

Fayette County Board of Developmental Disabilities 2014 & 2015 Biennial Report



Our Mission: “We offer quality programs and coordinate available services so that people we serve may realize their dreams and actively contribute to their community.”

www.fayettedd.com



Open Letter to Fayette County Citizens,

As we prepare to celebrate DD Awareness Month, we are happy to bring you the following Biennial Report focusing on our work in 2014 and 2015. Having joined the staff at the Fayette County Board of DD in late 2014, I continue to feel blessed that I get to work with such a stellar group of individuals providing services to the Fayette County community.

From the Early Intervention Services (EI) which has and continues to grow for our little ones, birth to age 3 years, to the adults being supported both in the community and by our partners at Fayette Progressive Industries (FPI), Goodwill, Frontier Community Services, IHS Services, Community Assisted Living and independent providers serving the community, the Board's service delivery system continues to grow.

The preschool program housed at the Starting Gate on Leesburg Ave. has provided preschool classes to more than 80 students daily over the last two years and with the increase in the little ones now receiving EI Services, the preschool numbers will continue to grow.

Our Services and Supports Team (SSA's) has also seen growth in the number of individuals being supported in various capacities through comprehensive case coordination which encompasses the needs of both children and adults. Our SSA's carry out their work by adhering to and believing in Good Life principles and philosophy, which help them connect the people served and their families to a life they deserve and enjoy.

All of this work relies upon an infrastructure capable of support. As many of the "back office" systems needed updating, the Fayette DD Board authorized improvements in air flow systems, security systems, communication systems and the like. They recognized that employees can only work as efficiently as these systems would support so strengthening through updating was a necessity.

In closing, I hope you enjoy the information contained within this report and that you frequent our web-site, and follow us on Facebook. I also cannot pass up the opportunity to congratulate the Dragons of Fayette County for their outstanding season.

Best Regards,

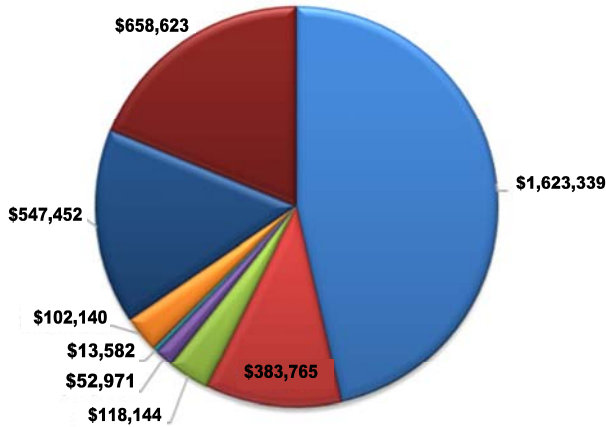
Debra D. Buccilla, Superintendent



Deb Buccilla, Superintendent,
Fayette County Board of DD

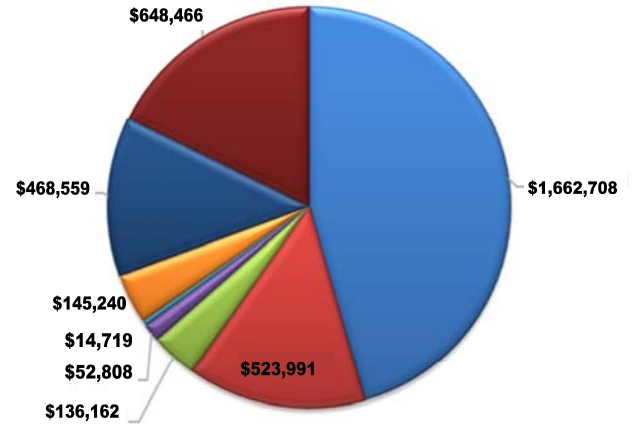
Fiscal Data

2014 Expenses



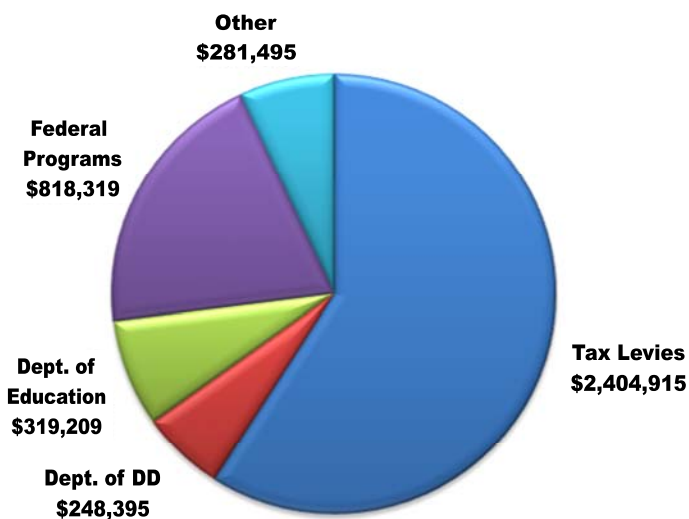
Employee Salary Other Expenses Maint/Repairs/Vehicles
 Utilities Equipment Capital Projects
 Benefits Client Support Services

2015 Expenses



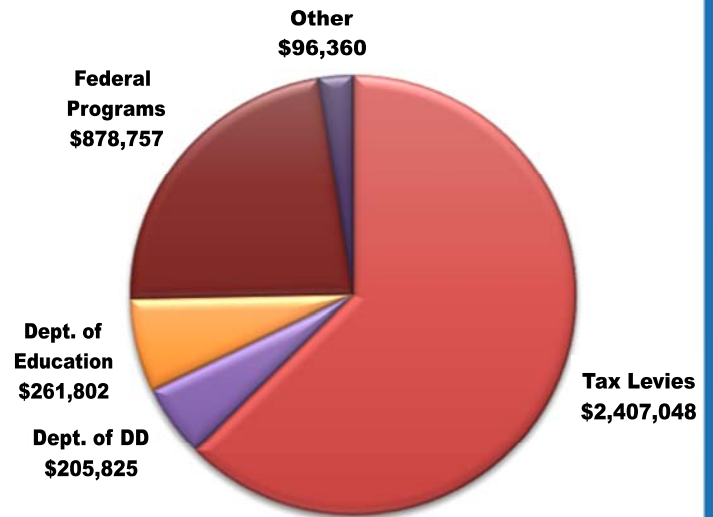
Employee Salary Other Expenses Maint/Repairs/Vehicles
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2014 Revenue



Tax Levies Dept. of DD Dept. of Education
 Federal Programs Other

2015 Revenue



Tax Levies Dept. of DD Dept. of Education
 Federal Programs Other

Adult Services

Fayette Progressive Industries (FPI) provided programming to 103 adults and students in 2014 and 108 in 2015. FPI also continued to expand opportunities for individuals to work at community sites within Fayette County. 70% of adult enrollees worked at least part-time or directly for 29 locations within the county. Fayette County continued participating in the Bridges to Transition program. This program is designed to allow students age 14-22 to participate in vocational opportunities and summer work experiences.



The Employment First Initiative continued in 2014 and 2015. The goal of this initiative is for individuals to gain competitive employment which will offer greater independence, wealth building potential, improve self-esteem, and personal satisfaction. The Low Work Emphasis (LWE) and Seniors programs served 19 individuals. Programming in this area focused on skill development, daily life skills, socialization, and recreation.

Individuals had opportunities to take part in several local and out-of-town activities. These activities included the LaComedia Dinner Theatre in Springboro, a Columbus Clippers baseball game, COSI, Dayton Air Force Museum, Columbus Zoo, the Newport Aquarium and a riverboat trip in Newport, KY to name a few. Individuals also enjoyed eating at many restaurants throughout the area. Fayette Progressive Industries also partnered with the Fayette County YMCA to provide exercise classes, along with a local artist who offered painting classes held at the Grace United Methodist Church.

Fayette County's Self-Advocacy group, continued to meet at least monthly to help individuals gain skills, the confidence to speak up for themselves, develop into leaders, and become more actively involved in their community. In 2015, a new name was chosen by the members and AGM (Advocacy Group Member) was replaced with FACT, which stands for "Fayette Advocating Change Together". This group attended the DD Awareness and Advocacy Day at the Ohio State House in Columbus. The group listened to speakers throughout the day and met with representatives to discuss the importance of self-advocacy.



Operations



The Transportation department transported passengers to adult day programming and preschool classes daily. Individuals also received transportation services to recreational outings, Special Olympics events for our adults, and field trips for our students.

We continued our Bus Captain program and we added a new member to the bus captain team that assists a driver with the adult route. The bus captains are very valuable to a sub bus driver who is not familiar with the route. Bus captains are trained along with the drivers on the proper sequence of fastening down a wheelchair, how to use the wheelchair lift, the fire extinguisher, the 2-way radios in case of an emergency, and learning the daily route. The Operations Department also had several bus evacuation trainings with assistance from the Washington Court House Fire Department. These trainings as well as others are routinely practiced at both facilities.



The Operations Dept. was busy during 2014 & 2015 completing many upgrades to the infrastructure. Projects involved advanced security measures for both The Starting Gate and the FPI buildings. Among those were: camera security, 3M Security film on windows, keyless entry for staff, front door security phone and remote door openers, panic buttons for the front entry staff to wear, and a switch installed to shut off power to the front doors in case of an emergency.

Project improvements at the Starting Gate included: an epoxy seal placed on the rubber roof, a door with a key code pad installed to separate the classrooms from the entry of the school, new boilers, carpeting in

all classrooms with VCT tile, flooring replaced in the infant and day care rooms, cabinets installed in many offices and rooms, replacement of the playground track with poured rubber mulch, upgraded the play system which brought it up to code, and upgraded computers and phones.

FPI projects included upgrading of computers and phones, 3 additional offices, and a restroom addition.



Early Childhood Services

Early Intervention (EI) services are for children with at least one delay from birth to 3 years old. We have both center and home-based intervention services. Children receive home-based services an average of once a month and come to the center for programming one half day a week. This includes our children who are medically fragile and in need of service. Fayette County Early Intervention works collaboratively with Help Me Grow to ensure all children receive timely and thorough assessments and service. In 2014, Early Intervention served 62 children and in 2015, 82 children received services.



The Preschool continues to use the Creative Curriculum which conforms to the Ohio Early Learning Content Standards. In 2014, we began preparing for the new birth to third grade standards and the new Step Up To Quality licensure process which went into effect in 2015. We continued to work with Miami Trace, Washington Court House, and the Ohio Department of Education in providing assessment and documentation of children's progress. Fayette Progressive School continues to work collaboratively to ensure that all early initiative programs are in compliance with the new Early Content Standards.



The Preschool offers half day programming in order to serve more children. In 2014, a total of 89 children were served; 46 children with disabilities and 43 preschool pals. In 2015, 88 children were served; 45 of those with disabilities and 43 preschool pals.



Service and Support Administration

The Service and Support

Administration (SSA) Department provides coordination services to eligible persons age 3 and older and served over 180 people in 2014 & 2015, an increase of 20 from 2013. We continued our commitment of ensuring that people receive services that enhance their quality of lives while promoting individual choice. This is accomplished through agency embracement of the “Good Life” Model that focuses on “What is important to and for” a person and is used through the discovery and service planning process. Through Service and Support Administration, we connect people to services offered by the Fayette County Board of DD and other agencies. Along with Intake and Eligibility for ages 6 and older, the SSA department is also responsible for monitoring and coordinating investigations related to unusual incidents which may occur.



The Service and Support Administration also assists with the coordination of Residential Services. In Fayette County, Waiver funding can assist with staff supports in a person’s family home or in their own home.

The County Board partners with Fayette Metropolitan Housing Authority to manage 10 homes occupied by individuals receiving services. In addition to this housing, many individuals live throughout our neighborhoods renting or leasing housing from community landlords.



Special Olympics

The Dragons participated in a variety of sports in 2014 & 2015. Our athletes, comprised of adults and students, participated in Traditional Basketball, Unified Softball, Bowling, Track and Field, and Cheerleading. The Dragons also had 2 individuals represent Team Ohio at the Special Olympics National Games in New Jersey bringing home the gold medal in Softball in 2014. The Special Olympics program would not be a success without all of the volunteers and community support. Thank you Fayette County!





**Fayette County Board of
Developmental Disabilities**

Fayette County Board Members

2014

Mitchell Kirby, President
Larry Mayer, Vice President
Janelle Mead, Secretary
Caryl Bookman
Cody Kirkpatrick
Suzi McCracken
James Miteff

2015

Mitchell Kirby, President
Larry Mayer, Vice President
Janelle Mead, Secretary
Caryl Bookman
Cody Kirkpatrick
Suzi McCracken
Mark Heiny

Administrative Staff

Debra Buccilla, Superintendent
Lori Moore, Business Director
Renee Guess, Service and Support Administration Director
Suzie Janasov, Early Intervention Director
Jamie Bryant, Preschool Coordinator
Mark, Schwartz, Adult Services Director
Sandy Kelley, Operations Manager
Jan Cobb, Nurse
Liz Brennfleck, Human Resources Director
Sherry Burns, Executive Administrative Assistant