

Fayette County Board of Developmental Disabilities

2018 Annual Report



Fayette County Board of DD

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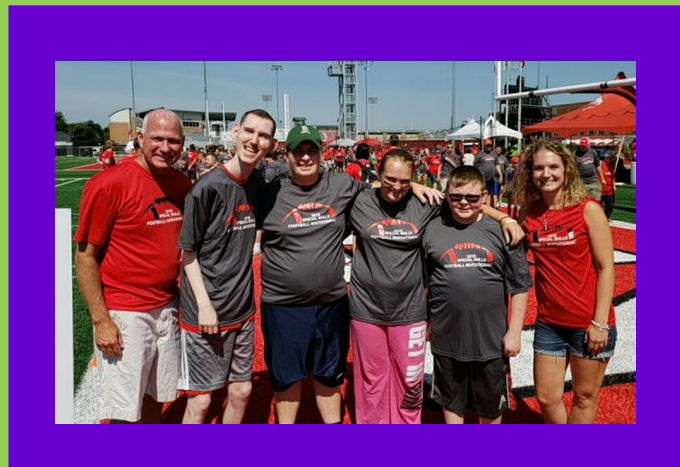
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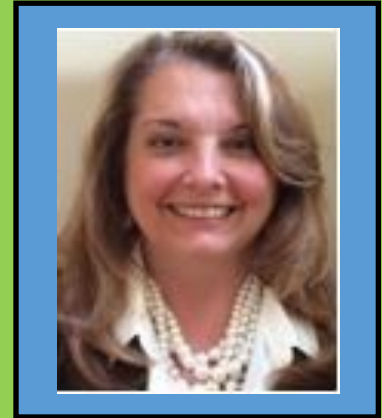


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Our Mission: "We offer high quality programs and coordinate available services so that people we serve may realize their dreams and actively contribute to their community."



Welcome to the 2018 Annual Report



We would like to begin our introduction to our 2018 Annual Report by thanking the community for the wonderful partnerships we have established over the years. Without this support, we would not have been able to provide the services and supports to the infants, toddlers, children, youth and adults, who make up close to the 400 individuals and families being by FCBDD.

Every year it seems our service recipients grow in numbers and we must make every precious tax dollar work “over-time” in order to provide services. Throughout this report, you will see all we are offering to help provide Fayette County residents be all they can be.

Again, we would like to say thank you to our community partners and to all the citizens throughout the county for your support.

Early Childhood Services

Early Intervention (EI)

The Early Intervention team works with children and their families to enhance the child's development through every day learning opportunities and routines. Early Intervention includes services and supports to infants and toddlers' birth to 3 years who have a diagnosed medical condition or developmental delay. Early Intervention services are provided in the child's natural environment and are centered on the interest, strengths and priorities of the child and family. The children can be referred for services in a variety of ways and are assessed and evaluated for eligibility both to enter the program and as they transition into preschool.

The Board of Developmental Disabilities works collaboratively with many agencies as well as both school districts. In 2018, the Board employed an early intervention team consisting of developmental specialists, an occupational and speech therapist and contracted physical therapist. The team served **86** children and coached families to build confidence and competence. The board also employs service coordinators to serve eligible children with a delay. This is a new grant that the county board took over in July of 2018 that the Health Department handled so well for many years. Playgroups add social interaction with peers, an opportunity to enjoy new activities in the center and organized planned outings with the developmental team. Continued success in programs offered include aquatic therapy and the PLAY project. A new offering in 2018 is the NBO, Newborn Behavior Observation; please contact us if you have any questions about your child's development or would like to request an evaluation.



The Preschool

Fayette Progressive Preschool located at the Starting Gate Building has recently been awarded a Five Star Rating through the Ohio Department of Education's Step Up to Quality Rating system! Step Up To Quality (SUTQ) is a five-star quality rating and improvement process administered by the Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. SUTQ recognizes and promotes learning and development programs that meet quality program standards that exceed licensing health and safety regulations. The Step Up To Quality Program Standards include four domains: Learning and Development, Administrative and Leadership Practices, Staff Qualifications and Professional Development, and Family and Community Partnerships. After a thorough review of paperwork and an on-site visit Fayette Progressive Preschool was awarded the maximum award of FIVE STARS!

We continued our efforts to include families in our learning with the continuation of our enrollment day, pumpkin science night and Polar Express Event. As planned in our goal setting for 2018 we were able to include hearing and vision screening as a part of our screening day event this year. We were also able to offer lead testing and physicals thanks to Dr. Lenora Fitton from ABC Pediatrics. We had a great turn out at our screening day event allowing us to get the necessary paperwork completed for the majority of our families in two days. We also had a great turn out for our Pumpkin Science night, Pumpkin Patch field trip and Polar Express trip! We are so thankful for our families and their participation with the preschool they helped make the events so much fun!

Thanks to Valero and a very generous donation Fayette Progressive school was able to purchase a new play structure to replace the old one. Staff, family and community members were able to vote through a Google form for their favorite color for the new equipment and the winner was a blue and light green color scheme. The equipment is slated to be installed in the early spring of 2019.

The school staff started work on the implementation of Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) and will continue to develop this program at the school in the coming year. Positive Behavior Intervention Supports is the development of a program wide system of reinforcing appropriate behaviors through positive support. We have three program wide expectations for our students and ourselves, Be Kind, Be Safe and Be a Helper which we will work with our students to ensure they know and understand what each of these expectations mean as a part of our social emotional curriculum.

The preschool currently serves students from Washington Court House City Schools and Miami Trace Local Schools in four half day classes. We currently serve **72** students in classrooms with a ratio of eight students with special needs to four typically developing peer models.



Service and Support Administration

When providing case management services, the Fayette County Board of DD Service and Support Administration (SSA) take pride in ensuring that best practice models are used at all levels of services. With the focus on state initiatives of Community First, Employment First and Technology First for people to live, work and play, the success stories for people have been exciting. On the front end of the introduction to the Fayette County Board of DD SSA services, which can start at age 3, our intake assists people to see if there are ways of meeting needs through information or community resources, as some people may not need full county board services. However, once a person is working with an SSA, the Person-Centered and Trauma Informed Care (TIC) practices that are used to assist people with outcome-based goals that promote independence and community connections, have led to employment opportunities, moving into a new home, and or experiencing meaningful activities.

In 2018, with the state initiatives, Person-Centered / TIC Practices and the availability of new types of supports, people moved forward in their lives at a faster pace. With the Community First focus, people became more familiar with and accessed their community more often and in the most independent ways. This happened by people using the Fayette County transportation options, natural and community supports and with direct care supports that are funded by the county board and through the Medicaid Waiver program. The Employment First initiative connected people to desired and unique jobs. This occurred through enhanced SSA employment navigation efforts by closely working with our school districts, Opportunities for Ohio's with Disabilities (OOD) and training programs by Medicaid Waiver providers, like Goodwill, Capabilities and Fayette Progressive Industries. With Technology First focus and Governor Kasich declaring Ohio as a "Technology First" state, many people chose technology services and remote services instead of having direct care staff with them for all their needs. These tech supports can come through "familiar to us all" means like Alexa, but most people utilized Medicaid Waiver services like remote services, where they use a tablet to talk with a staff, or have door or stove sensors in their home, timed medication dispenser, fall bracelet and other type of supports, all monitored by a remote support provider who is off site from the person. The Fayette County Board also joined with 4 counties and the Southern Ohio Council of Government in a Remote Support Grant funded by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities and OSU Nisonger. This grant will assist in efforts to promote and advance technology supports in 2019.

In our commitment to Trauma Informed Care, the Fayette County Board of DD held two community information events, attended by our school districts, many community agencies and interested citizens. The information was an introduction to Trauma Informed Care, which is treating all people, children and adults, with the appropriate support so not to cause trauma. Our goal is to have trained community partners that provide safety and support and promote healing and resiliency. Our efforts will continue in this area, so that we are a strong and healthy community.

Along with case management services, the SSA department provided services that include, the 24-hour emergency on-call system, eligibility determination, Medicaid Waiver administration and incident reporting and investigations. SSA served **150** eligible children and adults, and many other individuals and families in Fayette County.

Community First

The Community First division continued to support and assist people with disabilities through work experiences, social activities, and self-advocacy. People with intellectual and developmental disabilities have become more empowered to be the very best version of themselves, becoming active and valued citizens within their community.

The Community First Department partnered with the Miami Trace Work Study classes to provide transportation to three volunteer work sites within Fayette County. At these volunteer work sites, **14** students ages, 14-22, had the opportunity to develop or improve their work-related skills such as inter-personal, self-direction, teamwork, timeliness, work-ethic and hygiene. Having these skills helps to increase confidence and improve employability outcome. The work study teams ended the year with a breakfast banquet, wrapped up training with supervisors from volunteer sites.

Community First, Ohio Means Jobs and Ohio Department of Job and Family Services partnered to give **8** students who were graduating from Miami Trace High School/Work study, an opportunity to participate in, Skills To Pay The Bills. This is a six-week course covering some of the soft skills that are needed to be successful in the workplace. This course took place at the Southern State Community College, allowing the students to explore and take a class in a college setting.

The 2nd annual 5-county Transition Expo was held at the Good News Gathering in Hillsboro Ohio. There were 27 vendors/businesses present that shared great tips on how to train for and apply for a new career. Fifteen of the eighteen School Districts located in Adams, Brown, Clinton, Fayette, and Highland Counties participated in the event. Nearly 300 High School students with disabilities came dressed for success, prepared to meet local employers and education experts. The students also attended three learning sessions on: What Not to Say or Wear; Work Ethic; and Their Own Elevator Speech.

The adult Advocacy group, F.A.C.T. (Fayette Advocating Change Together) consisting of **12** advocates continued to meet monthly at Kroger to help empower people with self-determination, develop the confidence to speak up for themselves, gain skills to become leaders and become active members of their community. This goal is reached through many opportunities provided through training, seminars, and conferences. Fourteen volunteer/members from the FACT group take turns attending a 14-county regional advocacy meeting, held in Chillicothe. A variety of training/topics were offered at the regional meetings including, IT Remote Monitoring, Bullying, Diabetic nutrition to name a few. One adult advocate attended a three-day Project Stir Training focusing Self-Advocacy and how to teach others about advocacy. This adult was also selected to sit on People First of Ohio, as a region 3 representative and was also selected to be in the Council of Ohio Leaders, (COOL) for the Ohio Self Determination Association (OSDA)

The Next Chapter Book club started in November of 2016 and continues to meet with **8** members and four facilitators, meeting every Tuesday at the Carnegie Public Library.

A summer cooking class was offered to the Fayette County community, sponsored by the Jeffersonville Lions Club and the OSU Extension office. During this class, three adult participants received hands-on experience such as cutting skills and measuring ingredients properly. After preparing and cooking the simple recipes, participants had the opportunity to taste the finished product.

Four adult advocates attended the DD Awareness and Advocacy Day at the State House in March. The month of March was National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. The theme was "Celebrate COMMUNITY". COMMUNITY means people with and without disabilities working, going to school, playing and participation in their communities together. Attendees had the opportunity to hear from Ohio Department of Development Disabilities' Director John Martin, Christine Brown, a member of Project STIR and Clinical Research Assistant for the Nisonger Center. Wallace Peck, an artist working at the Open Door Art Studio and Gallery. Logan Detwiler, an advocate and Special Olympics gold medal winner and Josh Anderson, an at-risk youth advocate and motivational speaker. Each constituent was given the opportunity to meet with their legislators and advocate for issues that are concerning for themselves and other people with disabilities. This annual community and advocacy event, sponsored by the Ohio Providers Resource Association (OPRA) and the Ohio DD Council, offers a great opportunity to meet legislators, fellow advocates and other self-advocates who are all working to make Ohio a better place for people with developmental disabilities.

The end of the year was wrapped up with the F.A.C.T. group partnering with Dr. Hodges, and the Community Action Center, for their Santa for Seniors project. Dr. Hodges donated a variety of items to the project. Three of the F.A.C.T. members volunteered their time to help deliver the Christmas baskets/gifts, along with other community members, for those who were home bound within Fayette County.



Special Olympics

The Fayette County Dragons completed another year with what has been a most successful yet. In 2018 the Dragons had **82** athletes, comprised from adults and students. These athletes participated in a variety of sports throughout the year that included JV and Varsity basketball teams, bowling, track, unified JV and Varsity Softball teams, Flag football and cheerleading. 2018 was started off with the Varsity Dragons basketball team winning a first ever State Championship!! The Dragons won four tournament games and qualified for the state tournament. The Dragons would take home 3rd place after losing a heartbreaker by only 1 point to go to the state championship.

The Dragons went right into bowling where **43** people participated in the tournament. Several athletes won 1st and 2nd place at the tournament. The Dragons hosted a bowling tournament as well inviting both Highland County and Madison County. Athletes would continue participating in Track, Cheerleading, and JV and Varsity Softball teams participating in various tournaments throughout the year.

The Dragons wrapped up another great year with the flag football team also taking home a first state championship!

2018 was a very successful year in fundraising. There were multiple fundraisers held throughout the year which included the Dwight Turner Spaghetti Dinner, and the Jeffersonville Masonic Lodge Spaghetti Dinner Sponsored by the Fellowcraft Club, Jefferson Chapter #300 OES, and Fayette Market Lodge #4, as well as the Annual Guns and Hoses Basketball game. A new event, flag football game under the lights, was held at Miami Trace High School. Over \$6,000 was raised to help with the Fayette County Special Olympics Program throughout the year. Many Special Olympics athletes also had the privilege of participating in various special skills invitational throughout the year that included the football invitational held at the Woody Hayes Facility at The Ohio State University. The Basketball Invitational was held at the Value City Arena and a baseball invitational held at the new Bo Jackson Facility. It was a great year and the Dragons are looking forward to what comes in 2019!



Operations

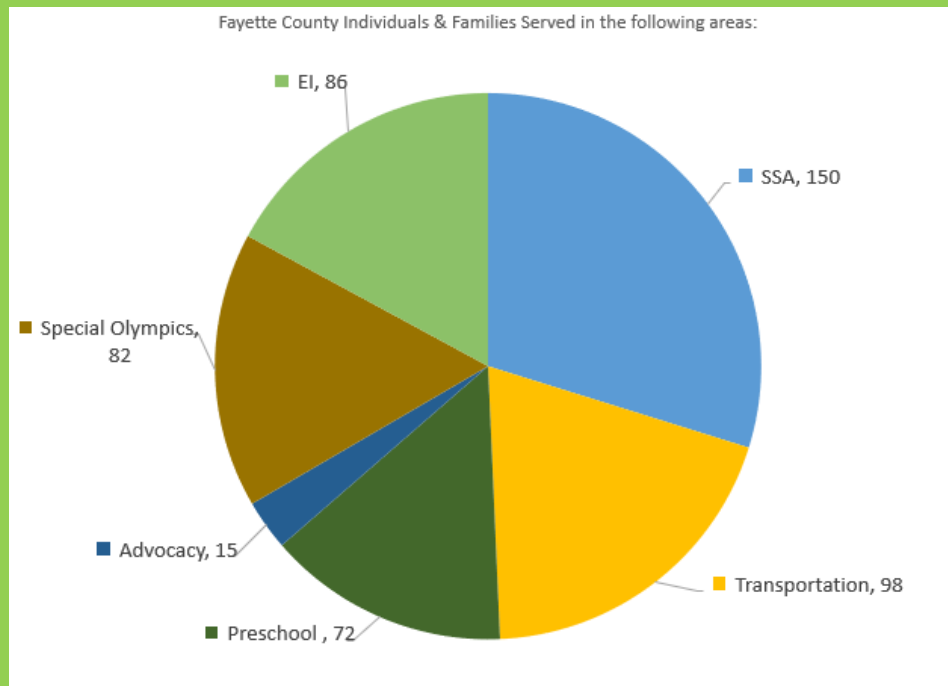
The Transportation Department had three buses and one van on the road for the 2018 school year. The drivers provided transportation services for the Preschool Program, Early Intervention Services, the Miami Trace Work Study program, Special Olympics, and a variety of field trips. With all the services provided, the transportation team traveled 36,525 miles using approximately 4163.3 gallons of fuel.

The county board maintenance staff did a great job maintaining basic repairs of the buses, both buildings, along with some repairs to community homes. The janitorial staff did a great job at keeping the Starting Gate and the FPI buildings clean.

The transportation staff went beyond their duties once again by donating candy and dressing up for the preschool Halloween event. In December, our transportation team transported students to the Polar Express event. They engaged in this holiday activity, by decorating their buses with lights, garland, and playing Christmas



Service Data



Fayette County Board Members



President- Larry Mayer
Vice President- Cody Kirkpatrick
Janelle Mead
Mark Heiny
David Sanders
Alice Craig
Caryl Bookman

Fayette County Administrative Staff

Superintendent	Debra Buccilla
Executive Administrative Assistant	Sherry Burns
Business Director	Lori Moore
Operations Director	Larry Gray
Service and Support Administrative Director	Renee Guess
Early Childhood Director	Suzie Janasov
Human Resources Director	Liz Brennfleck
Nurse	Jan Cobb
Educational Supervisor	Jamie Roe
Community First Director	Betty Hodges
MUI Investigative Agent	Jennifer Goodwin