

THE BEACON



2040 US Highway 50
Batavia, OH 45103
513-732-7000

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September/October 2016

From the Superintendent

It has been a beautiful early autumn season here in Clermont County. I hope everyone is having the opportunity to enjoy it.

The Fall is when our serious planning for the following year kicks into gear. The October Board meeting is set aside to review feedback that we have received from individuals served, their families, and other stakeholders, along with our staff, to propose a direction for 2017. There are certain themes and areas that are being recommended for attention in 2017. These include: addressing waiting lists and unmet needs; transition age youth; continued Employment First efforts; the needs of aging caregivers; and the continued efforts to support community inclusion. Other areas that are on the radar for 2017 include: continued efforts to support Self Determination and Self Advocacy; the continued concern for the lack of enough transportation options for those we serve; and the continued need on the part of providers to be able to recruit and retain staff. After the October Strategic Planning meeting, we will be putting together a draft annual action plan that will be available on our website for review. We also will be advertising a date for Public Comment that we will take formal feedback on the draft. The plan will get finalized at the December Board meeting. As always keep an eye on our website and social media sites for the opportunity to offer feedback.

As mentioned in the last edition of the Beacon, our next Informational Forum will take place in November to update individuals, families, and stakeholders about our proposed plans for 2017. Also at this forum, we will be sharing about the work that we been involved with for over two years in becoming a Sanctuary certified organization. This work has helped us to become a more trauma informed agency that will ultimately help us see improved outcomes for the individuals and families that we serve and improve staff satisfaction. This work, however, doesn't stop with us internally. It's meant to go out to everyone we serve. This forum will introduce some practical ways that we can do that. Finally we are hearing that there is a need for family support groups in our county. A date for this forum will be advertised on our website and social media sites soon. I also wanted to share that the State of Ohio has unveiled a new tool to help Ohioans in crisis to receive help quickly. Individuals and/or families that are experiencing a crisis brought about by stress or trauma, can tap into a free, confidential, Crisis Text line. Any Ohio resident who needs help coping with a crisis can text the word "4hope" to 741741 and be connected to a crisis counselor.

I hope everyone has a fun Halloween season and wonderful Thanksgiving!

Dan Ottke

Superintendent



Clermont County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Staff Inservice and Recognition Awards

October 11 was not a regular inservice day for Clermont DD. Instead of planning speakers from outside of the agency for each session, the Clermont DD Core Team planned the day.

Core Team is one of the main pieces of the Sanctuary structure that Clermont DD staff have been learning for the past three years. Sanctuary is an overall cultural shift into "trauma-informed care." Instead of looking at an issue and thinking "What's wrong?" staff are learning to think "What's happened?"

Members of the Core Team led breakout sessions related to Sanctuary curriculum that included learning about collective disturbance and engagement. During lunch, staff were honored for their years of service in the categories listed below. Paul Daugherty, sports writer for the Cincinnati Enquirer was the keynote speaker. He and his wife, Terri, shared their experience in raising a child with Down syndrome and how she is now married and works full time at Northern Kentucky University.

It was a great day...congrats to our Core Team staff who made it possible!



Adult Services Department

5 Years - Sarah Ryan, David Smith,

Nicole Webb

15 Years - Connie Hornsby, Jennifer Fischer, Holly Iker, Cheryl Koch, Rhonda Bocks, Connie Kearney

20 Years - Lisa Ross, Scott Brown



Early Childhood Services

10 Years - Heidi King, Anna Roots (not pictured)

15 Years - Katie Mills, Kathy Herriott

Director Kimberleigh Szaz, far left

Visit us online at

www.clermontdd.org

Special Olympic Team Wins Silver

Tammy Carpenter, Jackie Foy, Rocky Arnett, and Delbert Witt represented Clermont DD at the Special Olympics Ohio State Team Bowling Competition on Sunday, October 24. The team received the Silver Medal, placing second out of six teams from various locations in Ohio. State Team Bowling is held each fall for athletes interested in two- and four-person traditional teams, as well as Unified Teams which consist of an equal number of athletes with and without disabilities.

We're very proud of this year's team and look forward to seeing what they can do in 2017!



Inclement Weather

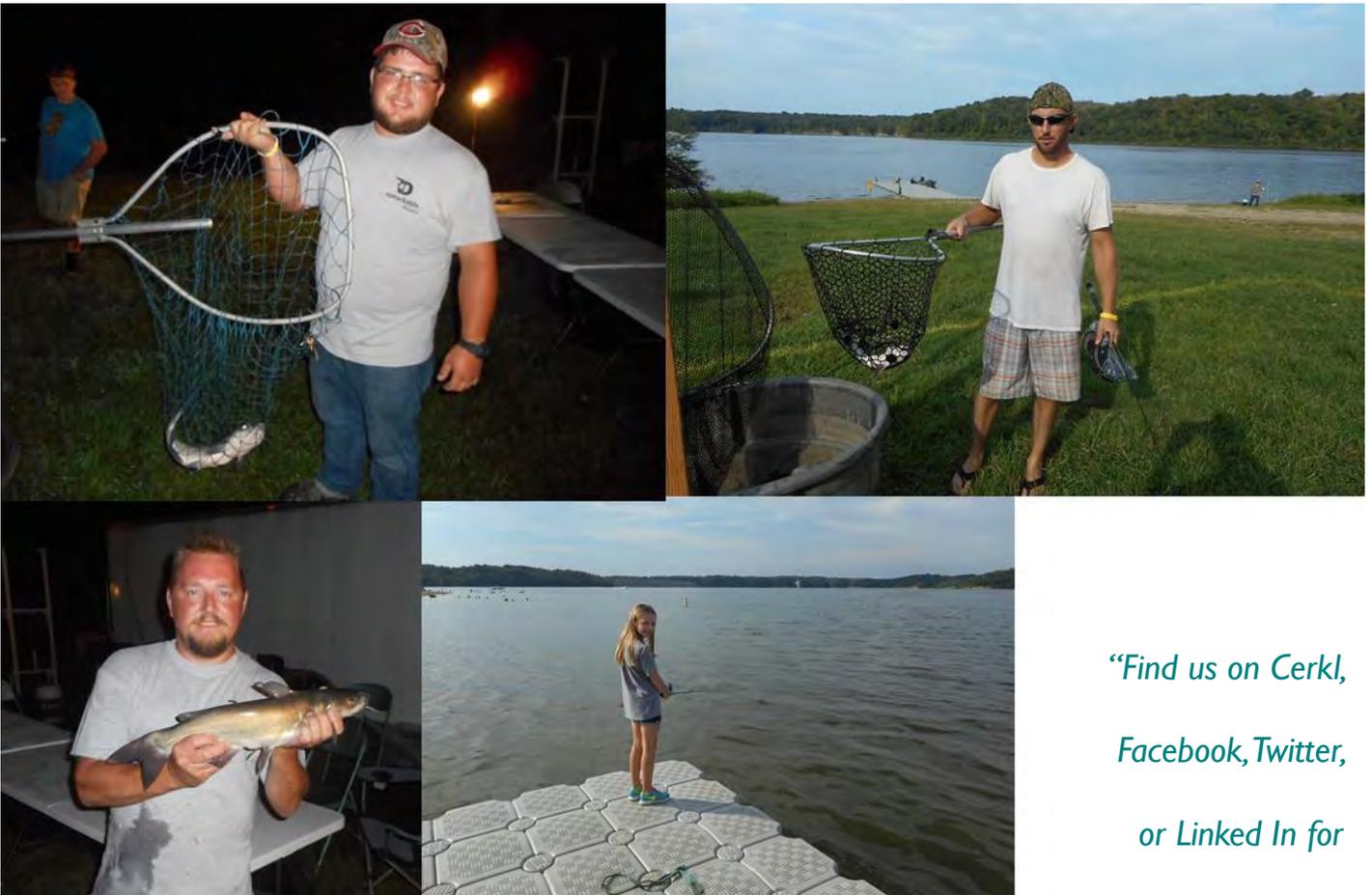
In case of inclement weather, Clermont DD will send out a One Call with specific instructions about delays and closings. If you don't receive a call, please let us know if you wish to be added to the list: (513) 732-4921 or ldavis@clermontdd.org. You can also call our

Calamity Hotline at (513) 732-7000, Option 2, and or visit our social media sites if you are in doubt. Of course, inclement weather notices will be shared on Fox 19, Local 12, Channel 9 and Channel 5 news stations AND will be listed on our website.



Catfishing Tournament Raises Money For Respite

On August 27, our second Catfishing Tournament took place at East Fork State Park. Almost 30 people fished over the 24-hour period and enjoyed winning prizes that were donated by local companies, Clermont DD staff, and volunteers of the agency. The tournament raised \$430, which will be used to purchase bicycles for the Gift of Time Respite Program. Enjoy the pictures and stay tuned for information about next year's tournament!



*“Find us on Cerkl,
Facebook, Twitter,
or Linked In for
instant updates
about our agency.”*

Empowers Me Golf Outing



Clermont DD and the Clermont DD Empowers Me non-profit board hosted a Golf Outing in September. 12 foursomes participated and enjoyed a beautiful day at Cedar Trace Golf Club. Only a quick shower and a bit of wind made the day a little hectic; once this weather passed over us, it was smooth sailing—or rather, smooth golfing!

Sponsors were Elite Biomedical Solutions, Stateline Medical, the Cincinnati Center for Autism, and Peter Paul Office Equipment. At the end of the day, \$4,000 was raised for the Gift of Time Respite Cooperative. Many thanks to everyone who planned AND participated in this great event!

Staff Inservice and Recognition Awards continued



Community Support Services
 15 Years - Debbie Donahue,
 pictured with CSS Director Sharon
 Richmond (right)



Willey School Age
 5 Years - Debora Beebe, Joni Conover-Bacon
 15 Years - Pam Perrotti
 25 Years - Jackie Burriss
 Principal Jay Williams (far right)



Business Operations Department
 15 Years - Kathy Powell, Mike Powell
 Superintendent Dan Ottke, far left



**Community Relations
 Department**
 15 years - Angie Stanton



Administration
 25 Years - Lisa Davis, pictured with
 Superintendent Dan Ottke



New Hires
 Bethany Houston, Linda Creech, Whitney
 Dabbs, Christopher Paul, Paige Willhoff,
 Meghan Kennedy, Danielle Deeter,
 Stephanie Luce, Megan Werring, Tamara
 Hurt, Charleigh Swanson, Morgan Barney,
 Emily Cole, Kelly Kristanoff, Brandy Rose,
 Kara Curlin, Paige Kessen, Amanda Bush,
 Faith Sutton, Mary Frazee, Lee Deakl,
 Beth Martin



A monthly dinner for
Adults with Autism to have
some good food and
conversation

Saturday November 19, 6pm
Envision Cinemas Bar & Grille
4780 Cornell Road
Blue Ash, OH 45241
<http://envisioncinemas.com>

We will meet for dinner at
Envision Bar & Grille at
6pm. Once dinner is over,
for those that are interested,
we will go to the Envision
Cinemas to watch a movie. If you plan to stay for the movie
please let us know when you RSVP.

Cost: Whatever you eat, drink, and movie ticket

RSVP Required

autismpersonalcoach@yahoo.com or 216 336 5889

This event is made possible due to Autism Personal Coach (APC). The mission of Autism Personal Coach is to provide coaching and social events to teenagers and adults with Autism and other disabilities to make their lives more successful and independent. For more information about we do visit our website at <http://autismpersonalcoach.wordpress.com>.





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VISIT US ONLINE
WWW.CLERMONTDD.ORG

Clermont County Board of Developmental Disabilities

>> Fall Superintendent Forum

We are listening...we want to HELP! On November 29, we will address your recent survey responses. At this forum:

- Superintendent Dan Ottke will give updates from Clermont DD/discuss plans for 2017.
- T. Dean Swartz will offer "Helpful Tools to Reduce Stress & Anxiety" (One of the biggest survey responses!)
- We will gather info about future forums like : Crisis Prevention, Trauma-Informed Care, and more. YOU can tell US about other topics that concern you.

We want to receive input and let parents/guardians, individuals receiving services, and providers know about future forums. Please help us with planning!

The Team preparing this Forum represents the following Clermont DD departments:
Behavior Support, Adult Services, Mental Health Services, Clermont Help Me Grow, & Early Intervention.

November 29, 2016
1 p.m. or 6 p.m.
Choose a time that fits
YOUR schedule!

Forum to be held in the

Willey School Gym

2040 US Highway 50
Batavia, OH 45103

www.clermontdd.org

To RSVP:

Call: 513-732-7000

Choose Option 2 to leave a message.

Or Email: ldavis@clermontdd.org

The mission of the Clermont County Board of Developmental Disabilities is to promote safe and supportive environments while understanding our responsibility to respect the choices and needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and to empower them to be engaged in their community.