being paid a commensurate rate for the work they do in a sheltered workshop setting. Our goals will continue to reflect efforts to assist individuals find these types of opportunities. Finally, the Board, while looking at the financial picture in the long term recognizes the need to make sound fiscal decisions as to what size and scope of a program the agency can offer. The Adult Services program will move towards finding its niche of providing services to those individuals that may not be able to receive services in another setting. As more and more private day providers begin to establish themselves and offer services, the agency needs to continue to evaluate what our role should be in the "marketplace." Because of everything previously mentioned the Board has adopted a plan to discontinue serving individuals that receive their funding through a waiver in 2015. By adopting this plan, individuals who receive their funding through a waiver will have a year to seek out another day program provided by a private day provider that accepts the waiver as funding.