

Fayette County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Fall 2021 Newsletter

Administration Office

1330 Robinson Road
Washington Court House, Ohio
43160
740-335-7453 – phone
740-335-2185 – fax

Fayette Progressive Preschool

1351 Leesburg Avenue
Washington Court House, Ohio
43164
740-335-1391 – phone
740-333-3546 – fax

<https://www.fayettedd.com>



Dear Families and Friends,

We would like to begin by thanking you for trusting us to provide services to your loved one. We do not take this responsibility lightly. With health and safety issues dominating our daily lives, I wanted to take this opportunity to provide updates and to assure you that we are closely monitoring our service delivery for compliance with local, state and federal guidance.

We have been in touch with our local Health Department as well as other partners throughout our community to assure our protocols are in line with expectations. At this time, our Health Department is advising us to follow guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). You can access the CDC website at www.cdc.gov.

In summary, throughout our programs, our staff will be masking up when providing service, being aware of physical distancing and using sanitation practices much in the same way we did throughout all last year. Face to face meetings will be conducted outside when appropriate and weather permitting. We have found great success in using virtual platforms when providing services and we will continue to utilize that forum for meetings with those being served, some home visits with our little ones, and for general business functions.

Despite all the restrictions over the past challenging year, we were still able to help those being served to get out there and enjoy life! This newsletter brings to you some of those highlights as well as information on upcoming plans. We hope you enjoy reading about our adventures and look forward to all that fall brings!

Until next time,
Deb Buccilla, Superintendent



♥ Welcome to
Preschool!



The new school year is upon us! We are excited to have students back in the classroom for the 2021-2022 school year. Summer seemed to fly by, but we are looking forward to seeing everyone once again. This year, we are operating at full capacity, with half day (morning and afternoon) classes Monday through Thursday. To ensure we keep everyone safe, all staff will be required to wear a face mask when in public indoor spaces. Once in the classroom, masks can be removed. Masks will be required on the bus during transportation. We will monitor the health guidance from Fayette County Public Health, the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Department of Education and will make adjustments as needed.

Preschool screening days will be held on August 16th and 17th, with Dr. Fitton and staff joining us to help with screenings and be our community partners. The following week dental screenings will be completed by Dr. Christina Wall. Orientation night will be held August 16th from 6-8pm. Families and students should be receiving letters soon which will indicate their teacher for the year and if they will be in the morning or afternoon class. School starts on August 18th.

We have had a few staffing changes over the summer. Ms. Robin Dettwiler and Ms. Kirby Wary have joined us and will be heading up the second 3 and 4 year old classroom. We are thrilled to have these talented folks on board and look forward to their good work with our little ones at Fayette Progressive Preschool.

As we begin the new year, we look forward to the time spent learning, playing and growing together. We are thrilled to begin new chapters and experiences with the students and can't wait to see their progress as we move through the school year. Welcome to new students and welcome back to returning students. Let's have a great year!

We are ready to have a great year!





Youth Mental Health First Aid Training – Submitted by Cheryl Binegar, SSA and Good Life Coordinator

On June 15th, Fayette County Board of DD organized a free virtual training offered to staff, other community partners and parents in our community called Youth Mental Health First Aid. This training was funded and offered by The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

This course taught participants how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders. This 6 ½ hour training gave adults the skills they need to reach out and provide initial support to adolescents and transition aged youth (ages 12 -21) who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem and help connect them to the appropriate care. An evidence-based program, adopted in over 20 countries, Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches the five-step ALGEE action plan:

- A**ssess for risk of suicide or harm
- L**isten nonjudgmentally
- G**ive reassurance and information
- E**ncourage appropriate professional help
- E**ncourage self-help and other support strategies

The course also covered common signs and symptoms of mental illnesses in this age group, including Anxiety, Depression, eating disorders, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), common signs and symptoms of substance use, how to interact with an adolescent in crisis and how to connect the adolescent with help.

Since we know that 1 in 5 youth have mental illness this information was very beneficial to all who attended. Many of the participants were from the FCBDD and will be using this information to assist them with their professional work. If you would like more information on the YMHFA training, please contact Cheryl Binegar at (740)335-7453 ext. 207.



Fayette Dragons Bus Wins the County Fair Bus Derby!

Ahh, the highlight of summer, the local county fair. The competitions of the 4-H participants with their animals and other projects, the rides and midway games. And who can pass up the endless amount of fair food, from the corn dogs to the cotton candy and sugar waffles! It is always a fun time for everyone that attends. This year's Fayette County Fair was no exception. With near perfect weather, this year's fair provided for a great week for all. One of the special events was the bus derby, which was held on Thursday night of the fair. The Fayette County Dragons entered a bus into the derby, with local schools also having an entry. The bus was painted the week before the fair by the Dragons athletes and volunteers.

The night of the derby soon came and the Dragons bus was the lucky winner! Fayette County Special Olympics received a \$500 award for winning. A special thanks to the Home Depot and Sherwin Williams who donated the paint used on the bus.





Fayette County Dragons Host Celebrity Track Meet

Fayette County Dragons hosted a celebrity track meet on June 23rd. Dragons Coach Debra Grover came up with the idea of having the track meet as athletes were unable to compete in other track meets because of COVID restrictions. Dragons Athletes were paired with Washington City School and Miami Trace School celebrity athletes. Dragons competed against Dragons and our celebrities competed against each other. Each team competed in two events, split in age divisions of the Dragon athletes. At the end of the event medals were awarded for each event as well as team trophies for each pair. It was an excellent time and many of the athletes talked of how much fun they had. Special thanks to all that participated in this event.



Community First News



The Community First Team had the opportunity to participate in group chat hosted by Belmont County. Fayette County Community First donated money to their organization and submitted a puzzle piece that will be included to create an artistic piece. This final piece will be auctioned off. The theme of the piece was what we mean to the individuals we serve. Community First Specialist Chad Blakeley asked our FACT Advocacy Group what it means to receive services from the Fayette County Board of DD. The most important things to them were our intervention program, pre-school program, and the advocacy group. We wanted to capture these areas on our puzzle piece. The group approached Washington Senior High school student Kersten Snyder to see if she would paint our puzzle piece. She did a fantastic job designing and painting it. Included in our puzzle piece is our pre-school mascot Chameleon, the Ohio Early Intervention logo, the FCBDD board logo, a puzzle piece heart and our advocacy logo and what it stands for. Thanks to Kersten for completing this piece for us.

Olympic Race Day

On July 8, Court House Manor invited individuals served by the Fayette County Board of DD to participate in their Olympic Race Day. Court House Manor residents and the individuals we serve enjoyed maneuvering the inflatable course. Before the races, everyone enjoyed snow cones from Kona Ice. Pictured is Joel B. who held the fastest time. Thank you to Court House Manor for inviting us to enjoy the fun! Submitted by Ashley Burden, SSA and Mel Cockerill, SSA



Attention: Direct Support Professionals needed!!

The Direct Support Professional or DSP, is a key part of a person's team. Through their training and dedication, they assist people in achieving life goals and simply making someone's day meaningful. This can be helping with in-home needs or getting around town or providing employment training and job placement. This support can be for a child or an adult. The role of the Fayette County Board of DD is to assist persons served, families, and guardians with selecting a provider of services, whether this is an agency or independent provider, and facilitating a team process that ensures a person-centered focus.

Below are some agency providers who employ DSPs to provide services in our county, along with their contact information. Please feel free to contact them or if you are interested in other providers' contact information, please contact the county board at 740-335-7453.

Fayette Progressive Industries (FPI) – 740-313-7171

**Frontier Community Services (FCS) – 740-772-1396,
frontiercommunity.com**

Goodwill – 740-702-4000, gwisco.org

Highco – 937-393-2891, highcoinc.org

IHS Services – 614-436-0854, ihsservices.info

If you are interested in becoming an independent provider, you can find more information at:

dodd.ohio.gov or fayettetdd.com

