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Pipeline Pix and PostScripts: News Briefs and Updates for Your Calendar

The Supreme Court has gone on record replacing the term 'mental retardation' with the term 'intellectual disability.'

Read one account of this groundbreaking decision here:

www.newarkadvocate.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2014306030008&nlick_check=1

Excerpt: "Previous opinions of this court have employed the term 'mental retardation.' This opinion uses the term 'intellectual disability' to describe the identical phenomenon."

1. Forum Focuses on Family Supports, Listening to People

Today's open forum hosted by the DODD Strategic Planning Leadership Group (SPLG) brought together a large and diverse group of stakeholders at the Ohio Department of Commerce/Ohio Fire Academy Auditorium, in Reynoldsburg. The FY2014-2015 SPLG forums focus on topics that have been identified by stakeholders in Ohio's developmental disabilities community to foster discussion, encourage collaboration, and prompt fresh thinking for statewide planning. Desired outcomes include streamlining and improving services for Ohioans with developmental disabilities, as well as learning about best practices developed around the nation.

Presenters bringing their perspectives to the subjects of *Family Supports* and *Listening to People* at today's forum included Sheli Reynolds, Director of Individual Advocacy and Family Support at the University of Missouri/Kansas City Institute for Human Development, and Hanns Meissner, Chief Executive Officer, The Arc of Rensselaer County, in Eastern New York State.

Highlights of the presentations included: Why Family Supports Matter; How Systems and Organizations Can Support Family-Centered Thinking; and, Why Blue Space Matters. In a book

Meissner authored, titled *'Creating Blue Space,'* he shared his agency's calling to support individuals with disabilities as citizens of their communities. Both Reynolds and Meissner noted the need for a statewide system to challenge old models and create space for new ideas.



Charting the Life Course

Sheli Reynolds' presentation brought forward several interesting ideas, including how professionals in the DD service system can have more meaningful conversations with people seeking services. She observed,

“We need to ask about life experiences. No one talks enough about life experiences with families to see what they want ... or don't want. Don't ask service questions, ask life questions. Then you can start mapping resources that make sense for them.”

The afternoon program included opportunities to engage in conversations with presenters and session participants to help generate ideas and enthusiasm for exploring these concepts in Ohio.

All SPLG presentations are video-taped and made available online at www.dodd.ohio.gov/newsroom/Pages/default.aspx.

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2. Columbus Zoo Employee Earns APSE Award Nomination

The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium Guest Relations team met Sam Patterson in April 2013 through The Ohio State University TOPS program,* which offers students with disabilities employment opportunities. Through TOPS, Sam took classes in zoology and environmental sciences, and began his career at the zoo.

In November 2013, the [National Association of People Supporting Employment First \(APSE\)](#) honored Sam with the *Personal Achievement Award* in Ohio. The nomination and recognition is especially important, as APSE is the only national organization to focus exclusively on integrated employment and career advancement opportunities for people who have disabilities. Now, not only is Sam still working at the zoo, he recently was nominated for the national APSE award honoring people who have overcome challenges to reach career goals.

Sam will be traveling to the APSE Conference in Long Beach, California, this July -- when the national recipient will be announced. Zoo staff and co-workers explain, “Sam’s hard work and

dedication have earned him a key role on the Guest Relations team. He returned to the zoo for a second season this spring, and is working as an ambassador and turnstile attendant, helping guests at the front gate, and radiating positive energy as he offers directions and information.” They added,

“The zoo also is honored to help Sam come closer to fulfilling his dreams of becoming an exhibit guide – a pursuit that some had previously thought was not feasible.”



On the Job with Sam

Sam's hard work and dedication earned him a key role on the Guest Relations team, returning to the Zoo for a second season this spring, working as an ambassador and turnstile attendant.

Co-workers note that Sam ... “radiates positive energy.”

Photos courtesy, Patty Peters, Lisa Kristensen, Columbus Zoo and Aquarium

[Follow this link to a short youtube video: Last summer, Sam met one of his heroes, Jack Hanna!](#)

Sam's mother, Linda Patterson, said the experience has been life-changing for him. “I'm so proud that my son is achieving his dreams of working with and around exotic animals. The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium has helped to make that possible,” she said. “Because the Zoo has fostered an environment of inclusiveness, Samuel enjoys each and every moment of his day at work. How many of us are able to say that of our employment?”

**Disability Studies faculty work with the OSU Office for Disability Services (ODS) and other partners in the Nisonger Center's [Transition Options in Postsecondary Settings for Students with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities \(TOPS\)](#) program. The two-to four-year certificate program focuses on Academic Access, Career Development & Internships, Campus Membership and Independent Living, and Self-Determination development.*

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3. Trauma Responsive Care – Universal Precautions

Training for SSAs, Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

DODD is partnering with the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council (ODDC) and Ohio Partners in Justice (PIJ) to present a free training opportunity on June 27 on *Trauma Responsive Care – Universal Precautions*, at the Ohio Department of Transportation, 1980 West Broad Street, in Columbus. The training will be held in the building's lower-level auditorium, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.

Trauma and chronic toxic stress now are recognized as common experiences for individuals with developmental disabilities, often resulting in a complex array of social, emotional, and behavioral challenges. In fact, compared to people who do not have developmental disabilities, individuals with DD are three to six times more likely to have a co-occurring mental illness; are at a greater risk of experiencing abuse (often at the hands of those on whom they are dependent for their care); and, often have their needs go under-treated or minimized and labeled as behavioral issues, attention-seeking, or manipulation.

Through understanding of the latest trauma research and careful translation into practice, trauma informed care can be a universal precaution that helps Service and Support Administrators (SSAs) and the people they serve to create safe, supportive relationships that focus on understanding what has happened to them, and allowing them to develop resiliency and hope.

Training presenters will be Tricia Burke and Mary Vicario, who will share information regarding how adverse life experiences negatively affect brain development and mental and emotional health. The trainers also will discuss how SSAs can develop a trauma-informed perspective to address the needs of individuals whose mal-adaptive behaviors are expressions of unmet needs, coping, and survival skills evolved from abuse.

DODD and ODDC appreciate the continuing collaboration with Ohio Partners in Justice, a coalition of professionals from Ohio's criminal justice system and DD system, as well as mental health professionals and other advocates for people with developmental disabilities.

Read a [complete course description and register online](#).

Contact Vicki Jenkins at vicki.jenkins@dodd.ohio.gov with any questions.

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4. Safe, Accessible Transportation a Key to the Community

The Mission of DODD is continuous improvement of the quality of life for Ohio citizens with developmental disabilities and their families. Assuring each person's health and safety is Priority One. The DODD Office of Major Unusual Incidents (MUI) Registry Unit has issued a timely new Health & Welfare Alert on the subject of [Transportation](#).^{*} Transporting individuals with developmental disabilities is an important responsibility that brings with it unique safety issues, while offering them needed access to their communities.

Along with reminders that may seem fairly routine, such as assuring that safety belts are fastened and wheelchairs are properly secured, the Alert spotlights pre- and post-transporting procedures that further assure safety. For example:

- *Pre-transport:* When driving a bus or van transporting more than one passenger, always complete a safety walk-through of the vehicle prior to departing.
- *Post-transport:* A driver should never leave an individual at a destination without being certain that appropriate supervision is available at the drop-off site for that person.



Service providers and family members are encouraged to review the information in the new Transportation Alert as a reference and reminder during the summer months, when better weather invites additional activities such as vacations.

The purpose of DODD Health and Welfare Alerts is to provide critical information to caregivers in areas where the Department has identified a risk to individuals' health and welfare. The Alerts provide data, additional resources, and guidance to the field – as well as to families – on what can be done to avoid or minimize specific risks. For questions or comments about Alerts, contact the MUI/Registry Unit at (614) 995-3810.

**All DODD Health and Welfare Alerts, including Transportation #58-05-14, are posted at <http://dodd.ohio.gov/healthandsafety/Pages/Health-and-Safety-Alerts.aspx>*

More on Transportation – Community Forums Scheduled

Local partners in Cleveland, Toledo, Findlay/Lima, and Columbus are joining with the Ohio Department of Aging, the Ohio Department of Public Safety/Bureau of Motor Vehicles and the Ohio Department of Transportation to offer community forums June 16-19 titled, "*Elder Mobility: New Solutions for Communities.*" [Reservation information including dates, locations, agendas, and speakers, is online here.](#)

ODDC Highlights HAPCAP Transportation Program

Recognizing the lack of reliable transportation for people with disabilities in some Ohio counties, the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council (ODDC) awarded a grant to the Hocking-Athens-Perry Community Action Program (HAPCAP) which fostered a new, collaborative transportation system for Athens County -- *Athens On Demand Transit*. Using data from a county-wide survey to determine the number of individuals interested in the service, HAPCAP created a program that provides transportation primarily to individuals with disabilities and senior citizens who need transportation to medical appointments or to work between 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 p.m., six days a week.

According to an article in the [ODDC e-Diversity newsletter](#), during the first three months of operation, 324 residents were helped by the program and 596 trips were provided -- 167 of which were to and from work. Once ramped-up, the ridership increased by 30 percent each month with five vans in use. ODDC notes that extra steps are taken to ensure riders' safety when they leave the vehicles, and all drivers are supplied with cellphones provided by Athens on Demand Transit.

“Although great friends assisted me with transportation, and that was and still is always appreciated, I have real independence with this door-to-door service for persons with disabilities and the elderly.”

-Dr. Carolyn Bailey Lewis, OU Professor Emerita and user of Athens on Demand Transit services

**All DODD Health and Welfare Alerts, including Transportation #58-05-14, are posted at <http://dodd.ohio.gov/healthandsafety/Pages/Health-and-Safety-Alerts.aspx>*



June is National Safety Month

The U.S. Department of health & Human Services website at <http://healthfinder.gov/NHO/JuneToolkit2.aspx> has great information on safety issues, and so does DODD! Check out our Health & Safety Toolkit, at the left of the DODD homepage at www.dodd.ohio.gov.

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5. State Continues Efforts Against Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is the illegal trade of human beings for commercial sexual exploitation and/or forced labor.

In support of Governor John Kasich's Human Trafficking Awareness efforts, DODD joins its state agency partners in educating Ohio citizens, including individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, about the realities of human trafficking in Ohio. As part of that process, the DODD Diversity Connection team reached out this week to Central Office staff with information on this subject, presented by Elizabeth Ranade Janis, Anti-Trafficking Coordinator, Ohio Department of Public Safety/Office of Criminal Justice Services.



An Ohio Crime, A Global Crime

Elizabeth Renade Janis points out the many forms Human Trafficking can take, noting, “The control and exploitation of others is possible anywhere and everywhere. Targeting vulnerability, a human trafficker will use force, fraud, and coercion to compel the service of others for profit. And, there is no clear profile of what constitutes a trafficker.” She continues,

“Through Ohio's Human Trafficking Task Force, we are marshalling state resources to attack this issue.

DODD is an active partner in this effort.”

Call 888-3737-888

(exact number representation)

For more information:

www.humantrafficking.ohio.gov

The presentation included information regarding recommendations to combat human trafficking that have been presented to Governor Kasich by [Ohio's Human Trafficking Task Force](#). Task Force recommendations are the foundation for the state's coordination of efforts to identify and rescue victims of human trafficking; creation of a coordinated law enforcement system to investigate these crimes; and, provision of services and treatment to trafficking victims.



Each year, an estimated 1,078 Ohio children become victims of human trafficking, and 3,016 more are at-risk.

Governor Kasich is aggressively addressing this problem and acting on the Task Force recommendations. Earlier this year, the Human Trafficking Commission helped pass [House Bill 262](#), also known as the 'Safe Harbor Law.' Its goal is to increase penalties for traffickers and improve care for victims. It also designated children caught in prostitution as victims rather than criminals. Just this month, another anti-trafficking effort, the 'End Demand Act,' ([HB 130](#)) passed unanimously and included an emergency clause to make it immediately effective. The measure seeks to crack down on the people who make the sex trafficking business profitable, increase victim rights, and assist prosecutors.

Governor Kasich stated, "The End Demand Act builds on the groundbreaking work of our 2012 Safe Harbor law, making it easier to prosecute traffickers who prey on our most vulnerable children and youth, and sends a strong message that Ohio's children are not for sale."

[HB 130 also increases penalties for people who buy sex from minors, and for those who buy sex from victims who have developmental disabilities.](#)

DODD Diversity Connection team programs for Central Office staff include a broad range of information of interest to professionals in the developmental disabilities community. Human trafficking issues affect the entire state population, and, unfortunately have directly impacted Ohioans with disabilities who placed their trust in people who did not have their welfare in mind.

Any suspected human trafficking activity should be reported to the DODD Major Unusual Incident (MUI) hotline, toll-free at 866-313-6733.

More information at: <http://ohioattorneygeneral.gov/humantrafficking.aspx> and at www.publicsafety.ohio.gov

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OPRA Recognized for 40 Years of Service to Ohio Providers



Be it Resolved!

At a ceremony at the Ohio Statehouse on June 4, The Ohio Provider Resource Association (OPRA) was recognized for its 40th anniversary of service to Ohioans with developmental disabilities and their service providers. The Resolution was sponsored by Representatives Cheryl Grossman and Michael Stinziano.

Accepting the resolution, OPRA President Mark Davis stated, "Individuals with disabilities want the same life of fulfillment as everyone else. It is our responsibility as providers to help them achieve that."

Left to right: Gary Tonks (The ARC), Teri Derry (OPRA), Rep. Michael Stinziano, Mark Davis (OPRA), Mike Toman (OPRA), Rep. Cheryl Grossman, Janice Hall (OPRA Board Chair), and Jeff Davis (OPRA).

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PostScripts

This Saturday! June 14

The Ohio State University Nisonger Center is partnering with the Gateway Film Center, 1550 N. High St., in Columbus, to offer sensory-friendly screenings of newly-released family films or family film favorites. Sensory-friendly in this case means: Reduced sound levels; increased lighting; no ads or previews; permitted use of tech devices; outside snacks permitted; and, a 'sh-h-h-h-free' zone. These special feature showings will continue on the second Saturday of every month, with a new movie for each screening. Attendees will be asked to complete a brief survey about their experience.

This Month's Movie: *How to Train Your Dragon 2* – Saturday, June 14 at 11:00 a.m.

Thanks to the generous support of the Gateway Film Center, all proceeds from these screenings will benefit the Nisonger Center.

Governor's Council on People with Disabilities, Meeting June 18-19

The June meeting of the Ohio Governor's Council on People with Disabilities is on June 18, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., and on June 19, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the offices of Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) 400 E. Campus View Blvd. in Columbus. The meeting will be in The Learning Center area, and parking is free and available in front of the building. If you need accommodations, contact Donna Foster at donna.foster@ood.ohio.gov or at (614) 438-1394.

REMINDER: OACB Good Life Network, Training Series – June, July, August

DODD has been conducting training on the new Service and Support Administration (SSA) rule to emphasize the importance of person-centered planning in Ohio's DD service system. To help professionals at County Boards of DD and at private providers embrace the spirit of the new rule in their work, the OACB Good Life Network developed a new training series. The Good Life Planning Academy will enable a select group of professionals to learn, share, and collaborate with colleagues. The Academy learning experience will incorporate the new SSA rule and related new federal rule requirements into participants' work activities. [Registration and information about the three dates and locations is here.](#)

Contact: Ann Neu (614) 431-0616; aneu@oacbdd.org.

Olmstead Conference, Cleveland - June 26

A conference celebrating the 15th anniversary of the [Olmstead v. L.C. decision](#) will feature Lois Curtis, the plaintiff in the Olmstead Decision, as keynote speaker on June 26, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Services for Independent Living, Inc., 26250 Euclid Ave, #801 in Cleveland. The event is free and will focus on issues related to community inclusion for individuals with disabilities.

For more information: <http://disabilityrightsohio.org/events/olmstead-conference>

The Arc of Ohio – Training, June 26

In cooperation with DODD, The Arc of Ohio invites you attend a June 26 training at the Holiday Inn/Worthington, to learn about the latest developments in the statewide development disabilities system. [Click here to learn more and register!](#)

Next Family Advisory Council Meeting, July 8

DODD invites all interested families to attend the next Family Advisory Council (FAC) meeting at the [Columbus Developmental Center](#), July 8, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. The agenda will include an update from DODD Director John Martin. FAC meetings are open to anyone with a family member served by Ohio's developmental disabilities system. For more information, contact Peggy.Martin@dodd.ohio.gov. Also, check out the new FAC Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/FamilyAdvisory/>.

Save the Dates! Project STIR Training, August 18-21

The Franklin County Board of DD will sponsor a Project STIR (Steps Toward Independence and Responsibility) 'Train the Trainer' training August 18-21, 2014 at the Holiday Inn, Worthington. The FCBDD Self Advocate Advisory Council is currently finalizing details for this event, which will be coordinated by the Ohio Self Determination Association (OSDA).

Mark Your Calendars: OPRA Conference, October 21-22

Planning is underway for the 2014 OPRA Fall Conference, October 21 - 22, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Dublin. OPRA Conferences offer an opportunity to learn about the latest issues facing providers, and hear from first-rate speakers. To suggest a topic or a speaker, contact [Teri Derry](#) at (614) 224-6772. OPRA also invites interested speakers to [submit a proposal](#) by July 3.

DODD Hotline for Reporting Abuse, Neglect, or other Possible Major Unusual Incidents (MUIs)

To report abuse/neglect and other MUIs, call toll-free: **866-313-6733**. Please note that MUIs are to be reported to the local County Board of DD, however, it is understood that there may be times an individual, staff member, or family member may feel it is a conflict -- or that, potentially, a County Board may be involved in the allegation. In those instances it is important to remember the hotline number is there to be used for reporting concerns.

Pipeline Feedback ... from You to the State

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