



# FAYETTE COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES NEWSLETTER SPECIAL EDITION JULY 2020

*"FCBDD empowering people to be the best version of themselves."*

1330 Robinson Rd. Washington Courthouse, OH 43160

[www.fayettetdd.com](http://www.fayettetdd.com)

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**FCBDD again would like to thank ALL essential workers on the frontlines, during this COVID-19 pandemic.**

**You are very important to your community and we appreciate your dedication and time. We especially thank healthcare workers, truck drivers, law enforcement, store workers, manufacturing workers and government officials.**



### **Greetings from all of us at FCBDD!**

To all our Families, Friends and Community Partners,

We hope this newsletter finds you safe, healthy and enjoying the summer. Hard to believe it is July already. We have put together a few articles to let you know what we have been up to. We also wanted to bring you information about upcoming services and the impact the Coronavirus Pandemic continues to have on our near future. Since the information is continuously changing, we will try to keep you updated as quickly as possible so stay in touch with us through our social media accounts for the latest.

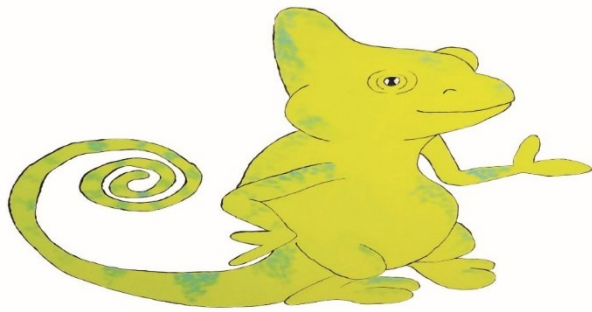
Through these challenging times, we have been proud of our staff and of those we serve. Being able to adjust to our changing environment and continue to move forward has been a positive thing to watch. To those we serve, stay the course and we will all find our way back to a new normal.

***Stay safe, stay healthy.***

***Deb Buccilla, Superintendent***

**TEAMWORK -- DEDICATION -- INTEGRITY – RESPECT**





## Fayette Progressive Preschool

Home of the Chameleons!  
#OneInAChamellion!!

Now accepting applications for ALL preschool students! Come join us as we learn and play together!

For more information call us at **740-335-1391**

Or email us at

[hbuyer@fayettetdd.com](mailto:hbuyer@fayettetdd.com)  
[epemberton@fayettetdd.com](mailto:epemberton@fayettetdd.com)



As preparations are being made for the upcoming 2020-2021 preschool year, there have been some personnel changes within the Fayette Progressive Preschool. Ms. Emily will be taking over the Lead Teacher role for this school year. Ms. Lisa will be focusing on the gross motor services offered. A new teacher, Ms. Angela will be joining the group of excellent teachers and aides. We are also happy to welcome Education Director Renee Achtermann, who will work in both Fayette and Highland County.

While the structure of the preschool day may look different given the “new normal”, we continue to focus on providing educational opportunities for all that attend. Field trips are on hold until at least 2021 out of concern for safety. Enhanced cleaning and sanitization techniques will be implemented as well as smaller classroom sizes. At this time, we will be focusing on having a morning class four days a week. Families can expect quality 5-star award winning educational experiences for their families. We look forward to beginning the school year in August and seeing everyone again!

Submitted by: Preschool Supervisor Erin Pemberton



## Fayette Progressive Preschool Continues to Implement the PBIS Approach

The Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program is an evidence-based three-tiered framework to improve and integrate all of the data, systems and practices affecting student outcomes every day. PBIS creates schools where all students succeed. Fayette Progressive Preschool is focusing on different ways to incorporate this framework into the day to day functions of the preschool to ensure all students are successful in their educational experience. The PBIS is based on the follow three tiers:

**Tier 1:** Tier 1 practices and systems establish a foundation of regular, proactive support while preventing unwanted behaviors. Schools provide these universal supports to all students, school wide.

**Tier 2:** Tier 2 practices and systems support students who are at risk for developing more serious problem behaviors before those behaviors start. These supports help students develop the skills they need to benefit from core programs at the school.

**Tier 3:** At Tier 3, students receive more intensive, individualized support to improve their behavioral and academic outcomes. At this level, schools rely on formal assessments to determine a student's needs.

For more information regarding this approach, visit <https://www.pbis.org> or ask your child's teacher about how the program is being used at Fayette Progressive Preschool.



# GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

Washington City Schools has an amazing program for children in the community to ensure they are getting healthy food through the week. This breakfast/lunch program is essential to many children in our community and a bright spot for them to connect with staff from their school districts.

Due to the high volume of food and stops the buses make, they are always in need of volunteers to work on the preparation and distribution of the food.

Austin Y. and Eddie H., Michelle M. and Diana G. were four that jumped at the opportunity to volunteer for the program.

They assist in packaging breakfast items into Ziploc baggies, then go to designated bus and prepare the lunches to be distributed with finalizing what is put in the bags.

They have expressed that they love to be a part of this program and enjoy seeing all the children and families as well as working with their job supports from Fayette Progressive Industries to learn new skills.

What a great way to give back to our community and we are proud of the time and effort they give!

From the desk of Cheryl Binegar, SSA







On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities hosted a “virtual” Transformation Summit. The purpose of the Summit was to connect County Boards, providers, families and people served with resources and discussions around the transformation of services for people with disabilities, including employment, transition services and adult day services.

The Family Outreach and Communication Grant that FCBDD participates in along with Ross and Pickaway Counties was highlighted at the Summit. The purpose of this grant is to increase counties efforts in communicating with families and people served with employment, transition services and meaningful day activities that connect people to community opportunities instead of segregated services.

Fayette County Board of DD’s SSA Cheryl Binegar was asked to present at the virtual summit about the grant in a breakout session. She was able to present what the committee has been working on to various stakeholders and increase their knowledge of the efforts around the state to make these changes.

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The Fayette County Dragons Special Olympics team is currently working on plans to stay active during Covid-19. We are continuing to abide by the State mandates set forth with social distancing which brings a challenge to what can and can’t be done. We are working diligently to come up with a solution to keep our athletes involved and will release info as soon as possible.

# 811 Rental Assistance Program

Ohio has a rental assistance program for people with developmental disabilities called the 811 Rental Assistance Program, that ensures access to affordable housing. Along with the affordability, if a person has paid supports to assist them in living in their apartment, these units allow for that help to come in as needed. Fayette County is fortunate to have apartment units available in the Washington Court House and Jeffersonville area.

If you have any questions about this program, please contact us.



**OHIO 811**  
PROJECT RENTAL ASSISTANCE

The Ohio 811 rental assistance program is a housing option for people with developmental disabilities to live independently and affordably while still receiving the supports that they need. Affordable, one-bedroom apartments are available to people with developmental disabilities in 36 counties across the state. A limited supply of two-bedroom apartments are available.

#### How it Works:

1. State agencies work with housing developments to designate apartments for the Ohio 811 Project Rental Assistance Program.
2. Participating County Boards of Developmental Disabilities match qualifying applicants with available apartments.

#### Program Eligibility:

- Ages 18-61
- Qualifying disability, as defined by HUD
- Extremely low income (at or below 30% of area median income)
- Eligible for Medicaid

#### Participating Counties:

Adams	Fayette	Hocking	Montgomery	Tuscarawas
Allen	Franklin	Lawrence	Pike	Union
Ashland	Gallia	Logan	Portage	Wayne
Athens	Greene	Lorain	Preble	Wood
Auglaize	Guernsey	Lucas	Ross	
Belmont	Hamilton	Madison	Seneca	
Champaign	Hancock	Medina	Shelby	
Cuyahoga	Henry	Miami	Summit	

#### Get Started:

##### Individuals:

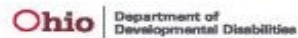
- Contact Jeannette Welsh at [Jeannette.Welsh@dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:Jeannette.Welsh@dodd.ohio.gov)

##### County Board of Developmental Disabilities:

- To become a referral agent in your county, contact [811Program@ohiohome.org](mailto:811Program@ohiohome.org)

#### Learn more:

- Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities: Visit [dodd.ohio.gov](http://dodd.ohio.gov) and search "Ohio 811"
- Ohio Housing Finance Agency: [ohiohome.org/811pra/](http://ohiohome.org/811pra/)



## DD Advocacy and Awareness Day 2020

On March 4<sup>th</sup>, five advocates from Fayette County chose to attend the 2020 Developmental Advocacy and Awareness Day. The event has taken place at the Ohio State House for more than a decade. The theme this year was Live, Work and Go where we want.

This event is funded by a grant from The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council's (ODDC). ODDC is one of a national network of state councils, committed to self-determination and community inclusion for people with developmental disabilities. One of Council's goals is to educate policymakers about how state government services and policies can be improved, expanded, or strengthened on behalf of people with disabilities. Council believes it is important for the policymakers of Ohio to hear the voices of people with disabilities and their families through this event.

The annual event opened with Emcee, Shari Cooper. Guest speakers, Patti Ruble shared how she helped others to "**LIVE** within their communities". Joseph Trisler spoke about **WORK**, he has a full-time job and has his own side business. Joseph is proof that a diagnosis does not have to mean disaster. **Go**, Nick Comstock shared his story of "breaking out of his cell", when he wanted to go to McDonald's but didn't have transportation to get him there. Nick is working with the Empowerment Center for People with disabilities on an initiative called the Family Network Project. This project is designed to help people with disabilities and their families become more integrated with the folks in their communities.

After the rally in the Atrium, the Fayette County constituents took the opportunity to meet with Representative Gary Scherer and Senator Bob Peterson's, legislative aids. During the meeting, the people advocated for the right to **Live** where they want, **Work** where they want, and **Go** where they want to go. One advocate stated, "I am happy where I live now, to have some independence, but I still need some support. I appreciate the work that has been done for the Direct Service Professionals, giving them more money, but I still think that there is more to do. A staff person told me, that if it wasn't for the food bank, they would not have been able to afford Christmas dinner. That is why I think we still need to find a way to pay the Direct Support Professionals more money." The people also wanted to share a positive thought, "transportation is improving some, within Fayette County, offering more stops to the deviated route, and we really appreciate that." Fayette County advocates wanted to make sure that the legislatures knew that the work that they have done thus far is appreciated. Another point of discussion was employment. Advocates would like to see more employer incentives, to encourage businesses to consider hiring people with disabilities. At the end of the meeting, Senator Peterson was able to meet with his constituents and talk with them briefly and thanked them for coming and sharing their concerns.

To watch the event in its entirety, visit the link below:

<http://www.ohiochannel.org/video/ohio-channel-presents-2020-developmental-disability-awareness-day>

Below are a couple of pictures from the day.



