

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



Clermont County Board of Developmental Disabilities
Building Skills...Empowering People



MISSION

To help those we serve expand capabilities and navigate the possibilities.

VISION

We envision a culture comprised of inclusive communities where people with disabilities thrive and live a life on their own terms.

PHILOSOPHY

Individuals and families served by the Clermont County Board of DD have the right of choice and flexibility regarding what, how and where services are provided. Individuals and families will be empowered to make decisions, become partners and work cooperatively with professionals, and exert control over the services provided to them.

WE BELIEVE that persons with developmental disabilities have the right to be treated with dignity and respect, be able to take reasonable risk and be protected from exploitation, abuse and degrading treatment.

WE BELIEVE that infants and toddlers learn best in their natural environments, doing things they enjoy and with people with whom they are familiar.

WE BELIEVE that educational services will honor the informed choice of the individual or individual's family in partnership with local school districts.

WE BELIEVE that adults with developmental disabilities have the right to make choices regarding their lifestyle, their working environment and their living arrangements.

WE BELIEVE in providing adequate information to make informed choices. We believe in the importance of ongoing life planning and supporting individuals and families through the many transitions of life.

WE BELIEVE that adults have the right to work in the community in accessible workplaces, with access to the supports necessary to be successful and the right to wages and benefits provided to other workers in the same setting. We believe individuals should be encouraged to seek employment first.

WE BELIEVE that persons with developmental disabilities have the right to have access to the supports and services they need to be participating members of their communities, including transportation, recreation, social outlets and friends and regular interaction with peers who do not have disabilities.



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*Clermont County Board of
Developmental Disabilities
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Dan Ottke, Superintendent

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*Cover photo: Aaron Strait,
making a donation to Clermont
DD Empowers Me (nonprofit).*

*At left: Thanking our community
for a successful levy passage in
May.*

CORE VALUES - SURE

Safe and Supportive Environment for individuals we serve, families, visitors, and the community.

Understand our mission, our values, our jobs, our mandates, and to ensure that others understand.

Responsibility and Respect for individuals we serve, each other, the community, to manage resources efficiently, and to provide access to efficient services and programs.

Engagement with the individuals we serve, families, advocates, each other, and the community.

BOARD MEMBERS

CLERMONT DD

Robert Grant, President

Kimberly Pellington, Vice President

Emily Chesnut, Secretary

Dr. Kim Brady

Michael Chapman

David Thamann

Mary Jane West



CLERMONT DD EMPOWERS ME

Julie Wood, President

Jeff Weir, Vice President

Cory Wright, Secretary

Jeff Diesel, Treasurer

Donald A. Collins

Lisa Davis

Jodi McPherson

Peter Miller

Brad Toft

Stefani Warren



THE SANCTUARY MODEL

Trauma-Informed Care

The Sanctuary Model promotes change in an organization and addresses the way in which chronic stress, adversity, and trauma influence individual behavior, as well as recognizes the ways in which whole organizations can be influenced by chronic stress, adversity, and trauma. Sanctuary is a treatment and organizational change model that integrates trauma theory with the creation of therapeutic communities which then provides safety for individuals and staff.

The Seven Commitments

There are seven commitments that are practiced in the Sanctuary Process. These are nonviolence, growth and change, democracy, social responsibility, open communication, social learning, and emotional intelligence.

The Four Pillars

There are four elements that make up the basic implementation process: Evaluation, Training, Planning, and Practice. Certification standards were developed by the Sanctuary Institute with Dr. Sandra Bloom, as a way of measuring adherences and fidelity to the practices and philosophies of the Model. Achieving certification is contingent upon satisfactory implementation of the model. Evaluation of the model is organized along the four pillars of Sanctuary: Trauma Theory, the S.E.L.F. framework (Safety, Emotions, Loss, Future), the Seven Commitments, and the Sanctuary Toolbox.

2018 Highlights

- 2018 marked the second year of a three-year accreditation that was awarded to Clermont DD in 2017.
- The Core Team of staff (now known as Core 2.0) continued in 2018 and introduced Happy Hour events for staff that were held each quarter at Stonelick Hills Golf Course and Jungle Jim's Tasting Bar.
- Core 2.0 suggested installing computer monitors to run event information in all entrance, in order to keep individuals, staff, families, and communities better informed.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dan Ottke, Superintendent

2018 proved to be another busy and rewarding year for those of us fortunate enough to be a part of the services offered here at the Clermont County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

2018 brought a changing of the guard for our Board. We were excited to welcome Michael Chapman, a local attorney and member of the Clermont DD Empowers Me Board; Dr. Kim Brady, a maternal-fetal medicine specialist and Director of Obstetrics at Good Samaritan Hospital; Mary Jane West, Vice President at Peoples Bank; and David Thamann, a recent retiree from National Underwriter Company and a licensed non-practicing attorney with the State of Ohio. As one can imagine, there is a big learning curve for new Board members when it comes to all the terminology and acronyms. I can't thank each one of these members enough for the work they put in and the extra training time that is required of them.

Another big accomplishment was the renewal of our Five year operating levy put before the voters in the Spring Primary election. As always, we here at the agency do not take for granted the awesome support from our community when it comes to providing the financial resources needed for the people that we serve. The community's support was overwhelmingly positive and we promise to take the responsibility of being good stewards of those resources.

We spent the better of 2018 preparing for and communicating about the changes that occurred later

in the year with the Waiver waiting list. Throughout the year, we prepared information about Fix the List and held forums and communication sessions to help individuals and families navigate the changes coming in the waiver system. While this work continues, we appreciate the questions and feedback we got regarding these system changes and will continue to work with those we serve as we conduct the necessary assessments into 2019 and 2020.

We were excited to partner with Hamilton County on a Youth in Crisis grant, helping young people with intensive needs and their families get additional services both in their home and out of home respite when needed. We also are fortunate to be joining again with some of our regional partners to set up a Smart apartment in our region where individuals and families can try out some of the Remote Support Technology that is now available today to serve individuals with developmental disabilities in our communities. As always, we feel fortunate to be a part of so many lives of those we serve and their families in our community and look forward to sharing the great things occurring in the years to come.

We hope you find our report informative and thank you for the support of our work!

Superintendent Ottke is pictured below with State Representative Doug Green (left picture) and former Director of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities John Martin.



EARLY INTERVENTION

Early Intervention (EI) Services are provided by the Clermont County Board of Developmental Disabilities for children under the age of three. This program follows rules from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities and from Part C of I.D.E.A. The overarching goal of Early Intervention is to increase the family and caregiver's competence and confidence in helping their child learn and grow. The early childhood programs operating under or coordinated by Clermont DD in 2018 were:

Early Intervention Services - Specialized services for children under the age of three with a developmental delay, disability, or a diagnosed medical or physical condition.

Early Intervention Service Coordination - System for the coordination and implementation of services for children birth to three.

Early Intervention Hearing Services - Services for children birth to three identified with hearing loss and their families. The deaf educators serve nine counties: Adams, Brown, Butler, Clinton, Clermont, Fayette, Hamilton, Highland and Warren.

2018 Highlights

- Received 478 referrals.
- Completed 430 evaluations of children and families.
- Had an average enrollment of 272 children.
- There was response to so many children and families facing trauma in their lives, we are now contracting with a certified early childhood mental health professional. She is having great success with the staff and families she sees.
- Feedback sources: state surveys, anecdotal feedback, ongoing administrative review, and direct home visits. The State sends out Family Satisfaction Surveys yearly. Clermont County received 90%; of the questions asked, there were 100% positive responses, and 10% were 98% positive. We also received double the State average for amount of surveys returned. Here are a few comments from parents:

"The support they offer, even outside of their services by recommending other referrals or specialists has been so helpful for us. I can go to my pediatrician with ideas for new things to try."

"The speech therapist is so very friendly and communicates all the needs necessary to help. The kindness of the whole process works for us - it's more than we could ask for!"

"The biggest impact is knowing that there is help and assistance in giving my son the best advantage he can achieve with his hearing loss - learning new techniques to help him develop better, not only for his hearing loss but physically, mentally and verbally. Also, it's nice that they view him as an entire person not just from a hearing aspect."

AREAS OF OVERSIGHT:

Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities: Ongoing support and monitoring of all components of the implementation of Part C services, including IFSP outcomes, transition, as well as evaluation and assessment including DODD requirements.

Local Family and Children First Council: Ongoing feedback and recommendations from these overseeing entities provides information on a regular basis to all of the EI programs operated by Clermont DD.

INDIVIDUALS SERVED BY EARLY INTERVENTION:

Early Intervention - total individuals served: 452
Total children in the system as of 12-31-18: 282

waiting list - 0
waiting list - 0



SCHOOL AGE SERVICES

The Thomas A. Wildey School is operated by Clermont DD. The school follows Ohio Department of Education rules and regulations and is considered a public school.

The Wildey School provides intensive, specialized instruction to children age 5-22. Students are placed in classrooms based on their needs; our "medically-fragile" classrooms focus on medical, physical, and sensory needs, and our "transition" classrooms focus on functional academics, life skills, behavior, and developing vocational skills. We have 8 classrooms which are designed to meet the unique needs of the students. We limit our classrooms to 6 students per class with an average staff to student ratio of 1:3.

Students are referred by their local school district, and placement is determined by the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) team. The school district of residence pays 100% of the cost for students to attend the Wildey School and provides transportation.



Pictured above is Senator Joe Uecker (R-14th District) visiting with Dawson in a Wildey School classroom. Photo by Erich Hiner, Ohio Association of County Boards.

2018 Highlights

- Average enrollment: 42 students.
- Seven students graduated in May 2018.
- Received \$1,919 from the Greater Cincinnati Foundation Learning Links Grants for a literacy project and "Unique Learning" pilot.
- Received \$15,481 Workers' Comp Grant which was used to purchase an Arjo Ceiling Lift for the girl's locker room and two Rifton Tram Gait Trainers.
- Received a new passenger van for our vocational classroom. The classroom goes into the community at least 3 times per week to volunteer, work, tour work sites, shop, and have lunch out.
- Continued implementation of "Project Core" school wide. Project Core is part of a research study out of UNC Chapel Hill which focuses on teaching and modeling the 36 core words for communication.
- Created core word boxes with lessons and materials for the teachers to teach each core word.
- The Wildey PTO sponsored the school prom on May 5.
- Students attended performances at the Cincinnati Children's Theatre.
- Students participated in Special Olympic events which included swimming and bowling.
- Students participated in American Heart Association "Jump Rope for Heart" and "Hoops for Heart".
- Students volunteered at Owensville Town Hall.
- Students sold "Wildey Dog Treats" that they make at the Milford Craft Show.
- Students wrote letters to Santa and delivered to Macy's for "Make a Wish". Macy's donated \$1 to "Make-a-Wish" for every letter written to Santa.

The Graduating Class of 2018, their teachers, and assistants (pictured right).



ADULT SERVICES

Adult Services has several different programs within its department. Two facility-based programs, the Donald A. Collins Habilitation Center and the Wildey Adult Center, offer work services and community integration. Community Employment Services works with individuals who wish to be employed in their community.

2018 Highlights

Donald A. Collins Habilitation Center

- Increased volunteer opportunities - partnered with the Clermont County Soil and Water Conservation District to make 800+ ornaments from recycled newspaper for Clermont County elementary students to learn about recycling.
- Eleven people participated in "A Day in the Ring" at the Clermont County Fair, learning to work with 4H goats, their owners, and to show them in the ring during a special ceremony.
- Began cooking classes to teach life skills (preparing a menu, budgeting, and shopping). Learned about healthy eating and nutrition as well as cooking for holidays and special events.
- Attended Clermont YMCA classes on Mondays to increase awareness of physical fitness. This allowed individuals to exercise and play basketball.
- Increased community integration experiences by two trips per week and diversified the experience by going to such places as the Arnoff Center for the Arts, Cincinnati Art Museum, and the Bengals Stadium for a "behind the scenes" tour.
- Collected items for Shoeboxes for Soliders, in partnership with other Clermont DD departments, Mercy Clermont Hospital and the Yellow Ribbon Support Center.

Work Services

- Successful transition of enclaves from Clermont Sheltered Work to Goodwill Services.
- Four individuals from the enclave program successfully transitioned into Community Employment.
- Five half-day training days were held for staff, focusing on trauma-informed care, self-care, and required Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities training (with a combination of in-house and guest trainers).
- Net 21% increase in contracted work from two major business partners with regard to in-house work opportunities..



Jason Bizzell (top picture) having fun with his new friend.

Eric Plowman and "Fiona," with Whitney Hauseman of Felicity.

ADULT SERVICES

Willey Community Integration

- Incorporated "Spotlight of the Month" to acknowledge a person per month, identifying positive changes being while receiving services.
- Volunteer opportunities, community integration, and sensory activities increased throughout the entire year.
- Incorporated adapted versions of **Zones of Regulation**, teaching people their feelings with colors so they can actively participate in community meetings that take place per the Sanctuary Model.

Community Employment Services

- 23 job seekers accepted employment opportunities.
- Average hourly wage was \$9.26.
- Average work week was 21 hours.
- 110 employees worked in 70 businesses.
- Clermont DD's Business Advisory Council recognized Lisa Walsh, CFO/Administrative Manager of DEIMLING/jeliho Plastics, Inc. as "Employer of the Year" for outstanding partnerships in hiring people with developmental disabilities.
- The Transition Program provided Pre-Employment Transition Services to 47 students throughout the school year.
- Summer Career Exploration services were provided to 8 high school students.
- 15 high school students participated in the Summer Youth Work Experience at six local businesses: Matthew 25 Ministries, Clermont YMCA, Coney Island Amusement Park, Rojo Stables, Round Bottom Recycling, and Big Lots Beechmont.



Pictured at top: Adults enjoying a hayride at Shaw Farms.

Middle: Woody Wooldridge and Betty Barg, enjoying a moment at the Community Employment Holiday Party at Pattison Park Lodge.

At right: Coney Island Crew from the Summer Youth Work Experience Program.



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

2018 was an exciting year, as we combined Behavior Support and the Mental Health program into one new department: **Behavioral Health Services**.

As a department, we adopted a new mission: *to provide compassionate, behavioral health services to individuals with disabilities, their families, and their communities through education, support, mental health treatment and advocacy. Our vision is to provide culturally competent, wellness-focused services that promote trauma responsive strategies with an emphasis on building resilience in those we support. We strive to embody the Clermont County Board of Developmental Disabilities Core Values of Safety, Understanding, Responsibility, and Engagement (S.U.R.E., which is listed on Page 2 of this report).*

2018 Highlights

- Provided in-house mental health services to 37 Clermont DD eligible individuals, 80% of which occurred in their homes or community setting.
- On-site monthly psychiatric clinic to 26 patients, with on-call access available.
- Support to over 150 individuals through 3 Behavior Support Specialists.
- Received a three-year re-certification through the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services as a provider of Medicaid-billable mental health services. These services may include: assessment; individual and/or group counseling or therapy; and the prescribing, administering and monitoring of medications by a psychiatrist. We also added Community Psychiatric Supportive Treatment (CPST) to our menu of certified, billable services.
- We triaged referrals on a weekly basis to develop a coordinated, multi-disciplinary response to individuals, families, and cross-system teams.
- Participated in and/or directed the completion of numerous trauma-informed biographical timelines.
- Began a monthly Caregiver Support Group, open to the community at large.
- Provided multiple trauma-informed community/provider/agency/family trainings.
- We have participated in cross county/cross system collaborative efforts to utilize grant funding to maintain multi-system youth in their homes and communities.
- We have contracted with a certified Early Childhood Mental Health Specialist to respond to the growing needs of our 0-3 population due to trauma.
- All department staff have or are in process of completing Trauma Responsive Care Training and will have certifications completed by June, 2019.
- We are collaborating with Montgomery County Board of Developmental Disabilities Services Mental Health Program and their affiliated psychiatrists to develop shared data collection measures and tools to track individual/program outcomes and cost savings.
- We sit on and support numerous community boards and task forces, including: Family & Children First Council, Opiate Task Force/ Adverse Childhood Experiences subcommittee, Joining Forces for Children, & the Clermont County Safety Net Alliance.

Dean Swartz, Behavior Support Specialist, conducting one of many trainings on Crisis Intervention and De-Escalation (right).



COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

Community Support Services help support individuals with developmental disabilities and their families by determining eligibility, facilitating assessments to determine service needs, identifying available resources, and facilitating service planning that ensures that individuals/their families have choice and control in planning while maintaining the health and well-being of the individual being served. Areas of service are based on rules and laws set by the State of Ohio, as well as budgets and priorities of the Clermont DD Board. Components of services within the Community Support Services Division includes, Intake, Eligibility, Referral, Waiting List Management, Service and Support Administration, and Investigations.

2018 Highlights

- Allocated Medicaid Waivers to 59 individuals. There were 11 Individual Options (IO) Waivers, 24 SELF Waivers and 12 Level One Waivers. The focus related to waiver enrollment during the first half of the year was to refinance several individuals receiving locally funded Supported Living and Adult Services at 100% cost, to waivers supplemented by state and federal dollars which reduced local funding to less than 40%. Additionally, there were 12 IO Exit Waivers enrolled for individuals moving from an Intermediate Care Facility (ICF). The Exit Waivers are funded by the State.
- The majority of the 10 locally-funded Individual Budgets approved were enrolled by July, 2018. There were 2 remaining that were enrolled in the fall. These annual services are capped at \$9,200 per individual for community integration promotion and based on a service model called Self Determination.
- We were not as successful as we had hoped in moving Individuals from Path 2 to Path 1. On the Path to Employment, Place 2 refers to "the individual expressing a desire to obtain community employment but is not currently employed and needs support to obtain employment or identify career options and employment opportunities." Path 1 refers to "the individual is already engaged in community employment and needs support for job stabilization, job improvement or career advancement." The addition of an Employment Navigation Specialist was a positive step put in place as a member of the team, to help see that appropriate service providers are secured to assist with appropriate job opportunities for individuals we serve.
- To promote efficient and effective partnerships to jointly serve our community, we committed to continuation of contracts for funds going to Family Support Service through the SWOCOG, Envision/CITE for in-home Behavior Support Consultation, Family and Children First (FCF), Gift of Time Respite Cooperative, and Personal Guardianship.
- 2018 was the final year of the Alternative Option Service Program. In late 2018, a decision was made to add the administration of the money for these services to the Family Support Services program contracted for with the Southwestern Ohio Council of Government (SWOCOG). This funding was primarily used for specialized support in the home, for summer camp, and for therapies. With a few tweaks, individuals and families were notified in December on the change and the process for assessing the funds they needed. Our efforts continued in establishing guidelines and categories to still meet the immediate needs and serve as many individuals and families as possible. There were a total of 132 Individuals who received Alternative Option funding in 2018.
- We partnered with Ohio Means Jobs, UC Clermont, and the SWOCOG to produce a provider job fair. The event was held at Eastgate Mall on January 9th and there were seventeen providers represented. Although it was advertised in social media, on our website, by newspaper ads/articles and through word of mouth, there was a very light attendance.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

2018 Highlights (cont.)

- Recruitment of Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) to work in the residential, day program and employment service areas is a focus throughout the state of Ohio.
- In 2018 we began promoting the use of technology to assist individuals we serve in gaining more independence. We applied through the SWOCOG along with Hamilton and Butler County Boards for a Technology First grant and were approved. Work began on a Smart Home model located at the offices of the SWOCOG and equipped by local vendors to provide individuals and families with a hands on experience. Remote supports focus on helping providers reduce the need for staff as families, individuals, and Service and Support Administrators (SSAs) explore how technology can be a viable option.
- Our Investigations Manager conducted Stakeholder Committee meetings in March and September to review trends and patterns of Major Unusual Incidents (MUIs). The Stakeholder's Committee reviews data prepared by Clermont DD and provides feedback on areas for improving the quality of life for individuals supported by the County. In 2018, there were 282 Major Unusual Incidents and 210 Unusual Incidents. This number was an increase from 2017, when there were a reported 258 of MUIs. The Investigations Team devoted many hours conducting the requirements associated with each MUI reported to determine if the case was substantiated and what preventative measures were needed to avoid reoccurrences.
- In 2018, there were 331 initial intake requests fielded by Community Support Services staff. Final numbers for the 2018 Intake Report of new individuals eligible for County Board Services was 185; 29 individuals were deemed not eligible, and 117 individuals failed to follow through with the process.
- We were presented with work related to "Fix the List," a transformation to a new Ohio Rule changing waiver waiting list regulations. Over 900 people who were currently on our waiver waiting list were moved to a Transitional List. All people on the Transitional List will be offered an assessment between the effective date of the Rule (9/1/18 and no later than 12/31/20). The last three months of 2018 began our first quarter of assessments, and we will continue offering assessments for a total of nine quarters to approximately 60 Individuals per quarter. As of the end of 2018, we had a total of 8 individuals on the current need list and approved enrollment for 7 SELF Waivers and 1 Level One Waiver for these individuals from our remaining 2018 requested allocation. We were, therefore, able to end 2018 with no one on our Waiver waiting list.



Nineteen agencies attended the Provider Job Fair in January, 2018, to recruit direct service professionals.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

The Communications and Community Relations Department has four main areas that help tie the Clermont DD agency to the community. These areas are press/media relations, volunteer coordination, community activities, and fundraisers/events/awareness activities.

2018 Highlights

- Worked with the Clermont County Commissioners on two proclamation presentations--one for DD Awareness Month in March and one for National Disability Employment Awareness Month in October.
- Attended the Advocacy and Awareness Day at the Ohio Statehouse with 4 new members of the self-advocacy group.
- Created a billboard campaign for DD Awareness Month. Ronnie Paine of Cintas was featured.
- Coordinated a successful Levy campaign with community volunteers and DD administration.
- Held an Open House on April 24 for National County Government Month. Students from Music Therapy Services performed, 7 vendors attended, and public tours were offered of the Wildey Center.
- UC Clermont Art Therapy students returned for tours of the Wildey Adult Community Integration Program.
- Aaron Strait donated \$1,050 to the Give of Time Respite Cooperative during his Art Show at the Indian Hill Gallery on April 27. Aaron is pictured on the front cover of this report.
- Scheduled and videoed Training Connections seminars for parents, providers, individuals, and the community.
- Coordinated the Volunteer Reception Center during the flood that occurred in February/March along the Ohio River.
- Served on the Executive Committee of the Clermont County Safety Net Alliance and assisted with four quarterly meetings.
- Presented information about Clermont DD at the December quarterly meeting of the Clermont County Safety Net Alliance.
- Began podcasts to inform the community of services and trainings offered at Clermont DD.
- Assisted the Community Employment Services Department with coordinating Business Advisory Council Meetings.
- Served on the Women's Business Award Committee and nominated Pam Haverkos from the Emergency Management Agency for her disaster work during the 2018 Flood.
- Presented 105 activities for teens and adults that were 98% community-based.
- Conducted 70 medical runs for those who had no other way to get to doctor appointment.
- Continued collaboration with the SWOCOG public relations directors.
- Created social media public service announcements about the Clermont DD levy.
- Helped coordinate families to speak at Commissioners meetings regarding services.
- Collaborated with the SWOCOG public relations directors and provider committee to advertise for DSPs on social media, Google, Spotify, and in movie theaters.



COMMUNITY RELATIONS

2018 Highlights (cont.)

- Organized a Hoxworth Blood Drive on April 23 with Cayla Mell's class at the Wildey School.
- Began Mondays at the Clermont Family YMCA from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Attended Leadercast on May 4, sponsored by the Clermont Chamber of Commerce and LEAD Clermont Class.
- Held a Painting Class for a Levy Fundraiser.
- DJ'd the Wildey PTO Prom in May.
- Hosted the Paging Booth and a Clermont DD Info Booth at the Clermont County Fair.
- Assisted Aaron Strait to submit 3 paintings to the Ohio Department of DD.
- Hosted booths at the Eastside Adventure Challenge, Families Connected Conference, LEAD Clermont Promise Fair, and Siblings Symposium.
- Helped organize "A Day in the Ring" for adults to show 4H goats (see Adult Services, Page 9)
- Participated in the Clermont County Sheriff's Office "National Night Out."
- Participated in the Felicity Franklin School District's Cool Tools for School back-to-school event.
- Coordinated Take Away Bags that were prepped by the Wildey Community Integration Program and donated to the Ronald McDonald House.
- Held a successful Lip Sync Battle at the Jungle Jim's Paradise Pavilion in October.
- Assisted with the Business Advisory Council "Employer of the Year" recognition with the Clermont Chamber of Commerce.
- Began attending the Development Roundtable Discussion Group with other non-profit and government public relations professionals in Clermont County.
- Hosted Spring and Fall Bowling Leagues at Eastgate Lanes and Suburban Bowl that involved over 80 individuals.
- Held a successful Good Fortune Dinner in October that gave awards to some of the county's best providers, employers, and community members.
- Participated as a sponsor for the Transition Bootcamp and attended with a booth at the Sharonville Convention Center.



Pictured above is Leslie Long, Clermont DD Early Intervention, registering a volunteer during the Flood in March.



At right, Jodi Siler and Patti Long work the info booth at the Clermont County Fair.

SELF ADVOCACY

In 2018, a new group of self advocates were introduced to Project STIR (Steps Toward Independence and Responsibility). Ethan Stuempfle became a trainer in 2017 and assisted others to begin learning to speak up for themselves in January, 2018. After training concluded, the new group chose a name and began their journey. "Clermont County Turn Up the Voices" had a very successful year!

2018 Highlights

- Conducted training for Adult Services Staff in March about the history of disabilities and the birth of self advocacy at Clermont DD.
- Attended the Advocacy and Awareness Day at the Statehouse, meeting with Senator Joe Uecker and aides for Representatives Doug Green and John Becker.
- Austin Porter, Darren Long, and Angie Stanton served on the planning committee for the District Advocacy Conference.
- Scott Baker received a prestigious district award from Kroger Dayton/Cincinnati for his passion about self advocacy and helping others speak up.
- Several members of the Advocacy Core Team volunteered their time at the Paging booth and DD info booth at the Clermont County Fair.
- Ellen Thompson planned a Movie Themed Dance at the Loveland American Legion that was held in August.
- Attended the District Advocacy Conference in September. Turn Up the Voices was in charge of morning hospitality and the ice breaker activity. They met John Cronin from John's Crazy Socks in New York.
- Austin Porter was presented the Self Advocate of the Year Award at the Good Fortune Dinner. Ethan Stuempfle won the award in 2017 and presented the award to Austin.
- The group hosted a Meet and Greet for new self advocates at Pin Deck in Miami Township in November; 20 people attended.



*Pictured left to right above:
Self Advocates at the Statehouse;
Scott Baker, receiving his award
from Kroger; Ellen as Bonnie Parker at the
Movie Themed Dance.*



*Presenting the ice breaker at the
District Advocacy Conference (right).*

BUSINESS OPERATIONS

The Business Operations Department provides several key functions to the agency: fiscal operations, information technology, risk management and safety, human resources, administrative quality and compliance, facilities management, and transportation management.

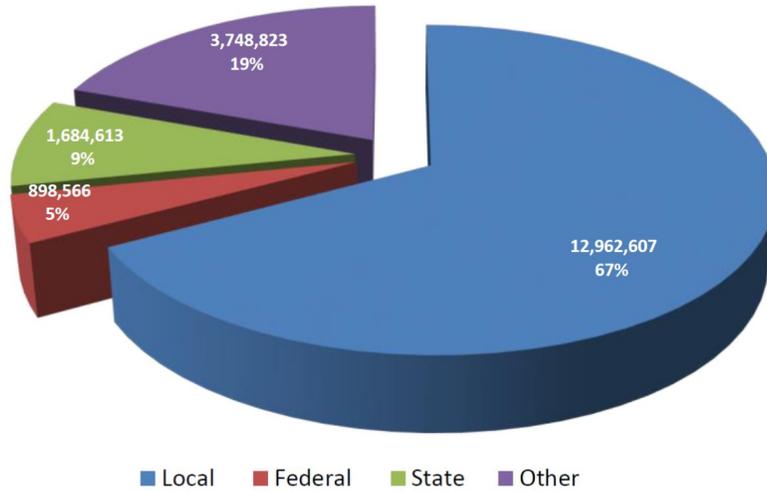
2018 Highlights

- Passed a .75 mill five-year operating renewal levy.
- Replaced the Wildey Center Adult Service entrance awning.
- Paved and sealed Wildey Center parking lots.
- Converted the Wildey Center heat from propane to natural gas.
- Performed an agency-wide emergency preparedness exercise.
- Reconstructed Wildey Center rear entrance sign.
- Installed window clings on Wildey Center entrances for security purposes.
- Resealed the Krenning Center roof.
- Enrolled 45 waivers in 2018.
- Revamped HIPAA policy and provided training to staff on privacy and security measures.
- Installed 6 new switches to divide our phone network and data network.
- Purchased Esign to allow remote clients to legally sign documents.
- Purchased a new Firewall to connect our remote buildings with faster data.
- Reduced the cost of internet services at Wildey while increasing speed.
- Obtained identifying outside wrap for the Volunteer Reception Center trailer, which was used during the flood, the Clermont Sheriff's National Night Out, Active Shooter Training with the Clermont County Sheriff's Office at Bethel-Tate Local Schools, and to transport Thanksgiving boxes from Crossroads Church to Clermont DD for distribution to families.
- The Medicaid Manager's office:
 - Processed funding requests within five business days through the Medicaid Manager's Office.
 - Assisted providers to ensure they were paid in a timely manner.
 - Assisted Service and Support Administrators to help guide them through the Waiver process regarding enrollment, dis-enrollment, and funding authorizations.

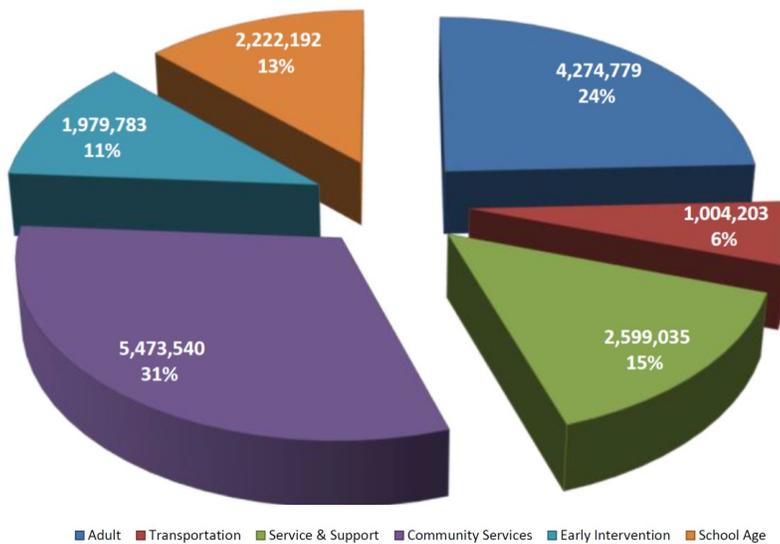


BUSINESS OPERATIONS

2018 Revenue
\$19,294,609



2018 Expenses
\$17,553,533



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Business Advisory Council

The Clermont County DD Business Advisory Council (BAC) is made up of employers from the community who assist Clermont DD's Community Employment Services Department to recognize current trends in business. Membership included representation from DEIMLING/jeliho (who hosted bi-monthly meetings at their location), Round Bottom Recycling, Ohio Means Jobs, Clermont DD, and Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities. The BAC partnered with the Clermont Chamber of Commerce in October to present the annual Employer of the Year Award to DEIMLING/jeliho. This award was in recognition of National Disability Employment Awareness Month (award recipients, BAC members, and Chamber representatives are pictured.)



Clermont County

Emergency Management Agency

Clermont DD remains committed to safety and emergency preparedness. We continue to offer our services as the Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) in case there is a disaster in Clermont County. In late February, the Ohio River began flooding and the VRC was activated. On March 3 and 4, Clermont DD staff worked out of the new disaster trailer that was obtained from Red Cross and registered/supervised 400+ volunteers who helped remove debris and trash from the US 52 roadway along southern Clermont County. (Tim Vogel, Work Services Coordinator, is pictured, preparing to direct volunteers.)



Clermont County Safety Net Alliance

Clermont DD has been a member of the Clermont County Safety Net Alliance since it began in 2012. This group of non-profit, government, and faith-based organizations have created a portal that brings resources together for people in the Clermont County Community. In 2018, Clermont DD staff served on the Executive Committee, assisted with organizing quarterly meetings, and presented information about Clermont DD at the December alliance meeting.

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OF CLERMONT COUNTY



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Clermont DD Empowers Me

The Clermont DD Empowers Me Board was established in 2012 as a 501(c)3 non-profit whose mission is to assist Clermont DD to seek funding for programs and services for individuals served and to support their mission, vision, and goals of empowering people with disabilities. The board held a successful Lip Sync Battle in October, raising \$2,000 for the Gift of Time Respite Cooperative.

Lip Sync Battle winners were Don Bock, Bob Pautke, Tamara Ackermann, and Jeff Lykins pictured with last year's winners, The Hip Hop Chesnuts, and Superintendent Dan Ottke.



Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services

Therapists and counselors from GCB continued working with Clermont DD staff to provide weekly group sessions for individuals to receive Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT). A new recruitment flyer was designed for DBT classes in 2018. Presenters from Clermont DD and GCB distributed information at a Clermont DD Training Connections seminar in May (pictured).



Ohio Valley Goodwill Industries

Clermont DD's partnership with Goodwill is one that is essential for assisting with our work contracts through the Clermont Sheltered Work Administration Services, Inc. They also support our agency in many other ways. In 2018, Goodwill took over the management of enclaves that were previously offered through Clermont DD. They also participated in the Lip Sync Battle as "ZZ Top," complete with homemade instruments AND beards.



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Regional Autism Advisory Council

Clermont DD has been an active supporting member of the Regional Autism Advisory Council (RAAC) since 1999. RAAC encompasses four counties: Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, and Warren. Each county meets monthly in regional task forces. Early Intervention and Adult Services also meet as individual work groups several times a year. Each year, RAAC participates in the Faces of Autism Award Program with the Greater Cincinnati Autism Society. In 2018, Wildey School Principal Jay Williams was honored with the Faces of Commitment Award for her dedication and support of those who have autism (pictured with Kimberleigh Szaz and Lori Watkins of Clermont DD).



Southwestern Ohio Council of Governments

SWOCOG is a council of governments between Clermont, Butler, Warren, Hamilton, Montgomery, and Greene County Boards of Developmental Disabilities. In 2018, SWOCOG's public relations and provider committees began working together to create marketing tools that would attract job seekers to apply for direct support professional positions throughout the county. These tools included cinema ads and social media blasts, as well as ads featured on Google and Spotify (pictured below).



Make a difference



Explore exciting job opportunities supporting people with developmental disabilities



CLERMONT COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Dan Ottke, Superintendent
2040 US Highway 50
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(513) 732-4930
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Early Intervention Services

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School Age Services

Jay Williams, Principal
(513) 732-4970
jwilliams@clermontdd.org

Adult Services

Donald A. Collins Habilitation Center
Amy Sparks, Program Coordinator
Tim Vogel, Work Services Coordinator

Community Employment Services
Scott Brown, Program Coordinator

Willey Community Integration
Jo Prashak, Program Coordinator

Behavioral Health Services

Lori Watkins, Director
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Business Operations

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Community Relations

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Community Support Services

Sharon Richmond, Director
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Locations:

Thomas A. Willey Center
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(Main Mailing Address)

Krenning Center
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Donald A. Collins Habilitation Center
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